

Resolution PA2505 – 08

Expanding Opportunities for Leadership in Jewish Communities

The 17th Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Jerusalem on 18 – 20 May 2025

NOTES the great importance of gender equality in leadership roles within Jewish communities and Jewish professional workspaces worldwide. While some communities have had female presidents, many have never experienced female leadership;

ACKNOWLEDGES that addressing challenges including unconscious bias, structural barriers, lack of mentorship, and limited access to leadership training requires a cooperative and inclusive approach that respects the values and traditions of each community.

NOTES that by engaging in a cooperative and inclusive approach, members of the WJC community can work together for the benefit of everyone involved;

COMMENDS the World Jewish Congress for its sustained efforts to advance gender equality and inclusion, building on the adoption of Resolution PA 2105 – 3, Diversity in Jewish Leadership, at the 16th Plenary Assembly in May 2021. With the establishment of the WJC Commissioner on Gender Equality and Inclusion, these efforts have led to meaningful progress, culminating in the creation of the Jewish Women's Alliance (JWA) in September 2024 to provide an enduring platform from which to promote gender equity and strengthen women's leadership within Jewish communities;

ENCOURAGES a comprehensive approach that would call upon communities to:

1. Establish a zero-tolerance policy for misogyny, sexism, and sexual harassment in order to cultivate respect and inclusivity.
2. Advocate for equal access to leadership roles, thus enhancing decision-making diversity.
3. Recommend programs to boards and communities to raise awareness of the importance of gender equality.
4. Celebrate accomplished female leaders to spotlight the significance of gender diversity and acknowledge best practices.
5. Establish leadership-focused seminars and mentorship programs to empower women, bridge the leadership gap, and foster strong female networks for support and inspiration.
6. Encourage communities to offer a variety of programs that are inclusive of diverse and/or underrepresented groups.

ASSERTS that by fostering equal opportunities for both men and women, our communities will grow stronger; and

RECOGNIZES that achieving greater gender diversity in Jewish leadership will result in positive outcomes for Jewish communities and society at large, especially greater inclusivity and representation.

Adopted by the 17th Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress, Jerusalem, 19 May 2025.