

Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association
RESOLUTION
"KOL YISRAEL AREVIM ZEH BA-ZEH":
ALL ISRAEL IS RESPONSIBLE ONE FOR THE OTHER
1980

We voice our deep concern over the condition of the Jewish communities of the Soviet Union, Argentina, and the Moslem states. As Reconstructionist Jews, we emphasize the importance of Jewish peoplehood. We have a responsibility to aid all individuals who identify themselves as Jews and who act to foster Jewish civilization. The mitzvah of pidyon sh'vuyim - redemption and restoration to the fold of Jewish life - has been continuous and imperative in our history. We reaffirm the intensity of our devotion to this mitzvah.

We therefore urge world Jewish organizations to provide assistance to Soviet Jews who request relocation to any free country. We are disturbed by reports that efforts are being made to penalize Soviet Jewish immigrants to countries other than Israel by substantially reducing the resettlement aid made available by Jewish agencies. We urge a continuation of the present levels of support. Our goal must be to seek exit visas for all Jews who request them, to enable those Jews to live as free human beings to be able to fulfill themselves Jewishly as they could not in the Soviet Union.

We are committed to the centrality of Zion in Jewish life and we believe that the flow of Soviet Jews into lands of freedom will indubitably redound in the strengthening of the State of Israel. We urge ever greater efficiency of immigrant absorption into Israel which will, hopefully, lead to a substantial increase in aliyah from the Soviet Union.

We are deeply disturbed by the antisemitism that is rampant in Argentina today. We call upon the Governments of the United States and Canada to protest human rights violations in Argentina in the strongest possible terms.

The few Jews remaining in Iran, Libya, Iraq, Syria, North and South Yemen, Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria suffer severe discrimination and are forbidden to leave. We urge the Governments of the United States and Canada to join the Government of Israel in its demand that the fundamental human rights of Jews and other non-Moslems living in the lands of Islam be fully respected.