

WORLD  
UNION FOR  
PROGRESSIVE  
JUDAISM



ה א י ג ו ד  
ה ע ו ל מ י  
ל י ה ד ו ת  
מ ת ק ד מ ת

July 23, 2010  
14 Av, 5760

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of support on behalf of Rabbi Moshe Navon. I have known Rabbi Navon for many years during the period he studied for the rabbinate at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem. Rabbi Navon developed a fine reputation here in Israel as one of the most knowledgeable and highly educated rabbis in our Israeli rabbinic program.

As Vice President for International Development of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, the largest Jewish religious denomination in the world today with approximately 1.8 million adherents, I can state how critically important it is for Rabbi Navon to continue his rabbinic service to the Jews of Germany.

Rabbi Navon is the only Russian speaking, Israeli trained rabbi serving our liberal Jewish community in Germany and this makes him a singularly important teacher and religious leader for our world movement in Germany. Rabbi Navon has an intimate knowledge of Israeli society, of Germany society, and of post Soviet society in the Former Soviet Union. This combination of experience enables him to be a truly one of kind religious leader for our liberal Jewish community in Germany and this is the reason why it is so important for us to see him continue in his work in the future.

Over the past few years Rabbi Navon has made a most important impact on the Jews in Nordrhein-Westfalen, bringing to them his expertise in a manner that only a native Russian speaking rabbi can do. It is the interest of the World Union to have Rabbi Navon continue this trail-blazing work in Germany since it is in Germany that liberal Judaism was established nearly 200 years ago. How fitting that today a liberal Russian speaking rabbi can help in the renewal of Jewish life in a country where Judaism and Jews paid such a heavy price during the Holocaust.

We at the World Union for Progressive Judaism urge you to take action to enable Rabbi Navon to remain in Germany and to continue his dedicated service to the Jewish People so clearly in need of his special talents.

In appreciation and in respect,

Rabbi Joel Oseran  
Vice President, International Development

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