



Dear Friend,

Since our inception, NIF has brought together individuals committed to religious freedom in Israel to help Israel be a more open and pluralistic place.

We have supported organizations like the Israel Religious Action Center and Women of the Wall along with dozens of others who have challenged the ultra-Orthodox Rabbinate's monopoly over personal status issues. We have helped the Reform and Conservative movements gain traction in Israel. And together, we have also pushed back on regressive ideas about the place of women in Israeli society.

Those efforts were dealt a blow on Sunday when Prime Minister Netanyahu reneged on his commitment to create an egalitarian prayer space at the Kotel, caving into pressure from ultra-Orthodox religious parties in the Knesset. And that same day, his government backed legislation that would solidify the ultra-Orthodox Rabbinate's control over selecting which conversions to Judaism are recognized in Israel.

Now is the time for all of us to stand up and say that Israel must not discriminate against Jews who are not ultra-Orthodox or who do not enforce gender segregation.

[Click here to sign on to a letter to Prime Minister Netanyahu.](#)

We're hearing other important players speak out, including the Reform Movement, the Conservative Movement, and liberal Orthodox groups. The Jewish Agency even passed a resolution deploring Netanyahu's decision on the Kotel.

Now is the time to add our voices and say that Netanyahu went too far. It's not okay for the Israeli government to let ultra-Orthodox rabbis decide who is a Jew or to dictate what happens at the Kotel.

[Sign this letter and share it with your friends.](#)

Thank you for your partnership.

Daniel Sokatch, CEO
New Israel Fund

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