



Support for Israel

Website Campaign

April 2010

Support for Israel Home page



Today's Focus



WJC PRESIDENT URGES OBAMA TO CHANGE STANCE ON ISRAEL

In an open letter to US President Barack Obama, WJC President Ronald S. Lauder writes that Jews around the world are concerned about 'the dramatic deterioration of diplomatic relations between the United States and Israel' in recent months. [READ MORE >](#)

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- » Interview - Ronald S. Lauder: "Israel has been strongly neglected"
- » Elie Wiesel: Question of Jerusalem should be above politics
- » Full Text of Letter from Ronald S. Lauder to President Obama
- » Sign the WJC Pledge of Support for Israel
- » Candidly Speaking: Down from the fence - Isi Leibler - Jerusalem Post
- » What do you think about the current state of US-Israel relations? [Poll](#)

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Delegitimization of Israel
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Israel is under attack. On many levels, throughout the world, there are efforts to delegitimize the State: trade unions are calling for economic sanctions against Israel, academic institutions are calling for boycotts of Israeli universities and professors, Israeli sports men and women are denied the right to participate in sporting events, the world's media focuses obsessively on Israel, yet reports are biased and one-sided, and the United Nations spends more time singling out Israel for criticism than any other country.

On Israel's independence day, Yom Ha'atzmaut, pledge your support for the people and the State of Israel, by signing our declaration. [SIGN THE PLEDGE](#)

Communities



Obama sends special message on Israel's Independence Day

As Israelis celebrated 62 years of their independence, President Barack Obama said that the relationship between Israel and the United States would become stronger in the months and years to come. [READ MORE >](#)

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Opinion Poll

What do you think about the current state of US-Israel relations?

US-Israeli relations are in a deep crisis because of wrong actions taken by Israel, especially the announcement to build new houses in east Jerusalem.

Support for Israel Letter from Ronald S. Lauder



An Open Letter To President Obama... FROM THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS



April 15, 2010

President Barack Obama
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I write today as a proud American and a proud Jew.

Jews around the world are concerned today. We are concerned about the nuclear ambitions of an Iranian regime that brags about its genocidal intentions against Israel. We are concerned that the Jewish state is being isolated and delegitimized.

Mr. President, we are concerned about the dramatic deterioration of diplomatic relations between the United States and Israel.

The Israeli housing bureaucracy made a poorly timed announcement and your Administration branded it an "insult." This diplomatic faux pas was over the fourth stage of a seven stage planning permission process – a plan to build homes years from now in a Jewish area of Jerusalem that under any peace agreement would remain an integral part of Israel.

Our concern grows to alarm as we consider some disturbing questions. Why does the thrust of this Administration's Middle East rhetoric seem to blame Israel for the lack of movement on peace talks? After all, it is the Palestinians, not Israel, who refuse to negotiate.

Israel has made unprecedented concessions. It has enacted the most far reaching West Bank settlement moratorium in Israeli history. Israel has publicly declared support for a two-state solution. Conversely, many Palestinians continue their refusal to even acknowledge Israel's right to exist.

The conflict's root cause has always been the Palestinian refusal to accept Israel as the nation state of the Jewish people. Every American President who has tried to broker a peace agreement has collided with that Palestinian intransigence, sooner or later. Recall President Clinton's anguish when his peace proposals were bluntly rejected by the Palestinians in 2000. Settlements were not the key issue then. They are not the key issue now.

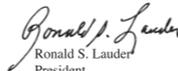
Another important question is this: what is the Administration's position on Israel's borders in any final status agreement? Ambiguity on this matter has provoked a wave of rumors and anxiety. Can it be true that America is no longer committed to a final status agreement that provides defensible borders for Israel? Is a new course being charted that would leave Israel with the indefensible borders that invited invasion prior to 1967?

There are significant moves from the Palestinian side to use those indefensible borders as the basis for a future unilateral declaration of independence. How would the United States respond to such a reckless course of action?

And what are America's strategic ambitions in the broader Middle East? The Administration's desire to improve relations with the Muslim world is well known. But is friction with Israel part of this new strategy? Is it assumed worsening relations with Israel can improve relations with Muslims? History is clear on the matter: appeasement does not work. It can achieve the opposite of what is intended.

And what about the most dangerous player in the region? Shouldn't the United States remain focused on the single biggest threat that confronts the world today? That threat is a nuclear armed Iran. Israel is not only America's closest ally in the Middle East, it is the one most committed to this Administration's declared aim of ensuring Iran does not get nuclear weapons.

Mr. President, we embrace your sincerity in your quest to seek a lasting peace. But we urge you to take into consideration the concerns expressed above. Our great country and the tiny State of Israel have long shared the core values of freedom and democracy. It is a bond much treasured by the Jewish people. In that spirit I submit, most respectfully, that it is time to end our public feud with Israel and to confront the real challenges that we face together.

Yours sincerely,

Ronald S. Lauder
President
World Jewish Congress

www.WorldJewishCongress.org

Support for Israel Comments on the letter



Ashok Mehta, about 6 hours ago

I believe that Israel has the right to exist peacefully had a proud and independent nation. I believe that the whole world particularly the Muslim nations should recognise this right without any preconditions.

I believe that Iran's nuclear ambitions should be nipped in the bud.

I believe that India and Israel have common interests and should always be allies in view of the hostile Muslim world that faces them

frosty7530, 1 day ago

Dear Mr. Lauder:

Thank you for your eloquent and brave letter to Pres. Obama. As a Reform American Jew I am very disgusted by the way he treated the P.M. of Israel. In my 62 yrs of observing American Presidents and the White House, I can not ever recall an American President treating any of our guests as rudely as Obama treated Israel's leader. When our President hosts a diplomat at the W.H., it's expected that certain protocols and common courtesies will be extended. If a pres. is not inclined to treat a leader with respect, they simply don't invite them to WH. It appears that Obama dispensed with common sense, as well as hospitality re this incident.

I realize that Israel is not a perfect democracy. In the past, I have also been concerned about the Arab/Muslim Israelies and their treatment. However, when I think of Israel's neighbors and the way they run their countries, the barbaric absense of human rights in so many Middle East countries; I think of Israel with pride. I think worldwide Jewry has benefited from the tremendous progress this young country has made.

Now, we have a sitting President who looks upon Israel with disdain. A President so patronizing of Iran and other dangerous regimes. For the first time as an American Citizen, I do not feel safe. I am not comfortable with his passive approach to Iran going nuclear. I think of all the Jewish support Obama rec'd from America's Jews. Has he no sensativity for how we feel about his treatment of Israel? I thank you again, Mr. Lauder. I pray you will continue to help America's Jewish community unite and stand up for Israel, stand up for ourselves.

frosty7530, 1 day ago

Dear Mr. Lauder:

I just read your letter to President Obama. I would like to thank you for your courage and and self respect in approaching President Obama about the disgusting treatment of the Prime Minister of Israel. As a Reform Jew, I sometimes feel/felt that Israel needs/needed to take steps to improve relations with the Muslim/Arab citizens of the their country. I have never thought of Israel as a perfect democracy or utopian community.

For the most part, I love and respect Israel and take pride in that country's triumph time and again, in the face of severe adversity. While the President may have been unhappy about the housing situation in Jerusalem, there was no excuse for his brutal treatment of the Prime Minister of Israel at our White House. In my 62 years of observing White House receptions, I can not remember any of our President's treating a foreign dignitary in such a disgusting manner. Usually, our President's don't invite guests they don't intend to treat politely. I feel as if a part of my soul has been spit at.

Surely President Obama must realize that most American Jews feel a profound sense of kinship with Israel. At this time in history we are very scared the survival of Israel. Shortly after this incident w/Israel, Obama announced he wanted to extend more hospitality to American Muslims. I look at the timing of that announcement and I have to wonder where this man's heart is. I would have thought nothing of his wanting to embrace American Muslims, had this confrontation with Israel not happened. I read in Jerusalem Post that violence has increased since this fateful meeting. I also feel that anti-Jewish feelings here will increase as well. We Jews must act as a powerful united community now. We must impress upon Pres. Obama that we are very disturbed by his hostile treatment of Israel, and by default, his total American Jews!

God Bless You, Mr. Lauder. Help us organize and once again become powerful advocates for Israel and Jewish people everywhere.

Isaac Cohen, 1 day ago

Dear Mr. Lauder: This was an excellent letter and very respectful. In the following please find a piece that I sent the Chicago Tribune addressing the same issues:

Has Obama become an impediment to the Arab-Israeli peace process ?

Arab countries have been emboldened by our President's position on Jewish building in Jerusalem with declarations such as "Israel playing with fire, Jordanian king warns" (Tribune, March 26). We should also expect this week-end a hardening of the Arab position at the Arab summit in Libya.

It all started with a gaffe pertaining to the announcement by a bureaucrat in Israel's interior ministry of a housing expansion in a Jewish neighborhood of northern Jerusalem. Vice-President Biden protested as he should have since the issue of Jerusalem is complex, and PM Netanyahu apologized about the timing of the announcement. Our Vice-President accepted and appreciated the apology and everything could have ended right there. President Obama, however, decided to make a big deal out of it.

Virginia Baker, 8 days ago

Thank you, Thank you Mr Lauder. Your words are long overdue, and very much appreciated. In these times all voices need to be loud and clear. Israel is the only real and true friend of the USA in the whole of the Middle East, and Pres. Obama and his one-sided views and policies favoring all things Palestinian and the Muslims is heavy-handed and has to change. The 2012 election can't come too soon, but 2010 will be a good start.

Support for Israel Statistics



- Hundreds of emails and comments received



Support for Israel Opinion poll

What do you think about the current state of US-Israel relations?



Latest Opinions

EE.UU. siempre a apoyado a Israel y en ONU ha hecho prevalecer su voto pro Israel pero con Obama pareciera haberse enfriado

US-Israeli relations are in a deep crisis because of the terribly negative view the Obama Administration has vis-a-vis Israel.

every nation has right to live on this earth with dignity.

Crisis of present US-Israeli relations has nothing to do with housing plans of Israel.

Israel And US ties are very strong and boths countries have mutual understanding. Prime Minister Beneyamin Natenyahu and President Barak Obama boths personlities were working for middle East peace process. US Government have respect for Identity of Jewis

Comments

Name *

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Opinion Poll

What do you think about the current state of US-Israel relations?

US-Israeli relations are in a deep crisis because

Support for Israel Opinion poll



What do you think about the current state of US-Israel relations?

-  **10%** US-Israeli relations are in a deep crisis because of wrong actions taken by Israel, especially the announcement to build new houses in east Jerusalem.
-  **66%** US-Israeli relations are in a deep crisis because of the excessive reaction by Obama administration officials on Israel's housing plans. Israel deserves more support from Washington.
-  **5%** There is no crisis. The relationship between America and Israel is as strong as ever, despite the recent hiccup.
-  **11%** Both the Israeli and the US government should reassess their behavior and take steps to build new trust and re-launch the Middle East peace process.
-  **1%** I don't know.
-  **7%** other: enter your suggestion below

Name *

What do you think about the current state of US-Israel relations?

US-Israeli relations are in a deep crisis because

Support for Israel Pledge



Deutsch | English | Español | Français | עברית | Русский

PLEDGE OF SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT SHIMON PERES

As the spiritual homeland of the Jewish people and the only democratic country in the Middle East which respects human rights, the freedom to practice one's religion, the freedom of the press and the rule of law, Israel deserves to be treated fairly and with respect.

We the undersigned abhor the demonization of Israel and any attempt to delegitimize the State. We pledge our support for the people of Israel and their right to live in peace and security.

Optional: add your own personal message to President Peres

Check here to receive updates from the World Jewish Congress

SIGN THE PLEDGE

Israel is under attack. On many levels, throughout the world, there are efforts to delegitimize the State: trade unions are calling for economic sanctions against Israel, academic institutions are calling for boycotts of Israeli universities and professors, Israeli sports men and women are denied the right to participate in sporting events, the world's media focuses obsessively on Israel, yet reports are biased and one-sided, and the United Nations spends more time singling out Israel for criticism than any other country.

No other country is treated like Israel. Israel is demonized. Yet Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East, where human rights, the rule of law, the freedom to practice one's religion and the freedom of the press are all respected. 62 years after its founding, Israel is still struggling to exist in peace and security. Yet even it's right to defend itself from terrorist attack is questioned. Israel needs your help.

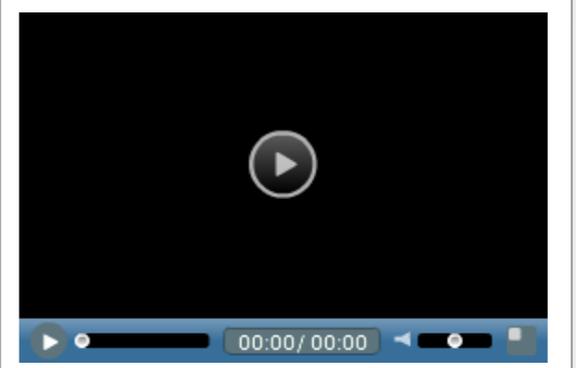
On Israel's independence day, Yom Ha'atzmaut, pledge your support for the people and the State of Israel, by signing our declaration.

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Delegitimization of Israel
Clip highlighting the delegitimization of Israel across all levels of society around the world.
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Latest Pledge Comments

Optional: add your own personal message to President Peres Gods protection on you, your country and all who suppot you in this time of revelation.The covering of the holy spirit over you all.Amen 22 Apr 2010

Opcional: añadir su propio mensaje personal al presidente Peres, favor de no dar de baja este correo es muy importante que este informada sobre la nacion de israel, ya que yo tambien soy parte de israel aqui en guatemala, los amo y cada dia pido que israel este bien y que pueda tener paz y sea restablecido por siempre. hasta pronto 22 Apr 2010

Saludos desde Guatemala, en apoyo a un pueblo admirable y guerrero. 22 Apr 2010

لنا اشد في 37 سنة مصيرنا معكم بالكلية معكم السلام العال

Support for Israel Pledge languages



Español

**MENSAJE DE SOLIDARIDAD CON ISRAEL
DIRIGIDO AL PRESIDENTE SHIMON PERES**

o el hogar espiritual del pueblo judío y la única democracia de Oriente Próximo don
an los derechos humanos, la libertad religiosa, la libertad de prensa y el Estado de

Русский

**ЗАЯВЛЕНИЕ В ПОДДЕРЖКУ ИЗРАИЛЯ
АДРЕСОВАНО ПРЕЗИДЕНТУ ИЗРАИЛЯ ШИМОНУ ПЕРЕСУ**

уховная родина еврейского народа и единственное демократическое государст
нем Востоке, которое соблюдает права человека, свободу вероисповедания, св

English

**PLEDGE OF SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL
ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT SHIMON PERES**

spiritual homeland of the Jewish people and the only democratic country in the Mi
which respects human rights, the freedom to practice one's religion, the freedom of
and the rule of law, Israel deserves to be treated fairly and with respect.

עברית

**הצהרת תמיכה בישראל
המיועדת לנשיא שמעון פרס**

מולדת הרוחנית של העם היהודי והמדינה הדמוקרטית היחידה במזרח התיכון שמכבדת את זכויות
את חופש הדת, את חופש העיתונות ואת שלטון החוק, ישראל ראויה שיתייחסו אליה בהגינות ובכב

Deutsch

**SOLIDARITÄTSERKLÄRUNG MIT ISRAEL
ADRESSIERT AN PRÄSIDENT SCHIMON PERES**

stige Heimat des jüdischen Volkes und einziges demokratisches Land im Nahen Ost
es Menschenrechte, freie Religionsausübung, Pressefreiheit und Rechtsstaatlichkeit
tiert, hat Israel es verdient, fair und respektvoll behandelt zu werden.

Français

**DECLARATION DE SOUTIEN A ISRAËL
A L'ATTENTION DE MONSIEUR LE PRESIDENT, SHIMON PERES**

tant que patrie spirituelle du peuple juif et seul pays démocratique du Moyen-Orient
pectant les droits de l'homme, la liberté de culte, la liberté de la presse ainsi que la prima
droit. Israël mérite d'être traitée équitablement et avec respect.

Support for Israel Cooperation with Regional Affiliates



CONGRESO JUDIO LATINOAMERICANO



CONGRESSO JUDAICO LATINOAMERICANO

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS



הקונגרס היהודי העולמי



congrès juif
européen

europaean
jewish congress

EXPRESA TU APOYO A ISRAEL !!!



Israel está siendo agredido en todo el mundo, por diferentes actores que intentan deslegitimarlo. Ningún país es tratado como Israel, a pesar de ser la única democracia del Medio Oriente donde se respetan los derechos humanos.

62 años después de su fundación, en el Día de la Independencia, Iom Ha'atzmaut Israel necesita de tu ayuda.

Sumate a expresar tu apoyo firmando esta declaración que le llegará directamente al presidente Shimon Peres.

Sumate ahora
Hacé click acá



**DECLARATION DE SOUTIEN A ISRAËL
A L'ATTENTION DE MONSIEUR LE PRESIDENT, SHIMON PERES**

En tant que patrie spirituelle du peuple juif et seul pays démocratique du Moyen-Orient respectant les droits de l'homme, la liberté de culte, la liberté de la presse ainsi que la primauté du droit, Israël mérite d'être traitée équitablement et avec respect.

Nous, soussignés, exécutons la diabolisation d'Israël ainsi que toute tentative de délégitimation de l'Etat d'Israël. Nous apportons notre soutien au peuple d'Israël et à son droit de vivre en paix et en sécurité.

Prénom Nom

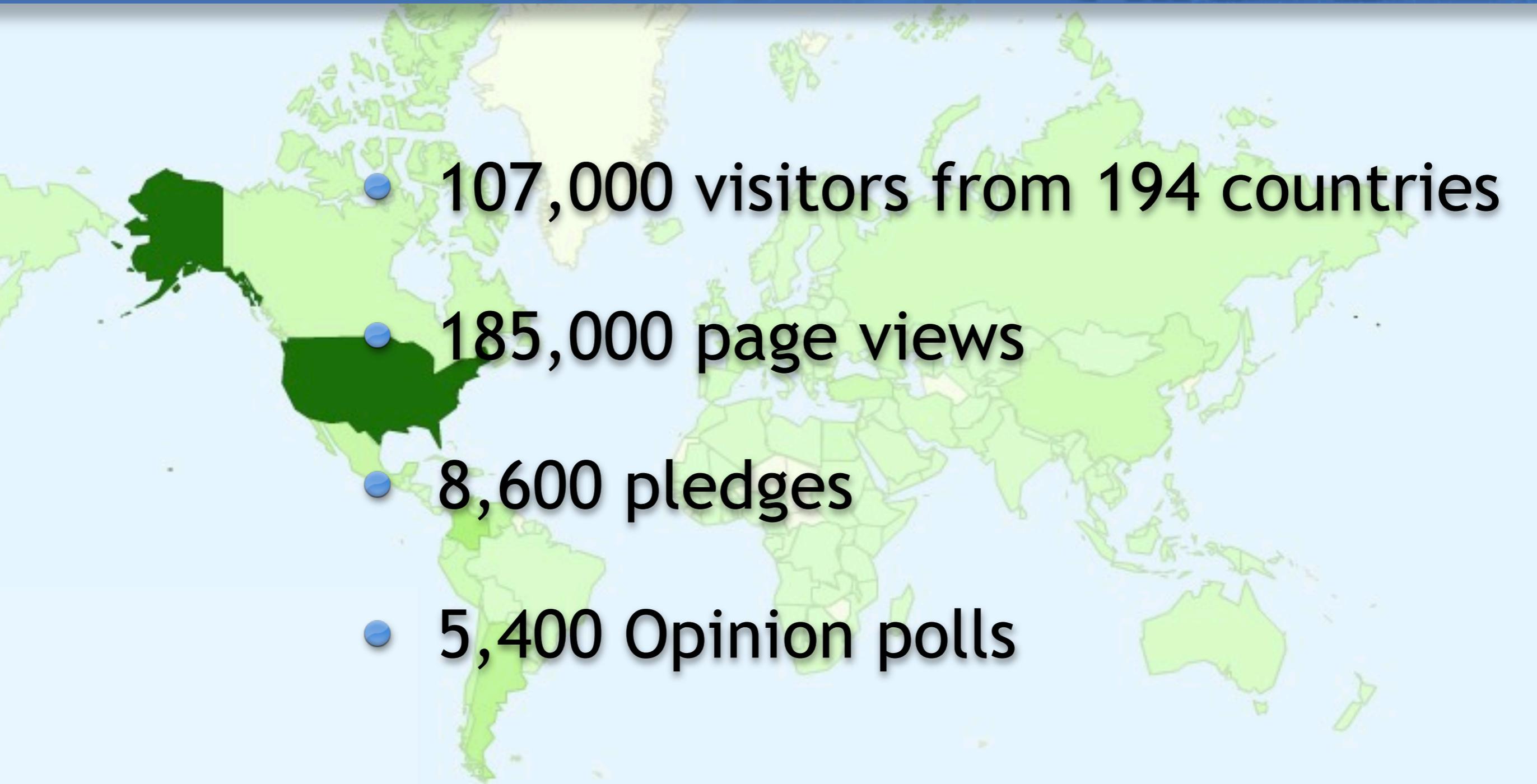
Adresse électronique

Ville France

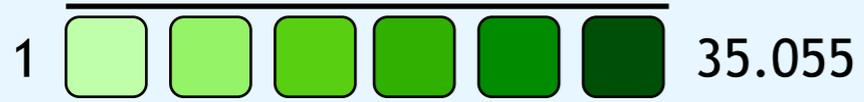
Facultatif: ajouter un message personnel au président Peres

SIGNEZ LA DÉCLARATION

Support for Israel Online Campaign: Figures



Visits



Support for Israel Visits per Day since Relaunch

