A COMPENDIUM OF HADASSAH’S ZIONIST AND AMERICAN AFFAIRS POLICY STATEMENTS: 1980-2021
This “Compendium of Zionist & American Affairs Policy Statements: 1980-2021” 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 National Advocacy Team in the Education and Advocacy Division and available for Hadassah Leaders within the resource files on myHadassah.

Hadassah’s policy statements represent the organization’s official stance on a wide variety 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 understanding 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
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 Boruch 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.

2020 United States of America-Israel Medical Partnerships
United States of America-Israel Medical Partnerships 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 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 and POW's. 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 Sales
Reaffirms prior Middle East Arms Sales Policy Statements.

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.”

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.
ZIONIST AFFAIRS

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 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 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.

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.

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.
ZIONIST AFFAIRS

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.

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 Women of the Wall
Reaffirms prior Law of Return policy statement. 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.

1986 Dialogue and Understanding
Views with great 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.

2012 Religious Pluralism
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.

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.
Terrorism
Hadassah expresses outrage over attacks against the Jewish people and Israelis. As a supporter of Israel, Hadassah strongly condemns 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*

1994 Middle East Arms Race
Reaffirms prior Middle East Arms Race Policy Statements.

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.

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 concerned 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.

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 UNCHR 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 anti-Semitism. 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.”

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 off 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 anti-Semitism, discrimination, and human rights abuses around the world.

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 Anti-Semitism
Affirms that support for Israel and opposition to anti-Semitism must remain nonpartisan values. As an organization committed to fighting prejudice, Hadassah condems 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 anti-Semitism.

2019 Combating Anti-Semitism
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 Anti-Semitism
Deplores the rise in threats and acts of violence perpetrated against Jewish institutions, synagogues and Jewish individuals around the world.

2014 Combating Anti-Semitism
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 Anti-Semitism
Urges all international bodies and heads of state to condemn anti-Semitism 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 Anti-Semitism in Russia
Reaffirms prior concerns regarding the increased acts of anti-Semitism 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 Anti-Semitism 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 Anti-Semitism 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 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 Anti-Semitism
Views with alarm increased manifestations of anti-Semitism 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 anti-Semitism, 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. 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
ZIONIST AFFAIRS

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 anti-Semitism 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.

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.

When Soviet Jews obtained exit visas to Israel, but then “dropped out” and immigrated to the United States or elsewhere.)
ZIONIST AFFAIRS

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.

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 anti-Semitism, 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 Anti-Semitism
Urges all international bodies and heads of state to condemn anti-Semitism 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 Anti-Semitism 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 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 anti-Semitism. Pledges support to counter damage done by this resolution.

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.

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.

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.”

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.”

1998 Voter Registration
Urges support for the “Universal Voter Registration Act of 1987.”

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.

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.

2000 Voter Registration and Participation
Reaffirms the 1988 and 1992 voter registration and participation policy statements.

2001 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.”

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.
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.

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

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.

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.

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.

1992 Haitian Refugees
Urges the US to grant asylum to and humanitarian treatment of Haitian refugees.

1991 Somalia
Expresses compassion for Somali people, victims of famine and war.

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.

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.
Health Care

Health care 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 health care reform, especially with a focus on women’s health equity, and support for women’s preventative services. Hadassah’s history of forward-thinking approaches to medicine calls on the US to increase funding to study sex-based biology and the link between environment and exposure to disease.

2021 COVID-19 Pandemic
The COVID-19 Pandemic policy statement 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.

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.

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 to enroll in clinical 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 Nurses’ 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-affected 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.

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### 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. Uges the US government to expedite refugee status for those fleeing violence and persecution, to 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 nondiscriminatory application of US immigration legislation and attendant policies.

**1992 Haitian Refugees**
Urges the US to grant asylum to and humanitarian treatment of Haitian refugees.

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### 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 Anti-Semitism**
Affirms that support for Israel and opposition to anti-Semitism 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 anti-Semitism.

**2002 School Prayer Amendment**
Reaffirms Hadassah’s opposition to the “School Prayer Amendment,” a proposed constitutional amendment that would permit officially-sponsored ayer in public schools and would allow religious symbols to be posted in public schools, courthouses 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.
Reaffirms the 1980 CEDAW Women (CEDAW) policy statement. Views with alarm increased anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism worldwide. Pledges support to combat proliferation through educational, legislative and other efforts.

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 supercede the right to religious accommodation.

1981 Anti-Semitism
Reaffirms prior statements dating back to 1962 condemning anti-Semitism. Views with alarm increased anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism worldwide. Pledges support to combat proliferation through educational, legislative and other efforts.

1982 Global Anti-Semitism
Reaffirms prior anti-Semitism policy statements.

1982 Anti-Semitism
Reaffirms prior anti-Semitism policy statements.

1982 Jewish Security in the US
Reaffirms prior anti-Semitism 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 Anti-Semitism
Reaffirms prior anti-Semitism policy statements.

1992 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.

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.

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.

1988 Anti-Semitism
Reaffirms prior anti-Semitism policy statements.

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.

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1995 Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act
Condemns violence at clinic entrances 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.

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

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.

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

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.”
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.

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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.

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.

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.
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 LBGTQ 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 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 perpetuated 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 Anti-Semitism and Racism
Reaffirms prior policy statements on anti-Semitism. Calls upon elected officials, civic, religious and community leaders to enforce laws and denounce manifestations of all forms of anti-Semitism 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.

1984 Anti-Semitism
Reaffirms prior anti-Semitism 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.

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 anti-Semitism policy statements.

1982 Global Anti-Semitism
Reaffirms prior anti-Semitism policy statements.

1982 Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)
Reaffirms prior ERA policy statements.

1982 Anti-Semitism
Reaffirms prior anti-Semitism 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.”
**AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

1981 Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)
Reaffirms prior ERA policy statements.

1981 Economic and Social Justice
Urges the President to ensure that government support will not be denied to the needy.

1981 Anti-Semitism
Reaffirms prior statements dating back to 1962 condemning anti-Semitism. Views with alarm increased anti-Semitism 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
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.

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 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.

1996 Minimum Wage Increase
Supports President Clinton's efforts to increase the minimum wage and calls on Congress to pass such legislation.

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-Israeli, 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)
Reaffirms prior ERA policy statements.

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.

1981 Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)
Reaffirms prior ERA policy statements.

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.

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.

1985 Anti-Apartheid
Deplores Apartheid and calls on the US government to motivate the South African government to rectify the situation.