

## **EUPJ Statement of solidarity with Israel**

The European Union for Progressive Judaism stands in solidarity with the residents of Israel who are under attack from Hamas. We call on all European governments to clearly condemn this attack on civilians and support the right of Israel's government to defend its citizens and borders. Our thoughts and prayers turn in particular to the members of our sister movement The Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism (IMPJ). Instead of being able to rejoice in Simchat Torah celebrations at one of 16 public, egalitarian Hakkafot (Torah processions) planned across the country, our movement had to turn its focus on supporting its members. We share their deep concerns, especially for the welfare of the members of the IMPJ congregation Sha'ar Hanegev, which includes several of the Kibbutzim under active attack.

## What can you do?

- Reach out to your twin congregations in Israel to let them know that you are thinking of them.
- Sign-up to our emergency WhatsApp group to get updates about upcoming webinars with the IMPJ: from your phone or WhatsApp-enabled device, click here.
- In addition to donating funds through your local fundraising efforts, consider donating directly to the IMPJ, by clicking here.

As we ask for God's blessing for the safety of all civilians in Israel and for the soldiers of the Israel Defence Forces, we pray that God's shelter of peace shall be spread over the land of Israel.

\*\*\*\*\*

Rabbi Lea Mühlstein Chair of the European Union for Progressive Judaism

7 October 2023