

Jewish Spiritual Leaders Network

Jewish Democratic Council of America

As rabbis, cantors, and Jewish faith and/or spiritual leaders, we deeply appreciate Vice President Kamala Harris's unwavering support for Israel and her partnership with the Jewish community. Vice President Harris has dedicated her career to defending democracy, pursuing justice, and safeguarding civil rights. As Vice President, she has played key roles in fighting antisemitism, condemning the terror and sexual violence perpetrated by Hamas on and after October 7, meeting with hostage families, and reinforcing the United States of America's commitment to stand with Israel. She has also worked to protect fundamental rights and secure historic investments in combating climate change, infrastructure development, and expanding access to healthcare, reproductive justice, and abortion — critical issues of religious freedom for the Jewish community. We stand with Vice President Harris and reject the baseless claims and attacks targeting her in this election, especially those related to our community.

We know that Vice President Harris stands with Jewish Americans.

We are proud to stand with her.

Vice President Harris is a lifelong friend and ally of the Jewish community. Her connection to Israel began as a child when she carried the Jewish National Fund's blue box to collect donations to plant trees in Israel. As a prosecutor, she worked to combat the rise in hate crimes aimed at our community. She brought those same values to the U.S. Senate, where she was the lead sponsor of S.Res.118, a resolution condemning hate crimes and any other forms of racism and discrimination. The resolution highlighted the threat posed by antisemitism and called on the Trump administration to devote additional resources to combating hate crimes, including those targeting Jews. As Vice President, she and Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff were instrumental in crafting the first-ever National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism, which outlines more than 100 actions the government will take to fight this scourge of hate. When then-Senator Harris visited Yad Vashem in 2017, she wrote: *"As we bear witness to the horrors of the Holocaust, let us always strive to remember that we as human beings have so much more in common than what separates us. And by embracing this truth, let us live up to that solemn promise — never again!"*

Vice President Harris has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to Israel's security. Both long before and after October 7, Vice President Harris has conveyed her clear support of Israel's security, democracy, and right to self-defense. The Biden-Harris administration has worked tirelessly to support Israel, fight antisemitism, and secure a deal that brings the hostages held by Hamas home. She has met with hostage families and Israeli leaders multiple times, consistently supported U.S. aid to Israel, and met with members of Congress to secure \$15 billion in aid for Israel. She has unequivocally condemned the horrific acts of terror perpetrated by Hamas on October 7, including the use of rape as a weapon of war, and convened the first-ever White House meeting on conflict-related sexual violence in June 2024. Harris epitomizes the best of

Jewish values by expressing empathy for the suffering of the Palestinian people brought on by Hamas's continuing attacks against the Israeli populace, even as she continues to reiterate her unshakeable support for Israel's safety, security, and right to defend itself. She knows that these positions are complementary, not contradictory. Through her words and actions, Vice President Harris has always stood with Israel.

Vice President Harris's policy priorities include not just supporting Israel and fighting antisemitism but also safeguarding voting rights, securing access to abortion and reproductive care, investing in job creation and climate protection, and ensuring future Supreme Court appointees will protect rather than undermine those rights. All of these priorities align with our Jewish values. She and the Second Gentleman affixed the first-ever Mezuzah to the Vice President's residence, hosted Passover Seders and Menorah lightings, and proudly embraced Jewish tradition during her vice presidency. Vice President Harris stands with us, we stand with her, and we encourage other Jewish leaders to join us.

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