

## **You can make a difference: Let's Fight for Religious Pluralism**

Theodor Herzl envisioned Israel as a homeland for all Jews. But today the government of that Jewish homeland only recognizes one stream of Judaism. The Masorti and other pluralistic movements are in an ongoing struggle for recognition. While progress has been made, there are still many challenges ahead.

As American Jews, we don't often get a chance to make a direct impact in Israel. However, the upcoming 2020 World Zionist Congress election gives us that opportunity. Every 5 years an election is held to determine the leadership of the World Zionist Organization, an important agency connected to a number of powerful and influential Jewish organizations where Diaspora Jews have a voice. It is imperative that the MERCAZ Slate - the official slate of the Conservative/Masorti Movement have a strong showing in this upcoming election.

A vote for MERCAZ is more than just the opportunity to gain delegates to the World Zionist Congress – it is our best opportunity to send a strong message to the Israeli government and people of Israel that we stand for an Israel that is democratic and pluralistic, that recognizes and empowers all streams of Jewish practice, and that guarantees the civil and political rights of all of its citizens.

Voting begins on January 21st to March 11th. You can Pledge to Vote right now by heading over to [MERCAZ2020.org](https://MERCAZ2020.org) or by texting VOTE to 917-332-1162. We'll send you a reminder once the voting period opens as well as timely updates on the campaign.

If you want to make an even bigger impact get involved in the campaign effort! To volunteer contact \_\_\_\_\_ (CONGREGATIONAL INFO)