



## **GOVERNING BOARD**

### **WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS**

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#### **HEADQUARTERS REPORTS**

The Iranian Threat

## **THE IRANIAN THREAT**

Iran today poses a clear and present danger not only to Israel and the Jewish people, but to the West as a whole and to Europe in particular. With a government that denies the Holocaust, repeatedly threatens to destroy Israel, races to achieve nuclear capability, and exports terrorism to all corners of the globe, Iran's threats must be taken seriously and not dismissed as mere rants. The World Jewish Congress from very early on recognized the gravity of this growing threat and mobilized against it, utilizing all our global resources to voice our concern in the halls of power. Recently, this issue was discussed in meetings by WJC leadership with world leaders at the highest levels, including President of Argentina Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, Prime Minister of Poland Donald Tusk, Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel, among others. In view of pending multi-billion dollar gas deals by energy giants ELG of Switzerland and OMV of Austria, the WJC leaders met with the leaders of government and industry in those countries to make the case against Europe's largest oils corporations investing in Iran's oil and gas industry whose profits serve to fuel its nuclear ambitions.

The recent deployment of the World Jewish Diplomatic Corps (WJDC) in research activity into companies that do business with and invest in Iran's energy field is the foundation of a concerted campaign to expose those whose investments enable Iran's nuclear efforts. This will bolster WJC member communities' efforts in this same vein, enhance the advocacy of our leadership, and help to encourage appropriate divestment. The WJC also supports legislation on local and national levels that encourages the use of economic measures to help keep Iran from achieving its nuclear goals.

WJC continues to issue Iran Update, a comprehensive, regular report disseminated via the internet to Jewish communities, government officials, international policymakers, and to non-governmental organizations worldwide. Iran Update features developing news items, opinion pieces and in-depth analyses of a myriad of issues pertaining to Iran, including human rights, Iran's pursuit of nuclear capability, international terrorism, and its role in the Middle East and other regions of the world. The WJC is increasing the distribution to relevant parties and is promoting the visibility of this publication in many venues. A copy of Iran Update is attached to this report.

The WJC leadership takes every opportunity in meetings and forums at all levels with representatives of local and foreign governments, international bodies, counterterrorism experts, think tanks, and other non-governmental organizations to raise the issues concerning the Iranian threat. In view of what clearly continues to be a dangerous regime with a resolve to achieve nuclear capability, the WJC will continue to intensify our vigilance and activity in the defense of our community and in the interests of peace, stability and security.