



MERCAZ USA Platform 2025

The Voice of Conservative/Masorti Judaism

MERCAZ USA is the Zionist Organization of the American Conservative/Masorti Movement. At the next World Zionist Congress, MERCAZ USA will advocate for a strong and secure Israel rooted in the moral and spiritual vision of the Hebrew prophets—a society that celebrates democratic principles, embraces diverse Jewish traditions, and safeguards the rights, dignity and inclusion of all its citizens. As Israel recovers from October 7 and with antisemitism rising around the world, our mission is more critical than ever.

MERCAZ USA advocates for the following principles and goals:

- 1. Rebuilding Israel in the aftermath of October 7 and Supporting Our Hostages:** We will work to ensure the WZO and its affiliates help rebuild the communities devastated on October 7 and provide vital support to those who have been held hostage and their families.
- 2. Combating Antisemitism:** We direct resources into our communities to combat antisemitism and provide education that addresses the root causes of hate.
- 3. An Equitable and Inclusive Democracy in Israel:** We are committed to upholding democracy and civil rights for all in Israel and to including all Jews in the Zionist vision of a democratic Israel, especially with extremists seeking to take control and impose their will on us all.
- 4. Educating on Zionism and Addressing Misinformation:** We promote understanding of the Zionist vision, dispel misconceptions about Zionism, counter anti-Zionist actions, and challenge rhetoric that threatens Israel's safety and security.
- 5. Preserving a Pluralistic Jewish Society:** We envision a future where Jewish people of all backgrounds can realize the dream of a secure, pluralistic and democratic Israel with fair treatment of Jews and non-Jews who call Israel home, regardless of beliefs, gender or sexual orientation.
- 6. Strengthening the Bond Between American Jews and Israel:** We claim space for Conservative/Masorti Jews in the Zionist future and bring more resources into our communities to connect the next generation with Israel and their Jewish identity.
- 7. Funding, Resources, and Support for Conservative/Masorti Movement's Values:** We advocate for funding to enrich Jewish life in the U.S., including synagogue programming, comprehensive Israel education through Ramah and USY, and more. We will fight to secure government recognition of all streams of Judaism, implement the Kotel Agreement and oppose all attempts to restrict the Law of Return.
- 8. Achieving Peace and Stability in the Region:** We stand in support of the vision of an Israel integrated within the region and at peace with all its neighbors, including the Palestinians.

Endorsed by:

- Cantors Assembly (CA)
- Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTS)
- Federation of Jewish Mens Clubs (FJMC)
- The North American Association of Synagogue Executives (NAASE)
- National Ramah Commission (Camp Ramah)
- Rabbinical Assembly (RA)
- United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ)
- Women's League for Conservative Judaism (WLCJ)
- Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies



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Carnegie, PA | Rabbi Ami Hersh
Orangeburg, NY | Larry I Brandspiegel
East Windsor, NJ | Joshua M. Edelglass
Medfield, MA |
| Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove
New York, NY | Rabbi-Cantor Hillary Chorny
Los Angeles, CA | Naomi Yadin-Mendick
Sandy Spring, MD | Jacki Honig
Las Vegas, NV | Anna Serviansky
Atlanta, GA |
| Rabbi Erez Sherman
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New York, NY | Rabbi Sam Hollander
Cherry Hill, NJ | Richard Helfand
Overland Park, KS | Rabbi Lindsay Goldman
New York, NY |
| Daniel Olson
Port Chester, NY | Daniel Zappin
Spring House, PA | Carol Simon
Boynton Beach, FL | Miriam Benson
New Haven, CT | Barbara Finkel
Annandale, VA |
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New York, NY | Bruce Tomar
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White Plains, NY | Jory Harris-Blumenthal
Gaithersburg, MD | Sandy Starkman
Highland Park, IL | Toby Klein
Antioch, IL |
| Rabbi Josh Warshawsky
Columbus, OH | Rabbi Ben Sigal
Fairfax, VA | Rabbi Gail Labovitz
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Fairfax, VA | Alana Tilman
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Los Angeles, CA |
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Ocean Township, NJ | Cameron Elizabeth Fields
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Irvine, CA |
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Shaker Heights, OH | | Rabbi Gavriella Kornsgold
Los Angeles, CA | Yakira Kress
Highland Park, NJ |
| | | | Rabbi Jeremy Fineberg
Sharon, MA | |