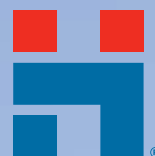


**A COMPENDIUM
OF HADASSAH'S
ZIONIST AND
AMERICAN AFFAIRS
POLICY
STATEMENTS:**

1980-2026

HADASSAH



**HADASSAH, THE
WOMEN'S ZIONIST
ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICA, INC.**

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INTRODUCTION

This “Compendium of Zionist & American Affairs Policy Statements: 1980–2026” is a synopsis of Hadassah’s Zionist and domestic policy positions, which have been approved by Hadassah’s National Board since 1980. The full text of these, and of all Hadassah’s domestic public policy statements, are on file with the Advocacy Department.

Hadassah’s policy statements represent the organization’s official stance on a wide variety of issues facing our nation. They also serve to define and focus Hadassah’s overall advocacy priorities and agenda. In particular, these policy statements inform the work of the National Advocacy Team across the country.

Policy statements do not reflect all of Hadassah’s advocacy efforts, however. There are some issues so intrinsic to the well-being or existence of Hadassah or its functions that action may occur without a specific policy statement.

HOW THIS COMPENDIUM IS ORGANIZED

This compendium groups the statements into subject categories (in chronological order), to maximize user-friendliness and help readers understand Hadassah’s historical rationale for subsequent policy statements. The categories have been created to incorporate all of the policy statements, not to constrict or direct future policy statement topics. While the attempt to categorize the statements was done in the most logical manner possible, the groupings are subjective, and some statements are cross-listed in multiple categories. The general categories mentioned below are simply arranged alphabetically, and thus do not serve as a comprehensive reflection of Hadassah’s domestic issues advocacy priorities.

ZIONIST AFFAIRS

- Aliyah
- Israel and the Middle East
- Jerusalem
- Religious Pluralism
- Terrorism
- United Nations
- World Jewish Concerns and Human Rights
- Zionism

AMERICAN AFFAIRS

- Civic Participation
- Crime, Weapons, and War
- Energy and the Environment
- Health Care
- Immigration and Refugee Status
- Religious Liberty and Other Religious Concerns
- Reproductive Choice
- Separation of Church and State
- Social Justice and Civil Rights
- Women and Family
- Other

TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

The term “reaffirms” is used frequently throughout this document. This term explains that the current policy statement repeats and/or strengthens a prior policy statement. Although the language may not be identical in the relevant policy statements, the sentiment is reflective of previous statements.

It is also important to note that, for the sake of historical accuracy, we have preserved the original titles of policy statements even if the title does not fully capture the sentiment of the policy statement. Further, the same or similar policy statements adopted in multiple years may have different titles (e.g. 1981 statement is entitled “Protection of Jewish Rights,” while the following year’s is entitled “Oppressed Jewish Communities”). By keeping the exact titles, not only does it trace a progression in our understanding of certain issues, it also allows for easier and common reference to the earlier documents.

ZIONIST AFFAIRS

Aliyah

Hadassah recognizes aliyah as the “highest form of Zionist commitment” and supports personal fulfillment. Below are synopses for each of Hadassah’s Aliyah Policy Statements.

1998 Ethiopian Education in Israel

Reaffirms prior Ethiopian Jewry statement. Notes the need to effectively address the educational absorption of Ethiopian youth, including an alarming increase in the number of teenage dropouts and a growing incidence of crime among Ethiopian immigrant youth. Urges the government of Israel and the Jewish Agency to allocate increased resources to provide maximum educational opportunities to Ethiopian youth in Israel.

1997 Religious Pluralism in Israel

Reaffirms prior Religious Pluralism and the Unity of the Jewish People policy statement. Calls on the people of Israel to reject all efforts to impose restrictive definitions of religious conversions. Expresses concern that religious and social freedoms implicit in Israel’s Declaration of Independence and its Basic Laws are being endangered by new conversion legislation.

1996 Religious Pluralism and the Unity of the Jewish People

Reaffirms prior Law of Return policy statement. Affirms commitment to the principle of religious pluralism. Opposes any new legislation to redefine religious conversions in a way which would alienate major segments of the Jewish people from their connection to Israel.

1994 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah statements. Expresses pride in Hadassah’s Winter in Netanya and Spring in Netanya projects.

1993 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah policy statement.

1992 Absorption Loan Guarantees

Reaffirms prior Absorption Loan Guarantees policy statement. Opposes the linkage of loan guarantees to any issue unrelated to immigration absorption.

1992 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah policy statements. Salutes

Hadassah’s National Aliyah Department and its Winter in Netanya projects.

1991 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah policy statements.

1991 Absorption Loan Guarantees

Urges the United States Government to assist Israel financially in the absorption of Soviet and Ethiopian Jews through loan guarantees, which will enable Israel to obtain commercial loans at advantageous terms. Applauds those in Israel who have welcomed new immigrants with generosity.

1991 Ethiopian Jewish Aliyah

Congratulates the Israeli government on the rescue of Ethiopian Jews through Operation Solomon. Expresses gratitude to the United States government, and especially to President Bush and Senator Boschwitz for their assistance. Commends the Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Agency and other organizations for their

efforts. Pledges service to the Ethiopian community in Israel through Hadassah’s health and educational facilities and special funding for youth.

1990 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah policy statements.

1989 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah statements. Encourages local communities to increase funding for long-term Israel programs for youth. Urges the Israeli government to place higher priority on absorption of, and assistance for, new olim, including providing affordable housing.

1989 Resettlement of Soviet Jews

Welcomes the improvement of conditions for Jews in the Soviet Union and in significant Jewish emigration from the USSR. Urges the implementation of new emigration procedures that will encourage Soviet Jews to make aliyah but also preserve the principle of free choice in immigration. Calls upon world Jewry to provide financial support and urges that the Jewish

ZIONIST AFFAIRS

Agency for Israel be the major recipient of communal funds raised for the resettlement of Soviet Jews.

1988 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah policy statements.

1988 Soviet Jewry: New Emigration Procedures

Endorses the resolution adopted by the Jewish Agency Assembly welcoming Israel's decision to secure direct flights from the Soviet Union to Israel for those who request an exit permit from the Soviet Union to Israel. The Jewish Agency resolution also states commitment to enhance the capacity of Israel to receive and resettle Soviet Jews and all olim in Israel. Calls upon other governments to urge the Soviet Union to adhere to its commitment to the

Helsinki Accords and other international agreements regarding the Right to Leave. Calls upon the Soviet Government to permit Jews in the Soviet Union freedom of religion, culture and language.

1987 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah policy statements.

1986 Law Of Return

Reaffirms opposition to any alteration of Israel's Law of Return, which states that any Jew can come home to Israel. Notes that action to amend the law threatens to weaken the sense of Jewish solidarity.

1986 Identity Cards

Opposes new procedure ordered by Israel's Minister of Interior to stamp the word "converted" onto identity cards of those who immigrate to Israel

after their conversion to Judaism. Calls on Israeli government to have this ruling rescinded.

1986 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah policy statements. Supports work of the North American Aliyah Movement (NAAM).

1984-85 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah policy statements.

1983 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah statements. Welcomes the Jewish Agency's efforts in encouraging Diaspora communities to take a greater role in promoting aliyah.

1982 Aliyah

Reaffirms prior aliyah policy statement. Encourages participation in the "Hadassah Family Live-In Israel Experience for

Potential Olim" program. Commends the aliyah work of Hadassah's youth movement, Hamagshamim.

1981 Aliyah

Recognizes aliyah as the "highest form of Zionist commitment and actively encourages and supports that act of personal fulfillment." Asks Hadassah groups, chapters and regions to create and participate in programs that promote aliyah, and to support those who have made aliyah. Commends the work of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel (AACI) and encourages Hadassah members to become "overseas" members and give financial support to the organization. Calls on the World Zionist Organization and the Israel Ministry of Absorption to ease the process of absorption.

Israel and the Middle East

As a supporter of Israel, Hadassah strongly condemns violence against Israel and anti-Israel positions on a worldwide scale. Hadassah sees its duty is to support the country and its growth as a democratic institution in the Middle East.

2023 Championing Israel's Right to Exist

Reaffirms Hadassah's unwavering support for Zionism and the right of the Israeli people to determine their own future. It highlights the historic strength of the US-Israel relationship, the impact of anti-Zionism and antisemitism on Jewish people around the world, and Hadassah's commitment to educate, advocate and promote discourse that helps cultivate Zionist identify for our members and their communities.

2023 Strengthening the Abraham Accords

Reaffirms Hadassah's backing for robust American support of the Abraham Accords as part of

strengthening the US-Israel relationship.

2020 United States of America-Israel Medical Partnerships

United States of America-Israel Medical Partnerships Reaffirms and strongly encourages support for bilateral cooperative medical partnership programs between the United States and Israel aimed at developing health technologies, improved methodologies, and enhanced training of medical professionals to achieve better health and wellness for the people of both nations.

2018 Unwavering Support for Israel

In celebration of its 70th year of independence,

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. (HWZOA), reaffirms its commitment to the State of Israel. We celebrate our efforts of practical Zionism which helped to build the State of Israel, and pledge to continue our important work of Tikkun Olam.

2015 Iran

Reaffirms prior policy statements on nuclear proliferation, weapons of mass destruction, and the Middle East arms race. Urges Congress and the White House to take all necessary actions to ensure that Iran can never acquire nuclear weapons capability, prioritizing the areas of transparency, security safeguards, and compliance prior to the lifting of economic sanctions.

2014 Delegitimization of Israel

Reaffirms its long-standing policy against all forms of organized boycotts and denounces the systematic global campaign to delegitimize the State of Israel. Supports efforts to counter delegitimization and calls on members of the academic, cultural, and business communities to actively pursue partnerships with Israel.

1999 Middle East Peace Process

Reaffirms support of the government of Israel in its efforts to achieve a real and lasting peace with its neighbors. Applauds the Clinton Administration and its efforts in negotiating the Wye River Memorandum in October 1998 and hopes

that the US Administration will continue to promote the peace process and fulfill the terms of the agreements as reached by both parties through direct negotiations. Condemns the violent rhetoric and incitement used by the Palestinians with the aim of influencing the implementation of the Wye agreement. Commends the Administration and Congress on their continued commitments to Israel's security and economic well-being.

1999 Nuclear Proliferation and Weapons of Mass Destruction

Views with alarm the development of missile, nuclear, and biological weapons by Iran, Iraq and other terrorist-supporting states whose weapons capabilities can reach Israel, Saudi Arabia and Turkey. Urges the US Administration to enforce existing legislation that imposes trade sanctions against countries and companies that supply rogue states with materials used in developing weapons of mass destruction.

1999 Women's Participation In Israeli Politics

Applauds a breakthrough in Israeli political life with the election of the first female mayor of a major Israeli city and the highest number of female candidates to date who participated in municipal elections. Supports Israeli women's institutions in their development of women's political leadership and hopes this marks the beginning of a tradition that encourages more women to participate in Israeli political life.

1998 The Middle East Peace Process

Reaffirms support for the government of Israel in its determined pursuit of peace with security for the people of Israel. Notes with concern the continuing impasse in the peace process. Stresses that implementation of existing agreements and elimination of hostile rhetoric and threats of violence are vital to achieving the goal of peace and security in the region; the peace process can move forward once the Palestinian Authority demonstrates maximum effort against terrorism. Commends the Administration and Congress for ongoing commitments to Israel's security and well-being. Supports the American role as facilitator for direct face-to-face negotiations between the parties, without imposing outside pressure. Expresses belief that the current peace process offers the most realistic hope for advancing peace between Israel, its Arab neighbors and the Palestinians.

1998 Ethiopian Education in Israel

Reaffirms prior Ethiopian Jewry statement. Notes the need to effectively address the educational absorption of Ethiopian youth, including an alarming increase in the number of teenage dropouts and a growing incidence of crime among Ethiopian immigrant youth. Urges the government of Israel and the Jewish Agency to allocate increased resources to provide maximum educational opportunities to Ethiopian youth in Israel.

1998 The 50th Anniversary Of The State Of Israel

Salutes the people of Israel and joins them and the entire Jewish community in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the

State of Israel. Expresses our hope for a strong and secure independent Jewish state.

1998 Tobacco In Israel

Notes with deep concern the high rate of tobacco use among Israelis, especially Israeli adolescents, and the link between smoking and various other chronic diseases. Urges the Israeli government and public health organizations to pass relevant legislation restricting tobacco usage by minors.

1997 Israel's Missing-in-action

Reaffirms prior Israeli MIA's Policy Statements.

1997 Middle East Peace Process

Reaffirms prior Middle East Peace Process Policy Statements as well as wholehearted support for the government of Israel in its pursuit for peace and security in the Middle East. Notes with concern the current impasse in the peace process and the use of violence and terrorism instead of negotiation by Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority to resolve differences. Deplores the Palestinian Authority's imposing of the death penalty against Palestinians who sell land to Jews.

1996 Peace and Security in Israel

Congratulates Benjamin Netanyahu on his election to Prime Minister and the inauguration of his new government in the Knesset. Welcomes the Prime Minister's commitment to bring a greater degree of respect, tolerance and pluralism to Israeli society. Welcomes President Clinton's pledge to work closely with the new government. Anticipates working with the new

government to realize common dreams of peace and security in the Middle East.

1995 The Massacre at Beit Lid

Condemns the suicide bombing by Islamic extremists at the Beit Lid Junction outside Netanya as well as the celebration by Palestinian extremists of the deaths which resulted. Expresses belief that it is the responsibility of the PLO to stop all terrorists operating out of Gaza and other areas under its control and to eradicate the atmosphere of hate and violence among the Palestinian people. Notes that Syria must cease support of terrorism in order to negotiate with Israel.

1995 The Middle East Peace Process

Reaffirms prior Middle East Peace Process policy statement.

1994 The Arab Boycott

Reaffirms prior Arab Boycott Policy Statements.

1994 Israeli MIA's and POW's

Reaffirms prior Israeli MIA's policy statement. Acknowledges efforts by the Clinton administration, United States Congress and the Israeli government on behalf of the MIA's and POW's.

1994 Middle East Peace Process

Wholeheartedly supports and warmly congratulates the government and people of Israel for their bold and courageous pursuit of peace, security and economic stability for Israel and for all peoples and states in the Middle East. Expresses hope that the implementation of the Declaration of Principles signed by Prime Minister

Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in Washington on September 13, 1993, will lead to a just and lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Applauds the signing of the Washington Declaration by Prime Minister Rabin and King Hussein ending the 46-year state of war between Israel and Jordan. Commends President Clinton for reaffirming the commitment of the US to Israel's well-being and calls upon our government to provide the assurances and assistance to nurture the peace process to a successful conclusion. Expresses great distress over attacks against Israeli civilians and soldiers by Palestinian terrorists. Calls on Yasser Arafat to denounce violence, take aggressive measures to restrain terrorism within the PLO, and submit approval to the Palestinian National Council to eliminate from the Palestinian National Charter all articles denying Israel's right to exist in peace. Calls on all Arab countries to end their economic boycott and enter into negotiations with Israel.

1993 Aids Policy in Israel
Supports efforts to suspend implementation of a program of mandatory HIV testing of individuals entering Israel for more than three months as they are discriminatory and infringe on privacy rights. Expresses belief that the most effective measures to combat the spread of HIV in Israel is the development of AIDS educational programs specific to the needs of various population segments.

1993 The Arab Boycott
Reaffirms prior Arab Boycott policy statement.

1993 Israeli MIA's
Reaffirms prior Israeli MIA's policy statement. Pledges

Hadassah's full and active support in increasing public awareness of the issue, obtaining information on the soldiers, and returning them to their families.

1993 Middle East Peace Process
Reaffirms prior Middle East Peace Process policy statement. Commends President Clinton's success in reconvening direct peace talks. Notes that the United States defined its role in the process as "full partner" and intends to serve as a facilitator and honest broker. Anticipates the success of multilateral working groups on arms control, water, the environment, refugees, and economic development.

1992 Democracy in Israel
Congratulates Israeli citizens on their recent elections. Anticipates working with the new government of Israel to meet challenges and realize common goals.

1992 Israeli MIA's and Hostages
Rejoices with the United States in the release of American and Western hostages held in Arab countries. Remembers the suffering of missing Israeli soldiers Zvi Feldman, Zacharay Baumel, Yehuda Katz and Ron Arad and the anguish of their families. Calls upon the United Nations Secretary General and the United States Government to ascertain the fate of these MIA's and secure their safe return.

1992 The Middle East Peace Process
Reaffirms prior Peace and Security in the Middle East Policy Statements. Notes with pleasure the continuation of direct peace talks between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Hopes that

talks will lead to peace and security for Israel and the entire region.

1991 The Arab Boycott
Condemns the Arab boycott of Israel, which includes blacklisting companies owned by Jews and those with economic ties to Israel. Urges the United States Government to exert pressure on Arab states imposing trade restrictions and to renounce the boycott.

1991 The Gulf Crisis
Commends President Bush for his leadership in the Gulf Crisis and supports the policy of using force to counter Saddam Hussein's acts of aggression. Applauds the Bush Administration for its rejection of any linkage between Iraqi aggression against Kuwait and the resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Pays tribute to the courage of the men and women in the United States armed forces and prays that they return home swiftly and safely.

1990 Electoral Reform in Israel
Supports the call made by President Chaim Herzog and a majority of the Israeli people for election reform.

1990 Middle East Arms Race
Reaffirms prior Middle East Arms Race Policy Statements.

1990 The Middle East Peace Process
Supports Israel's unity government in its peace initiative which calls for free and open elections in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and multinational efforts to improve the quality of life of Palestinian Arabs in the territories. Welcomes the Bush Administration's support for Israel's peace

proposal. Finds the PLO an unacceptable partner in the peace process until it repudiates its charter calling for the destruction of Israel and ceases its campaign of violence against Israel.

1989 Israel's National Unity Government
Expresses solidarity with, and support for, the newly elected government of Israel. Anticipates continuing a partnership with the people and government of Israel.

1989 Middle East Arms Race
Reaffirms prior Policy Statements. Views with alarm the increased production and use of chemical and biological weapons and the acquisition of ballistic missiles in Syria, Libya, Iran and Iraq as the governments of these countries are connected with terrorist activities which pose a grave threat to regional and international stability. Commends the United States Government for adopting and enforcing international agreements on a worldwide ban on the production, stockpiling, and transfer of chemical and biological weapons and a halt of the proliferation of missile delivery systems.

1989 Tourism to Israel
Reaffirms prior Tourism to Israel Policy Statements.

1988 The Administered Territories
Reaffirms prior Policy Statements. Recognizes the right and responsibility of Israel, in the face of continued violence, to make efforts to ensure public safety and order in the administered territories for the sake of all parties.

ZIONIST AFFAIRS

1988 Tourism to Israel

Reaffirms prior Tourism to Israel policy statement.

1987 Jewish Family Law

Calls for cooperation with Jewish women's groups which are urging the Rabbinate to devise solutions to the problems of Family Law such as agunah, halitzah, divorce, women's rights in marriage and custody of children.

1987 Middle East Arms Sales

Reaffirms prior Middle East Arms Sales Policy Statements.

1987 Peace And Security in The Middle East

Reaffirms prior Policy Statements, which state that peace can only be achieved through direct negotiations, which the United States should encourage and help facilitate.

1987 Prosecution of Nazi War Criminals in Israel

Expresses full support for Israel's efforts to prosecute Nazi war criminals and collaborators.

1987 Women of the Wall

Expresses the belief that every Jew has the right, individually and collectively, to pray freely at the Kotel (Western Wall). Expresses concern over the Supreme Court decision which affirmed regulations aimed at Women of the Wall and anger about abusive behavior directed toward women who wish to pray at the Wall. Calls on the Israeli government to protect the rights of all women to pray as they wish at the Kotel.

1986 Peace and Security in the Middle East

Reaffirms prior Policy Statements. Acknowledges the decision of King Hassan II of Morocco to meet openly with the

Prime Minister of Israel. Commends the United States' role in encouraging direct negotiations.

1986 Spanish-Israel Relations

Acknowledges Spain as a full democratic partner in the European Economic Community. Calls upon Spain to open formal diplomatic relations with Israel.

1986 Support Israel's Economic Growth

Commits to the economic growth of Israel. Calls on Hadassah members and the Jewish community at large to purchase Israeli-made products. Supports efforts of those in private groups and businesses who encourage increased tourism, trade and investment in Israel.

1986 Tourism to Israel

Calls on Hadassah members and all Jewish organizations to promote tourism to Israel as a priority for their groups. Urges all members and the Jewish community at large to visit Israel this year.

1986 Vatican-Israel Relations

Calls upon the Vatican to extend formal diplomatic recognition to the State of Israel.

1986 Dialogue and Understanding

Views with deep concern the escalation of religious-secular tensions within Israel and deplores the use of violence by religious and secular extremists. Commends efforts of those in Israel and the Diaspora who are working to foster greater respect and dialogue between religious and secular communities.

1986 Middle East Arms Sales

Opposes the sale of advanced arms to any

country that does not recognize Israel's right to exist and which refuses to engage in peace negotiations with Israel. Expresses dismay at the United States Administration's efforts to sell arms to Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

1985 Arms Sales to Arab Countries

Reaffirms prior US Arms Sales to Arab Countries policy statement. Opposes arms sales to Arab countries that do not negotiate directly, and make peace, with Israel.

1985 Freedom, Justice and Peace in Israel

Strongly condemns the racist overtones in Meir Kahane's ideology. Rejects Kahane's definition of Zionism as inherently undemocratic. Notes with pride Israel's record as a model democracy. Reaffirms the principles of freedom, justice and peace stated in Israel's Declaration of Independence, and the complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex.

1985 Peace And Security In The Middle East

Reaffirms prior Policy Statements. Urges the United States Administration to remain firm in its insistence on face-to-face negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors without preconditions. Opposes an international conference to resolve Arab-Israeli disputes as it would grant veto power to the Soviet Union and extreme elements in the Arab world. Expresses belief that enhancement of the Israel-Egypt relationship will contribute to confidence in the peace process.

1984 The United States and Israel

Reaffirms prior United States and Israel Policy Statements. Urges the US Government to insist that Egypt live up to its commitments in the peace treaty with Israel.

1984 West German Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia

Finds morally reprehensible that West Germany is considering selling lethal weapons to Saudi Arabia, a nation which has declared "holy war" against Israel. Urges the Federal Republic of Germany to recognize its moral responsibility to the Jewish people and to avoid actions that could endanger Jewish life or threaten Israel.

1982 Lebanon and Operation Peace in the Galilee

Supports Israel's right to defend its people from terrorism. Defends Israel's action against the Lebanon-based PLO as serving the security interests of Israel as well as of the international community.

1982 The United States and Israel

Reaffirms prior United States and Israel and United Nations Policy Statements.

1981 Peace and Security in the Middle East

Reaffirms prior Policy Statements. Deplores the politicization of the United Nations and its specialized agencies as well as those who manipulate the United Nations in order to undermine Middle East peace. Calls on the United States Government to veto anti-Israel UN resolutions and "return the United Nations to the ideals and principles on which it was founded."

ZIONIST AFFAIRS

1981 The United States and Israel

Reaffirms prior United States and Israel policy statement. Commends President Reagan for his support of Israel, reaffirmation of US commitment to the Camp David Peace Process and denunciation of the PLO as a terrorist organization. Commends the Administration for defending Israel in the United Nations and those members of Congress who work to strengthen bonds between the United States and Israel. Calls on the Administration to recognize Israel's sovereign right to act in averting

PLO attacks, particularly those from Lebanon. Expresses distress over the sale of AWACS and F-15 enhancement equipment to Saudi Arabia and urges the Administration to lift the suspension of delivery of F-16 and F-15 planes committed to Israel.

1980 Europe and the Middle East

Views with deep concern the anti-Israel positions taken by many Western European countries to appease the terrorist Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Arab rejectionists in the hopes of ensuring access to oil supplies. Condemns European Economic Community's call for the

PLO to be associated with Middle East peace negotiations as capitulation for terrorism. Calls upon these European countries to advance the Camp David Accords.

1980 Peace And Security in The Middle East

Commends efforts taken toward normalization between Israel and Egypt as a step toward peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Hopes for strict adherence to the Camp David Accords. Notes the sacrifices made by Israel in carrying out peace provisions and views with dismay Egypt's suspension of autonomy talks and its votes for UN resolutions attacking Israel as contradictory to Camp

David agreements. Urges the United States to refrain from making statements which could strengthen the power of rejectionist Arab forces and not to deal with the PLO. Affirms that the major obstacle to Middle East peace is the refusal of Arab states other than Egypt to recognize Israel.

1980 US Arms Sales to Arab Countries

Expresses dismay at the quantity and quality of weapons the United States Administration has proposed to sell to Saudi Arabia and Jordan and the approval of the sale of gas turbine engines to Iraq. Applauds position of many members of Congress who have spoken out against such sales.

Jerusalem

Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, must remain a "united city under Israeli sovereignty." Below are synopses for each of Hadassah's Jerusalem Policy Statements.

2017 50th Anniversary of the Reunification of Jerusalem

Reaffirms prior statements that Jerusalem remain the undivided capital of Israel. Congratulates the people of Jerusalem on their city's 50th year of reunification and celebrates 50 years since Hadassah Hospital reopened on Mount Scopus.

2012 Jerusalem

Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, must remain a "united city under Israeli sovereignty."

1997 30th Anniversary of the Reunification of Jerusalem

Reaffirms prior Jerusalem statements. Congratulates the people of Jerusalem on their city's 30th year of reunification. Celebrates 30 years since Hadassah Hospital reopened on Mount Scopus. Salutes

the United States Congress for its adoption of resolutions and legislation recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and requiring the American embassy to relocate to Jerusalem.

1995 Jerusalem

Reaffirms prior Jerusalem statements. Notes that in September, 1995 Jerusalem celebrates 3,000 years since its establishment as the capital of Israel by King David.

1994 Jerusalem

Reaffirms prior Jerusalem statements.

1993 Jerusalem

Reaffirms prior Jerusalem statements. Refers to Jerusalem Covenants, which were signed by thousands of Hadassah members and delivered to the President of Israel on Yom Yerushalayim.

1992 Jerusalem

Reaffirms prior Jerusalem statements.

1991 Jerusalem

Reaffirms prior Jerusalem statements. Anticipates the 1992 celebration of 25 years of a united Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty.

1990 Jerusalem

Reaffirms prior Jerusalem statements. Supports the right of Jews to live anywhere within Jerusalem's borders. Salutes the United States Congress for recognizing that "Jerusalem is and should remain the capital of the State of Israel."

1981-85 Jerusalem

Reaffirms prior Jerusalem statement.

1980 Jerusalem

Reaffirms that Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, must remain a "united city under Israeli sovereignty." Notes that Israeli jurisdiction over Jerusalem safeguards the free movement of people and freedom of religious worship in the city. Urges the United States to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

1980 Security Council

Resolution On Jerusalem Views with dismay United States' failure to veto the UN Security Council Resolution calling for the removal of embassies from Jerusalem. Urges President Carter to endorse a platform recognizing Jerusalem as the united capital of Israel.

Religious Pluralism

Hadassah affirms commitment to the principle of Religious Pluralism and the preservation of Jewish unity in Israel and the United States.

2021 Pluralism and the Zionist Movement

The Pluralism and the Zionist Movement policy statement reaffirms Hadassah's commitment to strengthen the Zionist community and its steadfast dedication to inclusivity, diversity and pluralism within the Zionist movement. The statement highlights Hadassah's role in helping to secure a wall-to-wall Agreement of Principles that promotes inclusivity of all Zionist groups that belong to the World Zionist Congress, as well as Hadassah's support for all efforts to strengthen Israel-Diaspora relations.

2013 Women's Prayer at the Western Wall

Reaffirms its commitment to and support for freedom of worship for all women at the Western Wall and hopes that a resolution can be reached that will allow all women to pray, individually and collectively, at the Kotel freely, without harassment, and in accordance with their own religious practices.

2012 Protecting Women's Rights in Israel

Maintains a long-standing commitment to the principle of religious pluralism and the preservation of Jewish unity. Denounces recent attempts by religious extremists to segregate and discriminate against women in Israel's public spaces and urges the government of the State of Israel and all its municipalities to address instances of public

discrimination against women, fully investigate such cases and bring those who commit these acts to justice.

1998 Religious Pluralism and Jewish Unity

Reaffirms long-standing commitment to the principle of religious pluralism and the preservation of Jewish unity. Voices strong opposition to the recently proposed conversion law in Israel, noting that it has been a source of distress for millions of Jews, threatens Jewish unity and can lead to the alienation of major segments of the world Jewish community from their connections to Israel. Stresses the vital importance of the centrality of Israel to Jewish life and to the fundamental unity of the Jewish people. Expresses hope that the Ne'eman Commission will be able to resolve the difficult issues pertaining to personal and religious status in Israel in a way that will maintain and strengthen the unity of the Jewish people.

1997 Religious Pluralism in Israel

Reaffirms prior Religious Pluralism and the Unity of the Jewish People policy statement. Calls on the people of Israel to reject all efforts to impose restrictive definitions of religious conversions. Expresses concern that religious and social freedoms implicit in Israel's Declaration of Independence and its Basic Laws are being endangered by new conversion legislation.

1996 Religious Pluralism and the Unity of the Jewish People

Reaffirms prior Law of Return policy statement. Affirms commitment to the principle of religious pluralism. Opposes any new legislation to redefine religious conversions in a way which would alienate major segments of the Jewish people from their connection to Israel.

1987 Jewish Family Law

Calls for cooperation with Jewish women's groups which are urging the Rabbinate to devise solutions to the problems of Family Law such as agunah, halitzah, divorce, women's rights in marriage and custody of children.

1987 Law Of Return

Reaffirms prior Law of Return policy statement. Strongly objects to Israel's religious hierarchy ruling on the legitimacy of conversions performed outside Israel, thereby altering the Law of Return.

1987 Polarization And Factionalism In The American Jewish Community

Views with great concern polarization and factionalism in the American Jewish community. Recognizes need for communication, cooperation and mutual respect in relation to sensitive issues like conversion, inter-marriage, and personal status. Calls on Hadassah members to take an active role in urging denominations to engage in meaningful dialogue. Commends those religious leaders who have moved dialogue forward.

1987 Women of the Wall

Expresses the belief that every Jew has the right, individually and collectively, to pray freely at the Kotel (Western Wall). Expresses concern over the Supreme Court decision which affirmed regulations aimed at Women of the Wall and anger about abusive behavior directed toward women who wish to pray at the Wall. Calls on the Israeli government to protect the rights of all women to pray as they wish at the Kotel

1986 Dialogue and Understanding

Views with deep concern the escalation of religious-secular tensions within Israel and deplores the use of violence by religious and secular extremists. Commends efforts of those in Israel and the Diaspora who are working to foster greater respect and dialogue between religious and secular communities.

1986 Identity Cards

Opposes new procedure ordered by Israel's Minister of Interior to stamp the word "converted" onto identity cards of those who immigrate to Israel after their conversion to Judaism. Calls on Israeli government to have this ruling rescinded.

1986 Law of Return

Reaffirms opposition to any alteration of Israel's Law of Return which states that any Jew can come home to Israel. Notes that action to amend the law threatens to weaken the sense of Jewish solidarity that binds the Jewish people to Israel.

Terrorism

As a supporter of Israel, Hadassah strongly condemns both violence, especially terrorism, against Israel and anti-Israel positions on a worldwide scale.

2015 Iran

Reaffirms prior policy statements on nuclear proliferation, weapons of mass destruction and the Middle East arms race.

2002 Anti-Terrorism, Immigration and Civil Liberties

Calls on the President, Congress and the Administration to continue to employ all efforts to root out international terrorism and its support structure, while ensuring that civil liberties for US citizens and resident aliens are protected in the United States.

1998 Terrorism

Expresses outrage and condemns the continuing terrorist attacks against Israel by Islamic extremists and other enemies of Israel and the Jewish people. Notes that these attacks are blatant attempts to destroy all prospects for peace and security in Israel and the Middle East. Calls on Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority to comply with their commitments to denounce these acts of violence and to take aggressive measures to restrain, disarm and uproot the various terrorist elements under their jurisdiction. Urges the United States to intensify its efforts to monitor and take preventive measures against illegal activities by militant Islamic fundamentalist and other extremists groups, including other nations that support their terrorist activities. Views with alarm the acquisition by Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria and other terrorist-support states of missile and nuclear technology from Russia and

other countries. Expresses deep concern with the development of chemical and biological weapons by these rogue states. Urges Congress and the Administration to support firm American action in support of the provisions of the Iran-Libya Sanctions

1995 The Massacre at Beit Lid

Condemns the suicide bombing by Islamic extremists at the Beit Lid Junction outside Netanya as well as the celebration by Palestinian extremists of the deaths which resulted. Expresses belief that it is the responsibility of the PLO to stop all terrorists operating out of Gaza and other areas under its control and to eradicate the atmosphere of hate and violence among the Palestinian people. Notes that Syria must cease support of terrorism in order to negotiate with Israel.

1995 Terrorism

Reaffirms prior Terrorism policy statement. Calls on Yasser Arafat to take aggressive measures to disarm terrorist elements in the PLO. Recalls shock and pain over Oklahoma City bombing and urges Congress and the Administration to adopt strong legislation to combat domestic terrorism.

1994 Middle East Peace Process

Wholeheartedly supports and warmly congratulates the government and people of Israel for their bold and courageous pursuit of peace, security and economic stability for Israel and for all peoples

and states in the Middle East. Expresses hope that the implementation of the Declaration of Principles signed by Prime Minister Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in Washington on September 13, 1993, will lead to a just and lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Applauds the signing of the Washington Declaration by Prime Minister Rabin and King Hussein ending the 46-year state of war between Israel and Jordan. Commends President Clinton for reaffirming the commitment of the US to Israel's well-being and calls upon our government to provide the assurances and assistance to nurture the peace process to a successful conclusion. Expresses great distress over attacks against Israeli civilians and soldiers by Palestinian terrorists. Calls on Yasser Arafat to denounce violence, take aggressive measures to restrain terrorism within the PLO, and submit approval to the Palestinian National Charter all articles denying Israel's right to exist in peace. Calls on Arab countries to end their economic boycott and enter into negotiations with Israel.

1994 Terrorism*

Expresses outrage over terrorist bombings against Jewish and Israeli institutions around the world (notably in Argentina and Great Britain) by Islamic extremists and others attempting to destroy the peace process. Calls on Argentine and British governments to bring swift justice to the guilty parties. Urges the

international community to take preventive measures against all extremist groups and to publicly condemn all acts of terrorism when they occur.

1990 Middle East Arms Race

Reaffirms prior Middle East Arms Race Policy Statements.

1990 The PLO

Reaffirms prior PLO policy statement.

1990 Temporary Expulsion Of Hamas Terrorist Leaders From Israel

Applauds Israeli Government's determination to fight terror and expose the dangers of Muslim fundamentalism. Fully supports the temporary removal from Israel of some 400 leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad in order to prevent more terrorism and murder.

1989 Middle East Arms Race

Reaffirms prior Policy Statements. Views with alarm the increased production and use of chemical and biological weapons and the acquisition of ballistic missiles in Syria, Libya, Iran and Iraq as the governments of these countries are connected with terrorist activities which pose a grave threat to regional and international stability. Commends the United States Government for adopting and enforcing international agreements on a worldwide ban on the production, stockpiling, and transfer of chemical and biological weapons and a halt of the proliferation of missile delivery systems.

ZIONIST AFFAIRS

1989 The PLO

Deplores the growing efforts to legitimize the PLO. Calls on the United States Government to discontinue dialogue with the PLO unless the Palestinian National Council renounces its covenant calling for the destruction of Israel, PLO terrorist operations are entirely dismantled, the PLO calls on its supporters in the West Bank and Gaza to end their violence, and the PLO condemns all acts of terror committed by its representatives or factions.

1987 The PLO and Terrorism

Reaffirms prior Terrorism policy statement. Calls on the United States Government to close all

offices in the United States financed and directed by the PLO.

1986 Terrorism

Reaffirms prior Terrorism policy statement. Calls on the government of the United States to press its allies to combat international terrorism, hijackings and sabotage of international air travel through political and economic sanctions.

1985 Terrorism

Commends President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz for their denunciation of the PLO as a terrorist organization and for their pledge to combat international terrorism. Urges the United States not

to negotiate with the PLO or its representatives.

1980 US Arms Sales to Arab Countries

Expresses dismay at the quantity and quality of weapons the United States Administration has proposed to sell to Saudi Arabia and Jordan and the approval of the sale of gas turbine engines to Iraq. Applauds position of many members of Congress who have spoken out against such sales.

1980 The United States and Israel

Reaffirms prior United States and Israel policy statement. Commends President Reagan for his support of Israel, reaffirmation of US

commitment to the Camp David Peace Process and denunciation of the PLO as a terrorist organization. Commends the Administration for defending Israel in the United Nations and those members of Congress who work to strengthen bonds between the United States and Israel. Calls on the Administration to recognize Israel's sovereign right to act in averting PLO attacks, particularly those from Lebanon. Expresses distress over the sale of AWACS and F-15 enhancement equipment to Saudi Arabia and urges the Administration to lift the suspension of delivery of F-16 and F-15 planes committed to Israel.

United Nations

Hadassah holds special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Hadassah has expressed concern over the bias against Israel that continues to pervade the institution and urges reforms.

2025 Fighting Antisemitism and Anti-Israel Sentiment at the United Nations

Reaffirms Hadassah's commitments to combat antisemitism and provide unwavering support of Israel's right to exist, especially when such is challenged at the United Nations. The statement supports US leaders in rallying other countries to stand with Israel, recognizes efforts by the US Department of Justice and the European Union to independently hold Hamas accountable and calls on leaders and countries around the world to take similar action.

2016 United Nations Reform

Reaffirms and expands prior policy statements in response to increasing anti-Israel activity at the UN. States support for the Conference of

Presidents' Declaration Opposing Discrimination Against Israel at the United Nations — urging the UN to implement broad and substantive changes to its institutions and bodies.

2014 United Nations Reform

Reaffirms prior policy statement. Recognizes some recent strides toward Israel's acceptance at the UN but outraged by the bias against Israel that continues to pervade the institution. Restates and proposes additional changes to UN institutions and bodies.

2006 United Nations Reform

Expresses deep concern that the UN's integrity and effectiveness have been compromised and urges the UN to implement several broad and substantive changes to its institutions and bodies. Urges United

States to continue to lobby for United Nations reforms.

2021 UNRWA

Builds on Hadassah's commitment to combating antisemitism through education and highlights that educational curricula and resources used in Palestinian schools encourage violence, reject peace and demonize both Israel and the Jewish people. Statement reinforces Hadassah's efforts to ensure UNRWA upholds UN values of tolerance, neutrality and nonviolence — including urging the United Nations Secretary General and the US State Department to use their power to guarantee UNRWA's accountability.

2002 UNRWA

Dismayed at UNRWA's handling of the Palestinian refugees located in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza.

Calls on the UN to reform UNRWA by moving it to the administration of the UNHCR and that UNRWA becomes part of the process of economic development and democratization for the Palestinians. UNRWA must conduct background checks on all of its employees and deny employment to any Palestinian with links to terror organizations. The UNRWA Director must also report on trends within UNRWA administered camps, which endanger the lives of civilians, such as the activity of terror cells and terror organizations in the camps. The US government must encourage these reforms, conduct an audit of US taxpayers' funds that have been used in the Palestinian refugee camps by UNRWA and whether those funds have been used to advance a culture of hatred and terror.

1998 Israel and the United Nations

Urges admission of the State of Israel as a temporary member in the Western European and Others Group (WEOG) at the United Nations. Expresses the belief that the disenfranchisement of Israel through the denial of such a membership is discriminatory and a violation of the fundamental principles of the UN. Calls upon the United States and European Union to support Israel's entry to the WEOG to enable the State of Israel to serve equally on all United Nations bodies. Notes with dismay recent efforts by Yasser Arafat, the PLO and several Arab states to use the UN as a tool in their diplomatic and propaganda war against Israel. Expresses hope that the United Nations will begin to take a new, more positive approach toward Israel.

1991 The UN Anti-Zionist Resolution

Reaffirms prior UN Anti-Zionist Resolution policy statement. Notes that the resolution has been the "spearhead of a vicious Arab-sponsored campaign to challenge Israel's legitimacy."

1990 The UN Anti-Zionist Resolution

Reaffirms prior Reaffirmation of Zionism

policy statement. Reaffirms determination to achieve repeal of the 1975 UN resolution equating Zionism with racism. Calls upon all governments to repeal the UN resolution. Welcomes the Bush Administration's commitment to this cause.

1985 Reaffirmation of Zionism

Reaffirms the belief that Zionism is the "fulfillment of the Jewish People's right to self-determination and to live in freedom, democracy and independence in its ancient homeland, Israel." Condemns any linkage between Zionism and racism, especially the 1975 UN General Assembly Resolution 3379, which is itself a form of bigotry and antisemitism. Pledges support to counter damage done by this resolution. Commends the United States Congress for its passage of joint resolution S.J. 98 condemning United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3379.

1982 Human Rights

Expresses outrage that some international agencies established to protect human rights have been subverted to political purposes hostile to Israel, Jewish interests and the very cause of human rights, notably the United Nations, some of whose programs have become instruments

for Arab and Soviet attacks on Israel. Applauds the efforts of the United States Administration to seek review of compliance with the human rights provisions of the Helsinki Final Act and of the US delegation to the Madrid Conference in defending human rights, especially those of Soviet Jews. Salutes Israel as a vibrant democracy that stands as a beacon to a world in which freedom and the cause of human rights are under constant attack.

1982 The United States and Israel

Reaffirms prior United States and Israel and United Nations Policy Statements.

1981 Peace and Security in the Middle East

Reaffirms prior Policy Statements. Deplores the politicization of the United Nations and its specialized agencies as well as those who manipulate the United Nations in order to undermine Middle East peace. Calls on the United States Government to veto anti-Israel UN resolutions and "return the United Nations to the ideals and principles on which it was founded."

1980 Security Council Resolution On Jerusalem

Views with dismay United States' failure to veto the UN Security Council Resolution calling for the

removal of embassies from Jerusalem. Urges President Carter to endorse a platform recognizing Jerusalem as the united capital of Israel.

1980 United Nations

Expresses concern that the United Nations has become the "principle international forum for the Arab states and their allies to attack Israel and Zionism." Condemns the politicization of UN specialized agencies, manipulation of the UN by those seeking to destroy chances for Middle East peace, biased statements of Secretary General Kurt Waldheim supporting Palestinian statehood and self-determination, and the recent subversion by the PLO of the legitimate purposes of the UN Mid-Decade Conference on Women as a move to attack Israel, Zionism and the Jewish People. Calls on the United States to veto one-sided anti-Israel resolutions in the Security Council, maintain its commitment to the Camp David Accords and deter any efforts to alter resolutions 242 and 338 on which it was based, and use diplomatic and economic means to return the UN to the ideals and principles on which it was founded.

World Jewish Concerns and Human Rights

Hadassah stands against antisemitism, discrimination, and human rights abuses around the world.

2025 Strengthening Security to Confront and Protect Against Antisemitic Violence

Reaffirms Hadassah's commitment to combating antisemitism in all its forms and urges leaders and policymakers to call out the dangers of rising antisemitism and

take meaningful steps to confront antisemitism, including urging social media companies to address hate on their platforms and increase critical funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

2024 Standing Up to Antisemitism on College Campuses and in Communities Across the Country

Highlights the recent spike in antisemitism since October 7, including antisemitism masked as anti-Zionism. The statement calls on leaders — especially

in government and education — to help ensure that antisemitism does not become normalized, take steps to protect students, recognize the IHRA definition, and support the continued implementation of the National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism.

2024 Denouncing Efforts to Exclude Jews and Zionists

Calls on leaders in organizations, associations and governments to help fight the global rise in antisemitism by denouncing and refusing to engage in efforts to isolate Jews and Zionists and by encouraging collaboration and cross-cultural ties. This statement underscores the impact of isolation and polarization since Hamas's brutal attack on October 7, 2023.

2021 Defining Antisemitism

The Defining Antisemitism policy statement codifies Hadassah's adoption of the full International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism (including examples) — which was approved by National Board Motion in December 2020 — as well as the spelling of antisemitism (all in lowercase with no hyphen). The statement encourages other organizations and entities to adopt the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism and it includes the full text of the definition and 11 illustrative examples.

2019 De-Politicizing Antisemitism

Affirms that support for Israel and opposition to antisemitism must remain nonpartisan values. As an organization committed to fighting prejudice, Hadassah condemns all acts of hatred against the Jewish people, promotes education about the historical and modern-day manifestations of anti-Semitism, and urges elected officials to refrain from and hold their colleagues accountable for speech and actions that demonize Israel and fuel antisemitism.

2019 Combating Antisemitism

Reaffirmed prior statements. Deplores the rise in threats and most recent acts of violence perpetrated against Jewish institutions, including at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

2017 Combating Antisemitism

Deplores the rise in threats and acts of violence perpetrated against Jewish institutions, synagogues and Jewish individuals around the world.

2014 Combating Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior statements. Deplores the rise in anti-Semitic acts of violence around the world. Calls on all nations and international bodies to establish or intensify their efforts address anti-Semitic hate crimes and urges political and religious leaders to denounce anti-Semitic attacks, statements, and propaganda — especially from within their own country or faith.

2004 Pro-Israel Activity on Campus

Calls upon university administrators and professors to ensure that those Jewish students and academic personnel who exercise their first amendment rights to express their support for Israel on campus are not penalized by university officials. Hadassah further calls upon university officials to take every step to protect Jewish students and academic personnel from intimidation and violence on campus.

2004 Jews from Arab Lands

Resolves to help inform elected US officials, international bodies, world leaders and the media, about the conditions under which Jews were displaced from Arab lands; their

human and civil rights were violated in waves of pogroms that resulted in loss of human life, collective punishment, and the confiscation and destruction of individual and Jewish communal property.

2004 Combating the Resurgence of Antisemitism

Urges all international bodies and heads of state to condemn antisemitism in the strongest possible terms and to establish or intensify their efforts to track, investigate, and prosecute those responsible for anti-Semitic hate crimes.

2003 Holocaust Restitution

Believes that the continued effort to compensate the survivors and the heirs of Holocaust victims is imperative. Urges that all funds secured as restitution, including all traceable assets (i.e. property, bank accounts and insurance policy benefits) be directed to the support of living Holocaust survivors, as well as the heirs of the victims. Remaining funds should be used for the support of Holocaust education.

2002 Anti-Terrorism, Immigration and Civil Liberties

Calls on the President, Congress and the Administration to continue to employ all efforts to root out international terrorism and its support structure, while ensuring that civil liberties for US citizens and resident aliens are protected in the United States.

2000 Ratifying CEDAW, The Convention to End All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

Expresses support and calls for Senate ratification of CEDAW which sets forth standards for women's civil, legal and reproductive rights.

1999 Issues of Concern Regarding World Jewish Communities

Notes with concern the plight of Jewish communities in South Africa and Argentina where Jews have increasingly become the target of hate crimes. Calls on governments of these countries to ensure the protection of Jewish people, property and institutions by discouraging anti-Israel, anti-Zionist and anti-Semitic activity. Urges these governments to pass legislation making anti-ethnic incitement a crime and recommends increased student information campaigns to help foster an environment of respect and tolerance towards minority communities.

1998 Antisemitism in Russia

Reaffirms prior concerns regarding the increased acts of antisemitism in Russia including vandalism of Jewish institutions, hostile public rhetoric by extremists and brutal beatings of Jews in Moscow. Calls on the Russian government to condemn all anti-Semitic activity. Asks the Russian Government to extend protection to its Jewish citizens and their institutions.

1998 Antisemitism in Russia

Reaffirms prior concerns of increased anti-Semitic activity in Russia, especially anti-Semitic remarks by members of the Russian Parliament holding the Jews responsible for the social and economic problems that plague Russia today. Applauds the 31 members of the US Congress who wrote to President Yeltsin to express their outrage at the virulent anti-Semitic statements made by members of the Russian parliament. Urges the Russian parliament to prosecute these two members under the statute banning incitement of "ethnic strife."

1997 Switzerland and the Holocaust

Expresses concern about Jewish assets deposited in Swiss banks before World War II and the revelations concerning Switzerland's relations with Nazi Germany. Welcomes recent moves by the Swiss Government and Swiss bankers to address these disturbing disclosures. Suggests that a full accounting and restitution of assets to survivors of the Shoah and the heirs of Jewish victims would be a positive step toward moral and legal accountability for acquiescence and involvement in the destruction of European Jewry.

1997 Israel's Missing in Action

Reaffirms prior Israeli MIA's Policy Statements.

1995 Atrocities in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Reaffirms prior Policy Statements. Urges all military forces in the former Yugoslavia to refrain from attacking innocent civilians.

1994 Rwanda

Condemns the mass slaughter of hundreds of thousands of people in Rwanda because they belong to a certain group. Implores the United States and the international community to intensify relief efforts to stop the epidemic spread of disease and starvation among Rwandan refugees.

1994 Terrorism

Expresses outrage over terrorist bombings against Jewish and Israeli institutions around the world (notably in Argentina and Great Britain) by Islamic extremists and others attempting to destroy the peace process. Calls on Argentine and British governments to bring swift justice to these incidents.

Urges the international community to take preventive measures against all extremist groups and to publicly condemn all acts of terrorism when they occur.

1993 Antisemitism and Racism In Germany

Expresses alarm over the series of racist, anti-Semitic and xenophobic attacks that have taken place in Germany. Welcomes actions taken by the German Government to combat neo-Nazi violence as well as demonstrations by German citizens against racism and intolerance. Urges all levels of German Government to firmly combat and deter neo-Nazi violence.

1993 Atrocities in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Condemns the inaction of the world community and its failure to combat the atrocities of violence, ethnic cleansing, persecution and mass slaughter in Bosnia. Implores the free world, led by the United States, the United Nations and the European Community to condemn the atrocities and take measures, including lifting of the arms embargo and military air strikes, in order to halt the violence and slaughter in Bosnia.

1993 Endangered Jewish Communities

Reaffirms prior Endangered Jewish Communities Policy Statements. Expresses concern for Jews in Syria since the government reversed its 1992 policy permitting Jews to travel freely. Urges the Clinton Administration to press President Assad to honor his commitment to allow Jews to leave Syria.

1992 Absorption Loan Guarantees

Reaffirms prior Absorption Loan Guarantees policy statement. Opposes the linkage of loan guarantees

to any issue unrelated to immigration absorption.

1992 Endangered Jewish Communities

Reaffirms prior Oppressed Jewish Communities Policy Statements. Welcomes announcement by the US State Department that Syria has lifted restrictions on travel and disposition of property by Syrian Jews.

1991 Absorption Loan Guarantees

Urges the United States Government to assist Israel financially in the absorption of Soviet and Ethiopian Jews through loan guarantees, which will enable Israel to obtain commercial loans at advantageous terms. Applauds those in Israel who have welcomed new immigrants with generosity.

1991 Ethiopian Jewish Aliyah

Congratulates the Israeli government on the rescue of Ethiopian Jews through Operation Solomon. Expresses gratitude to the United States Government, and especially to President Bush and Senator Boschwitz for their assistance. Commends the Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Agency and other organizations for their efforts. Pledges service to the Ethiopian community in Israel through Hadassah's health and educational facilities and special funding for youth.

1991 Endangered Jewish Communities

Reaffirms prior Oppressed Jewish Communities Policy Statements. Notes in particular the communities in Syrian, Yemen and Iran. Urges the United States Government to intensify pressure on Syria to end restrictions imposed on its Jewish community.

1991 Soviet Jewry

Reaffirms prior Soviet Jewry Policy Statements. Expresses appreciation to the United States Congress and Administration for the \$400 million housing loan guarantee extended to Israel for the absorption of Soviet Jewish immigrants. Urges the United States to provide additional loan guarantees in coming years.

1990 Antisemitism

Views with alarm increased manifestations of antisemitism and neo-Nazi activities in the United States and around the world including physical attacks on Jews, desecration of Jewish cemeteries and vandalism of Jewish schools and synagogues. Expresses belief that these acts are a major result of the proliferation of anti-Zionist and anti-Israel propaganda in the United Nations as well as international actions that have granted legitimacy to the PLO. Pledges support to educational, legislative and other efforts to combat antisemitism, anti-Zionism and neo-Nazism.

1990 Soviet Jewry

Welcomes with elation the unprecedented emigration and aliyah of Soviet Jews. Pledges Hadassah's support in the effort to provide smooth absorption and integration of Soviet Jews into Israel and Israeli society. Salutes the Hadassah Medical Organization, Hadassah Academic College, Hadassah Career Counseling Institute, Hadassah sponsored Youth Aliyah facilities and Hadassah-Israel for their efforts in absorption of Soviet Jews. Deplores attempts by Arab countries to seek curtailment of Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel. Urges the United States Administration to reaffirm its position on the right of Soviet Jews to immigrate to Israel.

1989 Resettlement of Soviet Jews

Welcomes the improvement of conditions for Jews in the Soviet Union and the significant increase in Jewish emigration from the USSR. Urges the implementation of new emigration procedures that will encourage Soviet Jews to make aliyah but also preserve the principle of free choice in immigration. Calls upon world Jewry to provide financial support and urges that the Jewish Agency for Israel be the major recipient of communal funds raised for the resettlement of Soviet Jews.

1989 Soviet Jewry

Reaffirms prior Soviet Jewry Policy Statements. Expresses acceptance of a temporary waiver of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment provided the President of the United States receives assurance from Soviet authorities in sustained high level of Jewish emigration, strict limits on the “state secrets” restrictions on emigration, resolution of the “poor relatives” problem and progress on the cases of long-term refuseniks.

1988 Soviet Jewry

Reaffirms prior Soviet Jewry Policy Statements. Welcomes increased levels of Jewish emigration, the release of all the Prisoners of Zion and some loosening of restraints on Jewish religious and cultural expression. Calls on the Soviet Union to remove all “persistent prohibitions” against Jewish religious, cultural and educational activities.

1988 Soviet Jewry: New Emigration Procedures

Endorses the resolution adopted by the Jewish Agency Assembly welcoming Israel’s decision to secure direct flights from the Soviet Union to Israel for those who request an

exit permit from the Soviet Union to Israel. The Jewish Agency resolution also states commitment to enhance the capacity of Israel to receive and resettle Soviet Jews and all olim in Israel. Calls upon other governments to urge the Soviet Union to adhere to its commitment to the Helsinki Accords and other international agreements regarding the Right to Leave. Calls upon the Soviet Government to permit Jews in the Soviet Union freedom of religion, culture and language.

1987 Prosecution of Nazi War Criminals in Israel

Expresses full support for Israel’s efforts to prosecute Nazi war criminals and collaborators.

1987 Soviet Jewry

Reaffirms prior Soviet Jewry Policy Statements. Commends efforts of the Reagan Administration on behalf of Soviet Jews. Notes that Jews continue to be denied free practice of religion despite assurances regarding a loosening of restraints on religious and cultural expression.

1986 Soviet Jewry

Reaffirms prior Soviet Jewry Policy Statements. Condemns the growing number of arrests, trials and imprisonment of Soviet Jews and reaffirms support for the Jackson-Vanik Amendment which has guided US policy on Soviet Jewish emigration. Welcomes the aliyah of Anatoly Sharansky and calls for the release of activist Ida Nudel and physicist Dr. Andrei Sakharov.

1985 Ethiopian Jewry

Applauds the rescue, aliyah and absorption of the majority of Ethiopian Jews by the government of Israel. Commends the United States Government for providing funds and

other assistance for the transport and integration of Ethiopian Jews in Israel. Expresses deep concern for those Jews still in Ethiopia and pledges to continue efforts to reunite the entire Ethiopian Jewish community in Israel.

1985 Soviet Jewry

Reaffirms prior Soviet Jewry Policy Statements. Deplores the virtual “closing of the gates of the Soviet Union to Jewish emigration.”

1984 Ethiopian Jewry

Reaffirms prior Ethiopian Jewry Policy Statements.

1984 Soviet Jewry

Reaffirms prior Soviet Jewry Policy Statements. Vows to stand by Soviet Jews until they are permitted free exercise of their rights.

1983 Ethiopian Jewry

Reaffirms prior Ethiopian Jewry Policy Statements. Acknowledges efforts of the Israeli Government and the Jewish Agency to secure freedom and the right to emigrate for Ethiopian Jews and to provide facilities for their resettlement in Israel.

1983 Soviet Jewry

Reaffirms prior Soviet Jewry Policy Statements.

1982 Human Rights

Expresses outrage that some international agencies established to protect human rights have been subverted to political purposes hostile to Israel, Jewish interests and the very cause of human rights, notably the United Nations, some of whose programs have become instruments for Arab and Soviet attacks on Israel. Applauds the efforts of the United States Administration to seek review of compliance with the human rights provisions of the Helsinki Final Act and of the US delegation to the Madrid Conference in defending

human rights, especially those of Soviet Jews. Salutes Israel as a vibrant democracy and expresses belief that Jewish rights will be secure when the rights of all people are protected.

1982 Oppressed Jewish Communities

Reaffirms prior Distressed Jewish Communities and Ethiopian Jewry Policy Statements.

1982 Soviet Jewry

Reaffirms prior Soviet Jewry Policy Statements. Deplores the harassment of Ida Nudel since her release from Siberian exile and urges that she be granted an immediate exit permit. Anticipates rewarding her with the Henrietta Szold Award which was presented to her in absentia in 1981.

1981 Argentine Jewry

Expresses concern over the continuing anti-Semitic activities and the dissemination of anti-Semitic literature in Argentina, and over those Argentineans who are denied their rights and those who have “disappeared.” Urges the Argentine government to strengthen its efforts to suppress all manifestations of antisemitism and to ensure human rights for all of its citizens.

1981 Ethiopian Jewry

Reaffirms prior Ethiopian Jewry policy statement.

1981 Neshira

Reaffirms prior Neshira policy statement. Notes that Neshira provides an excuse for Soviet imposition of new restrictions on Jewish emigration.

1981 Protection of Jewish Rights

Reaffirms prior Distressed Jewish Communities policy statement.

ZIONIST AFFAIRS

1981 Soviet Jewry

Reaffirms prior Soviet Jewry policy statement. Condemns the Soviet crackdown on Jewish self-education seminars and Hebrew classes as well as the Soviet government's purveyance of anti-Semitic propaganda.

1980 Ethiopian Jewry

Expresses concern over the possible extinction of the Jews of Ethiopia who are caught in the crossfire of violent national struggles. Commends the Israeli government and the Jewish Agency for their steps toward rescue and aliyah of Ethiopian Jews and the World Zionist Organization and the American Jewish community for their supportive efforts.

1980 Neshira

Expresses concern that Neshira* may jeopardize prospects for future immigration of Soviet Jews and that some funds raised for Israel in the United States are being diverted to meet the cost of resettlement in the United States. Notes that resettlement programs for Soviet Jews in the United States have been an important factor in encouraging the process of Neshira. States Hadassah's respect for freedom of immigration choice for Soviet Jews but also supports a halt in the Neshira process to ensure maximum Soviet Jewry emigration to Israel. When Soviet Jews obtained exit visas to Israel, but then "dropped out" and immigrated to the United States or elsewhere.)

1980 Distressed Jewish Communities

Reaffirms deep concern for the plight of Jews held captive, persecuted or harassed in the countries of their residence, like those in Syria and Iran. Urges the United States to press for an end of the restrictions imposed on the Jewish community. Expresses shock and distress at the imprisonment of Iranian Jewish leaders on the basis of fraudulent charges.

1980 Soviet Jewry

Expresses solidarity with the Jews of the Soviet Union who have been deprived of basic rights by the Soviet Constitution, the Helsinki act and other international agreements to which the Soviet Union adheres. Resolves to continue efforts on behalf of Soviet Prisoners of Zion and Refuseniks. Notes with alarm

the progressive decline of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union. Calls upon the Soviet Government to free all Jewish Prisoners of Conscience, cease and desist from intimidating Jewish activists through political trials, grant exit visas to Israel to all Refuseniks who have been denied the right to emigrate, and permit Jews to maintain their national identity through the free practice of religion and cultural activities. Calls on the United States to uphold the cause of human rights for all, including those of Soviet Jews, as a major priority, and ensure that the US delegation to the 1980 Madrid Review Conference will press for the implementation of the Helsinki Accords as they pertain to Soviet Jews whose rights have been violated by the Soviet Union.

Zionism

Hadassah reaffirms the belief that Zionism is the "fulfillment of the Jewish People's right to self-determination and to live in freedom, democracy and independence in its ancient homeland, Israel." Condemns any linkage between Zionism and racism.

2025 Championing Pluralism Within the Zionist Movement

Reaffirms and expands past statements on Pluralism and the Zionist Movement, celebrates the diversity of Zionist voices throughout history, and emphasizes how critical civility and open dialogue are within the Zionist community. The policy statement calls on leaders in the Zionist community to ensure that all people who recognize the need for a Jewish state and understand the Jewish people's bond to its historic homeland have a voice in the Zionist movement.

2022 125 Years of the Zionist Movement & Israel at 75

Celebrates two anniversaries in the history of Israel and Zionism: the 125th anniversary of the First Zionist Congress and the 75th anniversary of the State of Israel. Reaffirms the centrality of Zionism in Hadassah's mission and our commitment to the future of Zionism. Highlights ways that Hadassah Zionist education programs and advocacy amplify the voices of young, female Zionists and encourage meaningful conversations among our members.

2020 Unwavering Support for Israel & the 38th World Zionist Congress

Urges all supporters of Israel to participate in the World Zionist Congress election, champions bipartisan support as hallmark of the US-Israel relationship, and affirms that all who love and support Israel must make their voices heard — as voters in the Zionist election and as advocates.

2016 Zionism

In response to worldwide increased anti-Zionism, often masking antisemitism, the statement reaffirms Hadassah's commitment to Zionism, expressed through practical Zionism, by supporting the Hadassah

Medical Organization and other Hadassah projects in Israel, and by promoting and engaging in Zionist education and advocacy in the United States and worldwide.

2014 Delegitimization of Israel

Reaffirms its long-standing policy against all forms of organized boycotts and denounces the systematic global campaign to delegitimize the State of Israel. Supports efforts to counter delegitimization and calls on members of the academic, cultural, and business communities to actively pursue partnerships with Israel.

2004 Combating the Resurgence of Antisemitism

Urges all international bodies and heads of state to condemn antisemitism in the strongest possible terms and to establish or intensify their efforts to track, investigate, and prosecute those responsible for anti-Semitic hate crimes.

2004 Pro-Israel Activity On Campus

Calls upon university administrators and professors to ensure that those Jewish students and academic personnel who exercise their first amendment rights to express their support for Israel on campus are not penalized by university officials. Hadassah further calls upon university officials to take every step to protect Jewish students and academic personnel from intimidation and violence on campus.

2004 Middle East Studies

Based on a long standing commitment to ensuring that education is factually accurate and unbiased, Hadassah recognizes the value of Middle East studies programs and calls upon the federal government to continue funding these programs through Title VI. Hadassah additionally recommends the establishment of an advisory board to work with Congress and the Secretary of Education to suggest ways in which recipients of Title VI grants can assure that they are presenting fair and objective courses and programs that are consistent with the value of academic integrity. Finally, Hadassah strongly recommends that this advisory board carefully balance its monitoring

duties with a commitment to academic freedom for both students and professors, striving to enhance opportunities for dialogue on campus, while not exercising undue influence over students and professors.

2002 Antisemitism and Anti-Zionism

Calls on governments throughout the world to properly implement their own existing laws to combat anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist attacks, including investigating and prosecuting hate crimes against Jewish targets. Calls on Arab governments to stop the incitement that fuels these anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist attacks. Urges the US Administration to pressure world governments to act upon these suggestions.

1997 100th Anniversary of the Zionist Movement, 50th Anniversary of the State Of Israel

Celebrates the 100th anniversary of the convening of the First World Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland and the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of the State of Israel. Urges the American Jewish Community to join.

1991 The UN Anti-Zionist Resolution

Reaffirms prior UN Anti-Zionist Resolution policy statement. Notes that the resolution has been the "spearhead of a vicious Arab-sponsored campaign to challenge Israel's legitimacy."

1990 Elections to the World Zionist Congress

Notes recent decision by Hadassah's National Board not to participate in future elections to the World Zionist Congress in order to use resources previously expended on the costly and politically divisive elections in more practical and positive ways. Expresses intent to remain fully involved in the Zionist Movement and hopes that the World Zionist Organization will reform its structure and constitution to make the Zionist Movement more effective.

1990 The UN Anti-Zionist Resolution

Reaffirms prior Reaffirmation of Zionism policy statement. Reaffirms determination to achieve repeal of the 1975 UN resolution equating Zionism with racism. Calls upon all governments to repeal the UN resolution. Welcomes the Bush Administration's commitment to this cause.

1986 31st Zionist Congress

Reaffirms prior 31st Zionist Congress policy statement. Notes that Hadassah's delegation to the Congress will press the World Zionist Organization to develop and support new programs for strengthening Jewish and Zionist education in the Diaspora, increase its financial support for Zionist youth movements, take steps to improve the integration of western aliyah, and reorganize the Zionist Executive to make it smaller and more cost efficient.

1985 Freedom, Justice and Peace in Israel

Strongly condemns the racist overtones in Meir Kahane's ideology. Rejects Kahane's definition of

Zionism as inherently undemocratic. Notes with pride Israel's record as a model democracy. Reaffirms the principles of freedom and justice stated in Israel's Declaration of Independence.

1985 Reaffirmation of Zionism

Reaffirms the belief that Zionism is the "fulfillment of the Jewish People's right to self-determination and to live in freedom, democracy and independence in its ancient homeland, Israel." Condemns any linkage between Zionism and racism, especially the 1975 UN General Assembly Resolution 3379, which is itself a form of bigotry and antisemitism. Pledges support to counter damage done by this resolution. Commends the United States Congress for its passage of joint resolution S.J. 98 condemning United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3379.

1983 The Jerusalem Program

Welcomes the decision of the Jewish Agency to adopt the Jerusalem program. This resolution commits the Jewish Agency to an affirmation of Jewish unity, the centrality of Israel in Jewish life and the importance of aliyah and Jewish education in the free world.

1982 World Zionist Congress

Urges the Hadassah delegation to the December 1982 World Zionist Congress to carry forth the principle of non-party Zionism in an effort to curb factionalism and advance the common agenda of the Zionist Movement.

Civic Participation

Encouraging informed and active participation in the American democratic process is central to Hadassah's mission. Hadassah emphasizes civic responsibility among its members and advocates for unobstructed access to the democratic process for all. In particular, Hadassah is committed to increasing voter participation for Jewish women with an emphasis on the younger generation. Hadassah supports the Voting Rights Act and encourages strengthening it.

2025 America at 250: A Call to Celebrate and Strengthen Our Democracy

Marks the country's historic milestone anniversary as an opportunity for celebration, renewed commitment to democratic values and ideals, and a call to action. The statement encourages all Americans, especially women, to participate fully in civic life and urges Hadassah leaders and supporters to participate in Hadassah's Day on the Hill in March 2026.

2020 Celebrating Women's Suffrage Through Civic Engagement

Honors the history and impact of the suffrage movement and expands on Hadassah's support for voter engagement and grassroots advocacy. The

statement includes mention of Day in the District, the Hadassah online National Action Center, and the #HadassahVotes initiative, our digital and in-person efforts to mobilize a record number of women to register and vote in 2020.

2001 Voting Modernization

Expresses concern over the events surrounding the 2000 elections. Calls on Congress and state legislatures to modernize voting equipment, standardize voting procedures and educate citizens.

2000 Voter Registration and Participation

Reaffirms prior voter registration and participation policy statements. Expresses concern regarding low voter

registration and turnout, especially among women and younger generations. Describes the "Hadassah Voter Challenge 2000."

1996 Voter Registration and Participation

Reaffirms the 1988 voter registration and participation policy statement.

1992 Voter Registration and Participation

Reaffirms the 1988 voter registration and participation policy statement.

1988 Voter Registration

Urges support for the "Universal Voter Registration Act of 1987." Voter Registration and Participation Supports measures to establish easier voting registration

in order to remove barriers to increased election participation.

1981 Extension of Voting Rights Act

Reaffirms the prior "Voting Rights Act" policy statements dating back to 1965. The VRA is considered "...one of the most important and effective civil rights laws safeguarding the political rights of ...minority groups [by] enabling them to exercise the most precious of our Constitutional rights — the right to vote."

Crime, Weapons, and War

Though not blatantly within the purview of Hadassah's specific legislative focus, Hadassah has adopted many policy statements with the ultimate goal of nonviolence. From gun control to the desecration of houses of worship, the National Board has often found it necessary to issue public statements in response. Gender based policies touch on important issues such as sexual harassment, asylum to victims of gender-based violence and combating human trafficking.

2024 Ending the Silence on Gender-Based Violence

Highlights the global rise in sexual violence in conflict and the continued denial of Hamas's systemic use of rape as a weapon of war. The statement calls on leaders in the US, all around the world, and at the United Nations to demand action so that perpetrators are held accountable in the pursuit of justice for victims and survivors, as well as for deterrence.

2024 Condemning Gender-Based Violence

Reaffirms Hadassah's condemnation of all acts

of sexual and gender-based violence committed against women and girls — regardless of their national origin, religion, race or ethnicity. The statement demands justice for Israeli women and girls, calling out the silence of the international community following October 7 and on the UN to conduct an unbiased investigation to hold Hamas fully accountable.

2018 Gun Control

Hadassah has long been a strong supporter of strict legislative gun control initiatives and believes that

current laws do not go far enough, nor are enforced rigorously enough, to help prevent gun violence

2026 Disarming Hamas as a Crucial Step to Lasting Peace

reaffirms Hadassah's unwavering commitment to the existence and safety of the state of Israel, the self-determination of the Jewish people, healing and building bridges to peace. Hadassah welcomes recent progress toward phase two of the Gaza peace plan, recognizes Hamas' access to arms as an existential threat to regional and global security, and calls

on foreign leaders to commit to enforcing the full disarmament of Hamas.

2015 Iran

Reaffirms prior policy statements on nuclear proliferation, weapons of mass destruction and the Middle East arms race.

2014 Combating Human Trafficking

Reaffirms condemnation of human trafficking, especially of women and children. Urges all nations, including the United States, to make the elimination of trafficking a priority.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS

2013 Gun Control

Reaffirms the 2000 policy statement on gun control. Urges Congress to promptly enact stronger gun control legislation, including an assault weapons ban, and enforce current laws to protect our communities and our nation from gun violence.

2005 Trafficking of Women

Condemns the trafficking of women when women are forced, defrauded, or coerced into labor or sexual exploitation within and across national borders.

2005 Asylum for Victims of Gender-Based Violence

Hadassah calls upon the US Government to recognize gender-based violence as grounds for asylum; adapt the asylum process to accommodate women fleeing gender-based violence, including providing female officers to hear their cases, and training immigration officers and judges on issues relating to gender-based violence; and create a high-level office within the Department of Homeland Security to oversee all issues relating to asylum and expedited removal.

2000 Gun Control

2000 Reaffirms the 1998 policy statement on gun control. Urges Congress to promptly enact stronger gun control legislation, and enforce current laws to protect our communities and our nation from gun violence.

1999 Sexual Harassment

Expresses the belief that all individuals have the right to study, volunteer, and/or work in an atmosphere that promotes equal opportunity and prohibits discriminatory practices, including sexual harassment.

1998 Gun Control

Reaffirms the 1994 policy statement on gun control, noting nationwide outbreaks of firearm violence, particularly in schools. Urges Congress to take all necessary actions to enact stronger gun control laws to protect the nation, particularly our children, from gun violence.

1996 Violence Against Women

Reaffirms Hadassah's long standing commitment to women's rights and women's health needs. Condemns all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence. Special emphasis on domestic violence in the Jewish community.

1996 Arson Attacks against African-American Churches and Other Houses of Worship

Condemns the rash of fire bombings, arson attacks and acts of vandalism perpetuated against African-American churches and other houses of worship.

1995 Freedom to Clinic Entrances Act

Condemns violence at family planning clinics and demands that government agencies enforce the "Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act."

1994 Gun Control

Reaffirms the 1980 gun control policy statement.

1993 War Crimes against Women

Expresses outrage over the silence of the international community with respect to the sexual violent crimes committed against the women of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Calls for the recognition of these crimes as war crimes.

1993 Somalia

Expresses compassion for Somali people, victims of famine and war.

1992 Haitian Refugees

Urges the US to grant asylum to and humanitarian treatment of Haitian refugees.

1989 Assault-Weapons Controls

Urges passage of a bill to control the non-governmental sale and use of assault weapons and to restrict the transfer, importation and possession of new assault weapons. Supports the "Assault Weapons Bill."

1987 UN War Crimes Commission Archives

Urges opening files to broader public access.

1987 Prosecution of Nazi War Criminals in the United States

Reaffirms the 1980 Nazi criminal prosecution policy statement.

1987 Paramilitary Training Camps

Urges abolition of such extremist camps. Encourages efforts to alert the public to the dangers.

1986 Terrorism

Commends the Administration's forceful stand on terrorism and refusal to negotiate with terrorists. Urges sanctions against states that support terrorists.

1984 Genocide Convention

Reaffirms prior Genocide Convention policy statements.

1983 Nuclear Arms Reduction

Reaffirms prior policy statements regarding nuclear arms reduction, dating back to 1960, which call for an end to the proliferation of nuclear

weapons. Supports a bilateral and mutually verifiable freeze between the US and the Soviet Union.

1982 Genocide Convention

Reaffirms prior Genocide Convention policy statements.

1982 Freedom of Expression

Deplores the charges of dual loyalty stemming from the campaign against AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia.

1981 Gun Control

Urges strong federal and state gun control legislation.

1980 US Hostages in Iran

Expresses outrage at Iran's violation of international law and supports the US government's efforts to gain their release.

1980 Prosecution of Nazi War Criminals in the United States

Commendation of new initiatives by the Justice Department to investigate and prosecute alleged Nazi war criminals living in the US.

1980 Kampuchea (Cambodia)

Expresses compassion for the people's plight and commendation of Israel's aid to Kampuchea (Cambodia).

1980 Genocide Convention

Reaffirms prior United Nations' Genocide Convention policy statements, dating back to 1949, which urge Senate ratification. This Convention makes it an international crime to attempt the extermination of a group of people.

Energy and the Environment

Hadassah's commitment to environmental preservation and energy conservation is derived from Judaism's traditional view of humans' stewardship of the earth. Hadassah calls for legislation to decrease US dependence on foreign sources of oil, while advancing sustainable energy solutions to protect our environment. Hadassah has supported much needed legislation such as the Clean Air Act.

2002 Energy and the Environment

Calls upon Congress and the Administration to develop and enact a comprehensive energy policy that decreases US dependence on foreign sources of oil while advancing alternative energy solutions to protect our nation's environment.

1990 Clean Air Bill

Calls upon Congress to ensure that the "Clean Air Bill" is passed.

1986 Energy

Reaffirms prior policy statements regarding energy conservation.

1981 Energy Conservation and Development

Reaffirms the 1980 energy conservation and development policy statement.

1980 Energy Conservation and Development

Urges the adoption of a national program to lessen American dependence on imported fuel. Urges conservation, education, a strategic oil reserve and solar energy research.

Healthcare

Healthcare issues, particularly women's health concerns, are among Hadassah's top domestic public policy priorities. This extends Hadassah's historic mandate — to bring medical infrastructure to the Middle East through Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO), and provide public health services to countries in need worldwide — to our domestic policy work. Hadassah supports medical research and healthcare reform, especially with a focus on women's health equity, and support for women's preventative services.

2026 Supporting Women's Health Research and Data Privacy

Reaffirms and builds on numerous past statements. The statement expresses Hadassah's deep concern that gaps in women's health research and weaknesses in digital data protections threaten the health, safety and autonomy of women nationwide. The statement urges policymakers to invest in and prioritize women's health research and digital privacy protections for health data.

2025 Support for Science and Evidence-Based Policymaking

Hadassah codifies its firm belief that robust scientific research and evidence should be the foundation for policy development and decision making, particularly when related to public health, calling on policymakers to fund research, enable scientific innovation and speak out to oppose and refute efforts to undermine scientists and science-based policy decision.

2022 A Vision for Women's Health

Reaffirms and deepens Hadassah's commitment to help women in the United States live their healthiest lives possible. Calls for government, industry and community-driven solutions to increase awareness, improve clinical education, promote women's leadership and collaborative opportunities, expand women's health research and access to care.

2021 COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 Pandemic policy statement highlights how the pandemic has impacted women, health care professionals and our communities. This new COVID-19 Pandemic statement updates and expands upon the COVID-19 Pandemic statement passed in July 2020. This new statement includes recent developments about the care at Hadassah's Hospitals, an additional note about the impact of COVID on women, and other policy issues related to public education,

the vaccine and access to health care.

2020 COVID-19 Pandemic

Highlights how the pandemic has impacted women, health care professionals and communities — calling for investments in the health care workforce, an adequate and reliable supply of PPE, public education about vaccinations, and improvements to medical and public health data collection. It celebrates the tireless work of medical professionals — including at Hadassah's Hospitals — and community contributions of Hadassah supporters.

2019 Infertility

Reaffirms support for quality, affordable infertility diagnosis and treatment in the United States. The statement highlights Hadassah Medical Organization expertise and the persistent stigma and misconceptions surrounding infertility and calls for more research and expanding access to care for the millions of people affected.

2019 Maternal Health

Reaffirms and expands on prior women's health statements, highlighting the exemplary maternal and fertility care at Hadassah Medical Organization and advocating for policies to expand research, improve maternal health outcomes, and increase access to fertility treatment.

2018 Medical Marijuana

The American health care system frequently fails to address patients' specific health care needs. As an organization committed to the advancement of world class medical research at the Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) in Israel, Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. stands with doctors and patients calling for the federal legalization of medical marijuana.

2017 Women's Health Equity

Reaffirms its commitment to women's health, including research; preventive health; and access to quality, affordable, and equitable care.

2014 Women's Preventive Health

Calls on Congress and the US Department of Health and Human Services to provide for the planning and implementation of a national public outreach, educational, and media campaign to raise awareness of women's preventive health.

2013 Support and Funding for Women's Health Research

Reaffirms the 2006 statement on funding women's health research. Calls upon the United States government to increase the study of women's health issues; to encourage more women to enroll in clinical studies; to increase funding to the Office of Research on Women's Health and other offices of women's health within the government; to increase public awareness of women's health issues; and to encourage women to enter the field of biomedical research and increase the number of female researchers.

2013 Medical Research

Reaffirms the 2001 statement on medical research. Supports government funding for cutting-edge medical and biotechnological research and clinical trials — notably those in the areas of heart disease prevention and treatment for women, gene therapy, cancer and other medical treatments, organ and tissue transplantation, and stem cell research.

2007 Health Care Reform

Calls upon the federal and state governments to adopt health care reforms that ensure access to affordable, comprehensive coverage for every American, starting with coverage for every child under the age 18.

2006 Support and Funding for Women's Health Research

Calls upon the United States government to increase the study of women's health issues; to encourage more studies; to increase funding to the Office of Research on Women's Health and other offices of women's health within the government; to increase public awareness of women's health issues; and to encourage women to enter the field of biomedical research and increase the number of female researchers.

2004 Senior Transportation

Hadassah calls upon the federal government, state and local governments to address the unique transportation needs of seniors by significantly increasing funding for senior transportation, allocating funds for innovative local senior transportation programs, providing central coordination for all senior transportation programs, allowing more flexibility in the use of existing senior transportation funds, and addressing the needs of seniors in future transportation planning and decision-making.

2004 Disease and Environment

Based on a commitment to the advancement of medical research and a concern about potential linkages between certain diseases and environmental toxins, Hadassah calls on the federal government to allocate increased funds to public and nonprofit scientific and medical research entities to study the linkages between environmental exposures and diseases. Hadassah additionally calls on

local, state and federal governments to work together to establish and nationwide health tracking system that would monitor the incidence of a wide array of diseases and environmental exposures in a manner that protects patient privacy.

2003 Title IX

Commends the Administration for rejecting recent recommendations that would weaken Title IX; urges the government to strongly enforce Title IX's standards and to promote advances toward equality for women in sports.

2003 Preserving Principles of Science Over Ideology in Health Policy

Calls on government officials to draw from the best scientific and medical evidence available — not religious or political ideology — when shaping health policy. Specifically, it urges the Administration, Congress and state and local governments to fund and promote balanced, accurate sex education programs that inform students about abstinence as well as about contraception and methods of AIDS/STD prevention. It further call on federal, state and local governments to recognize the evidence that condoms prevent transmission of AIDS and STDs and to promote their use for disease prevention both in the US and overseas.

2003 Nursing Shortage

Resolves to advocate for policies to correct the critical shortage of nurses. Commends the federal government for passing the Nurse Reinvestment Act of 2002, urges the federal government to fully the programs authorized in the Act. Also, calls on federal and state governments

to enact legislation which promotes the training, recruitment and retention of quality nurses; improves working conditions for nurses; encourages training of nurses to be prepared to respond to mass casualties; and helps raise public profile of the nursing profession.

2001 Prescription Equity

Recognizes that women pay more in out-of-pocket health care expenses than men because of the lack of insurance coverage for contraceptive drugs and devices. Urges Congress to pass legislation requiring all private insurers to provide equity in prescription coverage.

2001 Patients' Bill of Rights

Expresses the need for a federal patients' bill of rights to assure that all Americans' access, treatment and research needs are met. Urges Congress to pass a comprehensive patients' bill of rights.

2001 Medical Research

Supports government funding for cutting-edge medical and biotechnological research and clinical trials, including gene therapy, cancer and other medical treatments, organ and tissue transplantation, and stem cell research.

2001 Medical Records Privacy

Reaffirms 1998 policy statement on medical records privacy. Calls on Congress and state legislatures to pass legislation that guards the privacy of medical records and health information.

2000 Organ and Tissue Donation

Urges organ donation as a life-saving effort and to counter the shortage of organs available for transplant. Encourages family discussion of organ donation. Pledges to increase efforts to raise awareness about the importance of organ and tissue donation.

1998 Tobacco

Recognizes lung cancer as a leading killer of women, as well as the problem of increasing tobacco use among middle and high school students. Supports federal measures to limit the marketing and availability of tobacco products, particularly to young people, and urges passage of legislation to ensure such federal actions.

1998 Medical Records Privacy

Reaffirms 1997 policy statement on genetic testing. Calls for passage of strong federal legislation to protect the privacy of medical records.

1998 Child Abuse

Recognizes that child abuse and child maltreatment is also a Jewish problem. Pledges to educate our communities and support resources for children and families.

1997 Policy Statement on Genetic Testing

Reaffirms the 1996 policy statement on genetic testing and insurance discrimination. Highlights Hadassah's support of genetic research while acknowledging concerns of insurance and employment discrimination and the need for confidentiality of medical records.

1996 Violence Against Women

Reaffirms Hadassah's long-standing commitment to women's rights and women's health needs. Condemns all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence. Special emphasis on domestic violence in the Jewish community.

1996 BRCA1 Gene, Genetic Testing and Insurance Discrimination

Opposes health insurance discrimination on the basis of genetic factors like the BRCA1 gene mutation found disproportionately in the Ashkenazic Jewish population. Supports federal and state legislative efforts to prohibit such discrimination.

1995 Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act

Condemns violence at family planning clinics and demands that government agencies enforce the "Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act."

1994 Women's Health Care

States that the following principles must be included in any health care reform package to assure that women's access, treatment and research needs are met: 1. Universal access; 2. Comprehensive women's health benefits; 3. Choice of providers and settings; 4. Accountability to women; and 5. Increased funding and attention to the needs of health problems particular to women.

1994 Reaffirmation of Breast Cancer Policy Statement

Reaffirms the 1993 breast cancer policy statement.

1994 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

Reaffirms the 1980 CEDAW policy statement.

1993 President Clinton and Vice President Gore Congratulatory Statement

Wishes Clinton and Gore a successful administration. Notes Hadassah's delight over recent Administration statements and actions concerning women's health care, health care reform, reproductive rights and a myriad of civil liberties issues.

1993 Note of Support for President Clinton's Pro-Choice Measures

Applauds pro-choice executive orders including: 1. Repeal of the "Gag Rule;" 2. Lifting the RU-486 ban; 3. Lifting the ban on abortions in overseas military hospitals; 4. Lifting restrictions on fetal tissue research; and 5. Rescinding the "Mexico City" policy.

1993 National Health Care Coverage

Calls on the federal government to take necessary steps to assure adequate, affordable and comprehensive health care coverage.

1993 Breast Cancer

Expresses alarm at the rising rate of breast cancer and stresses the promotion of programs for early detection, such as Hadassah's breast cancer campaign, "Hadassah Cares/Check It Out." Moreover, it calls upon federal and state officials to direct increased funding to promote research into the cause, optimal treatment and possible cure for breast cancer.

1992 Women's Health Issues

Calls on the medical community to focus greater attention on female-oriented diseases.

1992 Reproductive Choice

Reaffirms Hadassah's mandate for freedom of choice, including support for the "Freedom of Choice Act" and family planning programs. Reaffirms prior pro-choice policy statements. Deplores the Supreme Court decision in Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey.

1992 Basic Level of Medical Care

Urges universal access to basic medical care.

1992 AIDS

Reaffirms the 1988 AIDS policy statement. Calls for more funds for treatment and research. Calls for the adoption of measures that prohibit discrimination against people with AIDS.

1989 Parental Leave Bill

Supports the "Family and Medical Leave Act" allowing employees the unpaid time necessary to care for a newborn, seriously ill child, parent or spouse.

1989 Long Term Care for the Elderly

Urges federal legislation to assist those in need of home care or long-term institutional/custodial care.

1989 Freedom of Choice

Reaffirms prior pro-choice policy statements.

1988 AIDS

Urges AIDS education and research as well as increased services for AIDS-afflicted persons.

1987 Freedom of Choice

Reaffirms the 1981 pro-choice policy statement.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS

1987 Catastrophic Health Care Program

Urges Congress to enact legislation that includes provisions for health insurance that will cover short and long-term hospitalization, custodial care in nursing homes, long-term home care, and prescription drugs.

1985 United Nations Decade for Women

Reaffirms the 1984 United Nations Decade for Women policy statement. Applauds the final document and

the success in preventing the inclusion of the word “Zionism” in a resolution branding racism and apartheid as obstacles to development.

1981 Freedom of Choice

Opposes any regulation diminishing individual freedom guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. Regards “choice” as a matter of privacy of the individual to be determined by each woman in accordance with her religious, moral and ethical values.

1980 UN Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Expresses support and calls for Senate ratification of CEDAW which sets forth standards for women’s civil, legal and reproductive rights.

1980 The National Plan of Action of National Women’s Conference

Endorses the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) and various concepts of the Plan of Action.

Immigration and Refugee Status

Because of the historic discriminations which have cost many Jewish lives and cost many others their chance to freely practice their religion, Hadassah has taken a special interest in US immigration and refugees fleeing political repression, humanitarian crises and other turmoil in their home countries. Hadassah supports anti-terrorism laws, in light of the attacks on our nation, while urging the protection of American’s civil liberties.

2017 Refugees & Immigration

Reaffirms and expands prior policy statements on refugees, asylum, and immigration—with special attention to the humanitarian crisis in Syria. Urges the US government to expedite refugee status for those fleeing violence and persecution,

ensure nondiscriminatory application of immigration law, and negotiate comprehensive bipartisan immigration reform.

2002 Anti-Terrorism, Immigration and Civil Liberties

Calls on the President, Congress and the Administration to continue

to employ all efforts to root out international terrorism and its support structure, while ensuring that civil liberties for US citizens and resident aliens are protected in the United States.

1992 Immigration

Reaffirms prior immigration policy statements dating back to 1946. Calls for the

cessation of discriminatory immigration policies and supports non-discriminatory application of US immigration legislation and attendant policies.

1992 Haitian Refugees

Urges the US to grant asylum to and humanitarian treatment of Haitian refugees.

Religious Liberty and Other Religious Concerns

As the representatives of a religious minority in the US, Hadassah advocates for religious liberty (the unencumbered practice of religion) as articulated in the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment of the US Constitution. Hadassah advocates for strict separation of church and state, including opposing prayer in schools and school voucher programs, while also promoting protections like the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

2019 De-Politicizing Antisemitism

Affirms that support for Israel and opposition to antisemitism must remain nonpartisan values. As an organization committed to fighting prejudice, Hadassah condemns all acts of hatred against the Jewish people, promotes education about the historical and modern-day manifestations of antisemitism, and urges elected officials to refrain from and hold their colleagues accountable for

speech and actions that demonize Israel and fuel antisemitism.

2002 School Prayer Amendment

Reaffirms Hadassah’s opposition to the “School Prayer Amendment,” a proposed constitutional amendment that would permit officially-sponsored prayer in public schools and would allow religious symbols to be posted in public schools, courtrooms and other public institutions.

2000 Charitable Choice

Reaffirms Hadassah’s commitment to the separation of church and state. Opposes “charitable choice” initiatives, which would provide public funding for social services programs operated by pervasively sectarian organizations without requiring safeguards to prevent First Amendment violations.

1999 School Vouchers

Reaffirms prior church/state

separation statements on tax tuition credits. Opposes the use of publicly funded school vouchers for private and religious schools.

1999 Arson Attacks Against Synagogues and Other Hate Crimes

Condemns arson attacks on three synagogues in Sacramento, CA. Urges appropriate government entities to monitor and track activities of groups that encourage and commit hate crimes.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS

1998 Religious Freedom Restoration Act

Reaffirms the 1991 Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) policy statement. Views with great concern the recent Supreme Court ruling striking down RFRA. Supports efforts to enhance protection of religion and religious freedom on both the state and federal levels.

1998 Hate Crimes

Calls for the expansion of federal legislation detailing bias attacks or hate crimes to include crimes against victims based on gender, sexual orientation or disability.

1997 Religious Pluralism in the United States

Asserts that no generally recognized branch of Judaism has the right or privilege to negate the validity of any other generally recognized branch of Judaism by denying its Jewish identity. Calls on the American Jewish community to seek a common ground of mutual respect.

1996 Arson Attacks Against African-American Churches and Other Houses of Worship

Condemns the rash of fire bombings, arson attacks and acts of vandalism perpetuated against African-American churches and other houses of worship.

1992 Separation of Church and State

Reaffirms Hadassah's belief in the principle of separation of church and state as well as the guarantees of religious freedom. Urges Congress to enact the "Religious Freedom Restoration Act."

1992 Antisemitism and Racism

Reaffirms prior policy statements on antisemitism. Calls upon elected officials, civic, religious and community leaders to enforce laws and denounce manifestations of all forms of antisemitism and bigotry.

1991 Religious Freedom Restoration Act

Supports RFRA, which restores religious freedom as a fundamental right by requiring the highest legal scrutiny by the government before restricting the free exercise of religion.

1990 Women of the Wall

Calls upon the government of Israel to protect the rights of the "Women of the Wall" to pray collectively at the Kotel without harassment.

1988 Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior antisemitism policy statements.

1987 Jewish Family Law

Urges the Rabbinate to devise practical solutions to serious problems of family law such as agunah, halitzah, divorce, women's rights in marriage, and custody of children.

1984 Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior antisemitism policy statements.

1982 Jewish Security in the US

Reaffirms prior antisemitism policy statements.

1982 Global Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior antisemitism policy statements.

1982 Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior antisemitism policy statements.

1981 Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior statements dating back to 1962 condemning antisemitism. Views with alarm increased antisemitism and anti-Zionism worldwide. Pledges support to combat proliferation through educational, legislative and other efforts.

Reproductive Choice

Hadassah has a long standing commitment to a woman's right to choose and control her own reproductive health. Hadassah believes that women are proper moral decision-makers in this area, and that they should be free to make that decision within the context of their own religious convictions, in conjunction with a medical professional and without interference from government. Hadassah also condemns intimidation and violence at women's health clinics.

2025 Affirming Support for Stabilizing Emergency Care

Reaffirms and expands prior statements. Despite federal law that requires hospitals to treat and stabilize patients in medical distress, pregnant patients are being turned away or negligently treated in emergency care settings. This statement urges policymakers to ensure that patients have access to the full continuum of reproductive care, including stabilizing emergency care.

2024 Safeguarding the Whole Spectrum of Reproductive Health Care

Reaffirms numerous past policy statements in the areas of reproductive choice, maternal health, infertility and women's health overall. This statement emphasizes the importance of access to the whole spectrum of reproductive health care services and underscores that women must control if, when and how they have children.

2023 Affirming Support for Reproductive Health Medication

Reinforces Hadassah's commitment to women's reproductive choice and its support for patient and provider protections. In light of recent court cases, the statement highlights the safety and efficacy of reproductive health medication and urges officials to oppose restrictions and protect prescribers.

2023 Support for Choice in a Post-Roe Landscape

Highlights Hadassah's history, unwavering

commitment and present calls to action in support of reproductive choice and access to reproductive health services, including protections for patients as well as health professionals and allies who provide those services or facilitate access to care.

2022 Reaffirming Support for Reproductive Choice

Reaffirms prior statements and highlights Hadassah's history, unwavering commitment and present calls to action in support of reproductive freedom and access to reproductive health services.

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2014 Reproductive Choice

Reaffirms prior pro-choice policy statements. Addresses recent regulations to restrict women's reproductive freedom and the Hobby Lobby v. Burwell contraception mandate Supreme Court case.

2007 Balancing Religion in the Workplace and Civil Liberties

Calls upon US governments at every level to accommodate religious observance in the workplace to the fullest extent possible, while protecting the rights of women, religious and ethnic minorities and the gay community. With respect to pharmacy moral refusals, calls upon US governments and businesses to put in place mechanisms that ensure patients' access to medication without delay. Where access to medications cannot be provided without delay, the right to health care must supersede the right to religious accommodation.

2001 Prescription Equity

Recognizes that women pay more in out-of-pocket health care expenses than men because of the lack of insurance coverage for contraceptive drugs and devices. Urges Congress to pass legislation requiring all private insurers to provide equity in prescription coverage.

1995 Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act

Condemns violence at family planning clinics and demands that government agencies enforce the "Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act."

1994 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Reaffirms the 1980 CEDAW policy statement.

1993 President Clinton and Vice President Gore Congratulatory Statement

Wishes Clinton and Gore a successful administration. Notes Hadassah's delight over recent Administration statements and actions

concerning women's health care, health care reform, reproductive rights and a myriad of civil liberties issues.

1993 Note of Support for President Clinton's Pro-Choice Measures

Applauds pro-choice executive orders including: 1. Repeal of the "Gag Rule;" 2. Lifting the RU-486 ban; 3. Lifting the ban on abortions in overseas military hospitals; 4. Lifting restrictions on fetal tissue research; and 5. Rescinding the "Mexico City" policy.

1992 Reproductive Choice

Reaffirms Hadassah's mandate for freedom of choice, including support for the "Freedom of Choice Act" and family planning programs. Reaffirms prior pro-choice policy statements. Deplores the Supreme Court's decision in Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey.

1989 Freedom of Choice

Reaffirms prior pro-choice policy statements.

1987 Freedom of Choice

Reaffirms the 1981 pro-choice policy statement.

1981 Freedom of Choice

Opposes any regulation diminishing individual freedom guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. Regards "choice" as a matter of privacy of the individual to be determined by each woman in accordance with her religious, moral and ethical values.

1980 UN Convention of Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Expresses support and calls for Senate ratification of CEDAW which sets forth standards for women's civil, legal and reproductive rights.

1980 The National Plan of Action of National Women's Conference

Endorses the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) and various concepts of the Plan of Action.

Separation of Church and State

Hadassah has placed a high priority on advocacy work that protects a strict separation of church and state — as prescribed by the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the US Constitution — in the areas of health policy, education and federal funding.

2003 Preserving Principles of Science Over Ideology in Health Policy

Calls on government officials to draw from the best scientific and medical evidence available — not religious or political ideology — when shaping health policy. Specifically, it urges the Administration, Congress and state and local governments to fund and promote balanced, accurate sex education programs that inform students about abstinence as well as about contraception and methods of AIDS/STD prevention. It further call on federal, state

and local governments to recognize the evidence that condoms prevent transmission of AIDS and STDs and to promote their use for disease prevention both in the US and overseas.

2002 School Prayer Amendment

Reaffirms Hadassah's opposition to the "School Prayer Amendment," a proposed constitutional amendment that would permit officially-sponsored prayer in public schools and would allow religious symbols to be posted in public schools, courtrooms

and other public institutions.

2000 Charitable Choice

Reaffirms Hadassah's commitment to the separation of church and state. Opposes "charitable choice" initiatives, which would provide public funding for social services programs operated by pervasively sectarian organizations without requiring safeguards to prevent First Amendment violations.

2000 Religion in the Public Schools

Reaffirms our commitment to protecting the wall

separating church and state. Opposes the posting of the Ten Commandments, the teaching of creationism as valid scientific theory, and the introduction of officially sponsored, organized or sanctioned prayer at sporting events and programs in public schools.

1999 School Vouchers

Reaffirms prior church/state separation statements on tax tuition credits. Opposes the use of publicly funded school vouchers for private and religious schools.

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1994 Prayer in Public Schools

Reaffirms prior prayer in public schools policy statements.

1992 Separation of Church and State

Reaffirms Hadassah's belief in the principle of separation of church and state as well as the guarantees of religious freedom. Urges congress to enact the "Religious Freedom Restoration Act."

1991 Child Care

States commitment to childcare programs. Opposes legislation that provides voucher systems for day care facilities, including those offering religious instruction, in violation of the First Amendment.

1990 Public School Voluntary Religious Clubs

Reaffirms the 1984 policy statement regarding religious groups' access to public schools. Views with alarm the recent US Supreme Court decision to give religious clubs the same access to school facilities as other "non-curriculum related" groups, in violation of the First Amendment.

1987 Separation of Church and State

Reaffirms prior separation of church and state policy statements.

1987 Prayer in the Public Schools

Reaffirms prior prayer in public schools policy statements.

1986 Separation of Church and State

Calls on elected officials to support the Constitutional principle of the separation of church and state.

1984 Separation of Church and State

Reaffirms the 1981 separation of church and state policy statement. Notes Hadassah's opposition to "equal access" legislation, which would allow religious groups access to public schools.

1983 Tuition Tax Credits

Opposes any direct or indirect public funding of religious and private schools, including tuition tax credits.

1983 Prayer in the Public Schools

Reaffirms the 1982 prayer in public schools policy statement.

1982 Prayer in the Public Schools

Opposes public prayer in schools, whether required or voluntary.

1981 Separation of Church and State

Expresses Hadassah's commitment to the primacy of the First Amendment's establishment clause. Commits to developing educational materials to promote a deeper understanding of this principle.

Social Justice and Civil Rights

Individuals and organizations in the Jewish community know well the impact of discrimination. Jews have faced unequal treatment throughout history and therefore tend to have a heightened sensitivity to the discriminatory treatment of others. Hadassah's efforts have often been focused on removing barriers to basic services, education, housing, voting and employment. Hadassah believes that traditionally marginalized groups are best supported by legislation designed to protect them. This includes strengthening LGBTQ rights, support of affirmative action and disabilities protections. In addition, Hadassah supports the minimum wage, social security and social welfare programs which support our most vulnerable citizens, especially women.

2019 Humanitarian Crisis at the Border

Expresses deep concern about the well-being of detained migrants taken into custody along the US-Mexico border and reaffirms Hadassah's dedication to health, human rights, and the advancement of human dignity in response to this humanitarian crisis.

2017 Racial Justice

Reaffirms and expands prior policy statements on civil rights, hate crimes, and racial discrimination. Urges the US government to ensure equal enforcement of existing laws, and to address voting rights, police brutality, criminal justice reform, and other systemic barriers to equality.

2016 LBGQT Equality

Reaffirms and expands Hadassah's 2006 Policy Statement for LGBT rights. Restates opposition to all efforts to selectively limit or deny civil rights to members of the LGBTQ community. Calls upon federal, state, and municipal governments to enact new public accommodation and non-discrimination measures — especially in the areas of employment, education, housing, and health.

2015 Equal Rights Amendment

Reaffirms support for an equal rights Amendment to strengthen the position of American women.

2007 Balancing Religion in the Workplace and Civil Liberties

Calls upon US governments at every level to accommodate religious observance in the workplace to the fullest extent possible, while protecting the rights of women, religious and ethnic minorities and the gay community. With respect to pharmacy moral refusals, calls upon US governments and businesses to put in place mechanisms that ensure patients' access to medication without delay. Where access to medications cannot be provided without delay, the right to health care must supersede the right to religious accommodation.

2006 Equality for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Americans

Supports the passage of state and federal civil rights legislation to protect against hate crimes and discrimination based on sexual orientation. Strongly opposes efforts at the federal and state level, whether through legislation, referendum or constitutional amendment, that would selectively limit or deny civil rights to same-sex couples and their families, thereby abusing the spirit of the amendment process and discouraging further expansion of gay rights. Expresses support equal protections under the law for same-sex couples, comparable to those

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afforded to heterosexual couples, and supports government action that provides civil status to committed same-sex couples and their families equal to the civil status provided to the committed relationships of men and woman and their families, with all associated legal rights and obligations, both federal and state.

2005 Disability Rights

Hadassah is deeply concerned about the rights of the 54 million Americans living with disabilities. Hadassah calls upon the federal government to continue to expand and strengthen the full range of disability rights.

2004 Senior Transportation

Hadassah calls upon the federal government, state and local governments to address the unique transportation needs of seniors by significantly increasing funding for senior transportation, allocating funds for innovative local senior transportation programs, providing central coordination for all senior transportation programs, allowing more flexibility in the use of existing senior transportation funds, and addressing the needs of seniors in future transportation planning and decision-making.

2002 Anti-Terrorism, Immigration and Civil Liberties

Calls on the President, Congress and the Administration to continue to employ all efforts to root out international terrorism and its support structure, while ensuring that civil liberties for US citizens and resident aliens are protected in the United States.

2001 Voting Modernization

Expresses concern over the events surrounding the 2000 elections. Calls on Congress and state legislatures to modernize voting equipment, standardize voting procedures and educate citizens.

1999 Social Security

Urges Congress to ensure that Social Security continues to provide its current guaranteed benefits. Hadassah calls on Congress to assess all proposals aimed at ensuring the solvency of Social Security with due consideration of the impact on the majority of Social Security recipients-women.

1999 Sexual Harassment

Expresses the belief that all individuals have the right to study, volunteer, and/or work in an atmosphere that promotes equal opportunity and prohibits discriminatory practices, including sexual harassment.

1999 Arson Attacks Against Synagogues and Other Hate Crimes

Condemns arson attacks on three synagogues in Sacramento, CA. Urges appropriate government entities to monitor and track activities of groups that encourage and commit hate crimes.

1998 Hate Crimes

Calls for the expansion of federal legislation detailing bias attacks or hate crimes to include crimes against victims based on gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

1996 Economic Justice and Social Welfare

Reaffirms prior policy statements regarding economic and social justice. Calls for the maintaining of a federal social and economic "safety net" for all Americans. Opposes

the devolution of social welfare programs to state governments.

1996 Civil Rights/ Affirmative Action

Supports the continued use of federal affirmative action programs to redress past discrimination. Rejects the use of quotas and calls for the continued utilization of "goals and timetables."

1996 Arson Attacks Against African-American Churches and Other Houses of Worship

Condemns the rash of fire bombings, arson attacks and acts of vandalism perpetrated against African-American churches and other houses of worship.

1994 Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women

Reaffirms the 1980 CEDAW policy statement.

1993 President Clinton and Vice President Gore Congratulatory Statement

Wishes Clinton and Gore a successful administration. Notes Hadassah's delight over recent Administration statements and actions concerning women's health care, health care reform, reproductive rights and a myriad of civil liberties issues.

1992 Immigration

Reaffirms prior immigration policy statements dating back to 1946. Calls for the cessation of discriminatory immigration policies and supports non-discriminatory application of US immigration legislation and attendant policies.

1992 Antisemitism and Racism

Reaffirms prior policy statements on antisemitism. Calls upon elected officials, civic, religious

and community leaders to enforce laws and denounce manifestations of all forms of antisemitism and bigotry.

1992 AIDS

Reaffirms the 1988 AIDS policy statement. Calls for more funds for treatment and research. Calls for the adoption of measures that prohibit discrimination against people with AIDS.

1988 Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior antisemitism policy statements.

1985 United Nations Decade for Women

Reaffirms the 1984 United Nations Decade for Women policy statement. Applauds the final document and the success in preventing the inclusion of the word "Zionism" in a resolution branding racism and apartheid as obstacles to development.

1984 Women's Rights

Reaffirms prior Equal Rights Amendment policy statements.

1984 United Nations Decade for Women

Endorses the original concept whose goal is to improve the status of women. Expresses hope that the 1985 Nairobi conference will be free of anti-Israel, anti-West propaganda.

1984 Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior antisemitism policy statements. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights Reaffirms prior policy statements, dating back to 1949, reaffirming our commitment to the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Declaration enumerates civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that should be the common possession of all mankind.

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1983 Women's Rights

Reaffirms prior Equal Rights Amendment policy statements. Emphasizes the need for economic equality and security.

1982 Jewish Security in the US

Reaffirms prior antisemitism policy statements.

1982 Global Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior antisemitism policy statements.

1982 Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)

Reaffirms prior ERA policy statements.

1982 Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior antisemitism policy statements.

1981 Extensions of Voting Rights Act (VRA)

Reaffirms the prior "Voting Rights Act" policy statements dating back to 1965. The VRA is considered "...one of the most important and effective civil rights laws safeguarding the political rights of ...minority groups [by] enabling them to exercise the most precious of our constitutional rights — the right to vote."

1981 Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)

Reaffirms prior ERA policy statements.

1981 Economic and Social Justice

Urges the President to insure that government support will not be denied to the needy.

1981 Antisemitism

Reaffirms prior statements dating back to 1962 condemning antisemitism. Views with alarm increased antisemitism and anti-Zionism worldwide. Pledges support to combat proliferation through educational, legislative and other efforts.

1980 UN Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Expresses support and calls for Senate ratification of CEDAW which sets forth standards for women's civil, legal and reproductive rights.

1980 The National Plan of Action of National Women's Conference

Endorses the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) and various concepts of the Plan of Action.

1980 Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)

Reaffirms the 1979 ERA policy statement which endorses the ERA to the US Constitution and urges its ratification. States that the Amendment is essential to strengthen the position of women. Notes those states which failed to ratify and calls on residents of those states to act.

Women and Family

As a women's organization, Hadassah has a particular obligation and an unwavering commitment to women's rights and concerns. Whether supporting equal rights, freedom of choice, access to child care or health care, or working to eliminate violence against women, Hadassah has a proud history in support of women and families. Hadassah supports policies that improve the quality of life for women — advocating for caregiver support, pay equity, and expansion of family and medical leave.

2017 Women's Health Equity

Reaffirms its commitment to women's health, including research; preventive health; and access to quality, affordable, and equitable care.

2016 Caregiving

Reaffirms that women are often the primary caregivers for their families, sometimes juggling the responsibilities of caring for both children and aging parents. Recognizes and values the integral role of caregivers — paid and unpaid — in supporting the health and dignity of America's aging and disabled population, and supports policies from the medical community, government, and private sector to further that support

2014 Women's Economic Equity and Security

Reaffirms prior Women's Economic Equity & Security policy statements. Reaffirms commitment to the necessity of quality childcare for the well-being of American society and calls on the public and private sectors to provide affordable childcare services and subsidies.

2014 Combating Human Trafficking

Reaffirms condemnation of human trafficking, especially of women and children. Urges all nations, including the United States, to make the elimination of trafficking a priority.

2013 Women's Economic Equity and Security

Reaffirms support for pay equity policies. Calls for new measures that will

reduce the gender wage gap; protect pregnant workers rights; increase the minimum wage; expand and promote opportunities for earned paid parental, family and sick leave.

2005 Trafficking of Women

Condemns the trafficking of women when women are forced, defrauded, or coerced into labor or sexual exploitation within and across national borders.

2005 Asylum for Victims of Gender-Based Violence

Calls upon the US Government to recognize gender-based violence as grounds for asylum; adapt the asylum process to accommodate women fleeing gender-based violence, including providing female officers to hear their cases, and training immigration officers and judges on

issues relating to gender-based violence; and create a high-level office within the Department of Homeland Security to oversee all issues relating to asylum and expedited removal.

2004 Senior Transportation

Calls upon the federal government, state and local governments to address the unique transportation needs of seniors by significantly increasing funding for senior transportation, allocating funds for innovative local senior transportation programs, providing central coordination for all senior transportation programs, allowing more flexibility in the use of existing senior transportation funds, and addressing the needs of seniors in future transportation planning and decision-making.

2003 Title IX

Commends the Administration for rejecting recent recommendations that would weaken Title IX; urges the government to strongly enforce Title IX's standards and to promote advances toward equality for women in sports.

2001 Prescription Equity

Recognizes that women pay more in out-of-pocket health care expenses than men because of the lack of insurance coverage for contraceptive drugs and devices. Urges Congress to pass legislation requiring all private insurers to provide equity in prescription coverage.

2000 Organ and Tissue Donation

Urges organ donation as a life-saving effort and to counter the shortage of organs available for transplant. Encourages family discussion of organ donation. Pledges to increase efforts to raise awareness about the importance of organ and tissue donation.

1999 Social Security

Urges Congress to ensure that Social Security continues to provide its current guaranteed benefits. Hadassah calls on Congress to assess all proposals aimed at ensuring the solvency of Social Security with due consideration of the impact on the majority of Social Security recipients-women.

1999 Sexual Harassment

Expresses the belief that all individuals have the right to study, volunteer, and/or work in an atmosphere that promotes equal opportunity and prohibits discriminatory practices, including sexual harassment.

1999 National Museum of Women's History

Supports plans for the establishment of a National Museum of Women's History in Washington, DC to preserve and celebrate the historic contributions and diverse heritage of women. Urges Congress to pass legislation for the museum's creation.

1998 Women's Economic Equity and Security

Reaffirms 1983 policy statement on women's rights. Calls for stricter enforcement of pay equity laws, revision of restrictive pension policies, and support for measures that will result in real economic security for women.

1998 Tobacco

Recognizes lung cancer as a leading killer of women, as well as the problem of increasing tobacco use among middle and high school students. Supports federal measures to limit the marketing and availability of tobacco products, particularly to young people, and urges passage of legislation to ensure such federal actions.

1998 Minimum Wage Increase

Supports President Clinton's efforts to increase the minimum wage and calls on Congress to pass such legislation.

1998 Hate Crimes

Calls for the expansion of federal legislation detailing bias attacks or hate crimes to include crimes against victims based on gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

1998 Child Care

Reaffirms the 1991 policy statement on child care, calling for legislation to address the need for affordable, safe, high-quality child care.

1998 Child Abuse

Recognizes that child abuse and child maltreatment is also a Jewish problem. Pledges to educate our communities and support resources for children and families.

1997 Policy Statement on Genetic Testing

Reaffirms the 1996 policy statement on genetic testing and insurance discrimination. Highlights Hadassah's support of genetic research while acknowledging concerns of insurance and employment discrimination and the need for confidentiality of medical records.

1996 Voter Registration and Participation

Reaffirms prior voter registration and participation policy statements. Expresses concern regarding Jewish communal and women's voter registration and turnout. Describes "The Hadassah Voter Challenge 1996."

1996 Voter Registration and Participation

Reaffirms prior voter registration and participation policy statements. Expresses concern regarding Jewish communal and women's voter registration and turnout. Describes "The Hadassah Voter Challenge 1996."

1996 Violence against Women

Reaffirms Hadassah's long standing commitment to women's rights and women's health needs. Condemns all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence. Special emphasis on domestic violence in the Jewish community.

1996 Civil Rights/ Affirmative Action

Supports the continued use of federal affirmative action programs to redress past discrimination. Rejects the use of quotas and calls for the continued utilization of "goals and timetables."

1996 BRCA1 Gene, Genetic Testing and Insurance Discrimination

Opposes health insurance discrimination on the basis of genetic factors like the BRCA1 gene mutation found disproportionately in the Ashkenazi Jewish population. Supports federal and state legislation efforts to prohibit such discrimination.

1995 Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act (FACE)

Condemns violence at family planning clinics and demands that government agencies enforce the "Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act."

1994 Women's Health Care

States that the following principles must be included in any health care reform package to assure that women's access, treatment and research needs are met: 1. Universal access; 2. Comprehensive women's health benefits; 3. Choice of providers and settings; 4. Accountability to women; and 5. Increased funding and attention to the needs of health problems particular to women.

1994 Reaffirmation of Breast Cancer Policy Statement

Reaffirms the 1993 breast cancer policy statement.

1994 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Reaffirms the 1980 CEDAW policy statement.

1993 War Crimes against Women

Expresses outrage over the silence of the international community with respect to the sexual violent crimes committed against the women of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Calls for the recognition of these crimes as war crimes.

1993 President Clinton and Vice President Gore Congratulatory Statement

Wishes Clinton and Gore a successful administration. Notes Hadassah's delight over recent Administration statements and actions concerning women's health care, health care reform, reproductive rights and a myriad of civil liberties issues.

1993 Note of Support for President Clinton's Pro-Choice Measures

Applauds pro-choice executive orders including: 1. Repeal of the "Gag Rule;" 2. Lifting the RU-486 ban; 3. Lifting the ban on abortions in overseas military hospitals; 4. Lifting restrictions on fetal tissue research; and 5. Rescinding the "Mexico City" policy.

1993 Breast Cancer

Expresses alarm at the rising rate of breast cancer and stresses the promotion of programs for early detection, such as Hadassah's breast cancer campaign, "Hadassah Cares/Check It Out." Moreover, it calls upon federal and state officials to direct increased funding to promote research into the cause, optimal treatment and possible cure for breast cancer.

1992 Women's Health Issues

Calls on the medical community to focus greater attention on female-oriented diseases.

1992 Reproductive Choice

Reaffirms Hadassah's mandate for freedom of choice, including support for the "Freedom of Choice Act" and family planning programs. Reaffirms prior pro-choice policy statements. Deplores the Supreme Court's decision in *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*.

1990 Women of the Wall

Calls upon the government of Israel to protect the rights of "Women of the Wall" to pray collectively at the Kotel without harassment.

1990 Child Care

Reaffirms prior child care policy statements. Opposes voucher systems for day care facilities, including

those offering religious instruction, in violation of the First Amendment.

1989 Parental Leave Bill

Supports the "Family and Medical Leave Act" allowing employees the unpaid time necessary to care for a newborn, seriously ill child, parent or spouse.

1989 Freedom of Choice

Reaffirms prior pro-choice policy statements.

1988 Child Care

Reaffirms prior childcare policy statements. Endorses the "Act for Better Child Care."

1987 Jewish Family Law

Urges the Rabbinate to devise practical solutions to serious problems of family law such as agunah, halitzah, divorce, women's rights in marriage, and custody of children.

1987 Freedom of Choice

Reaffirms the 1981 pro-choice policy statement.

1987 Child Care

Reaffirms the 1985 child care policy statement.

1985 United Nations Decade for Women

Reaffirms the 1984 United Nations Decade for Women policy statement. Applauds the final document and the success in preventing the inclusion of the word "Zionism" in a resolution branding racism and apartheid as obstacles to development.

1985 Child Care

Supports measures to provide comprehensive child care programs. Urges adoption of measures to require adequate funding by public and private sectors.

1984 Women's Rights

Reaffirms prior Equal Rights Amendment policy statements.

1984 United Nations Decade for Women

Endorses the original concept whose goal is to improve the status of women. Expresses hope that the 1985 Nairobi conference will be free of anti-Israel, anti-West propaganda.

1983 Women's Rights

Reaffirms prior Equal Rights Amendment policy statements. Emphasizes the need for economic equality and security.

1982 Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)

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1981 Freedom of Choice

Opposes any regulation diminishing individual freedom guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. Regards "choice" as a matter of privacy of the individual to be determined by each woman in accordance with her religious, moral and ethical values.

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Urges the President to insure that government support will not be denied to the needy.

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1980 The National Plan of Action of National Women's Conference

Endorses the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) and various concepts of the Plan of Action.

1980 Equal Rights Amendment

Reaffirms the 1979 ERA policy statement which endorses the ERA to the US Constitution and urges its ratification. States that the Amendment is essential to strengthen the position of women. Notes those states which failed to ratify and calls on residents of those states to act.

OTHER

This section includes statements that do not naturally fall into other categories, most often because of their international focus.

2003 350th Anniversary of the American Jewish Community

Urges Hadassah members to participate in Hadassah's and the general Community's celebrations and commemoration of this historic Anniversary year.

1993 Jonathan Pollard

Calls on the President to commute Pollard's sentence to time served on humanitarian grounds.

1987 Apartheid

Reaffirms prior Apartheid policy statements.

1986 Kurt Waldheim

Urges action to put Kurt Waldheim on the "Watch List" of excludable aliens.

1986 Apartheid

Reaffirms the 1985 Apartheid policy statement. Calls on individuals and institutions with stock portfolios to demand adherence to the Sullivan Principles.

1985 Anti-Apartheid

Deplores Apartheid and calls on the US government to motivate the South African government to rectify the situation.