



Advocates on behalf of Jews in Russia,
Ukraine, the Baltic States & Eurasia

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The Job's Not Done — Support NCSJ Today!

Some thirty years ago, when Soviet Jews were at risk and desperate to move to Israel, American Jews put their money and their passion behind NCSJ, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, to help close to one million Jews escape to freedom in Israel, the United States and elsewhere.

Today, NCSJ is needed, now more than ever, to aid the more than one million Jews who are rebuilding Jewish life in the former Soviet Union (FSU). They make up the world's third largest Jewish population in a vast region that is important to the United States and Israel. NCSJ needs your support and the cooperation of governments in the FSU, Israel and the U.S. to ensure the security and well-being of our brave, bold Jewish brothers and sisters as they create a New World out of the Old World.

The job's not done – and we can't do it without you.



NCSJ leaders with Euro-Asian Jewish Congress President Alexander Machkevitch (center), NCSJ's guest of honor at a dinner in Washington, D.C.

37 years

- ◆ protecting Jewish interests
- ◆ creating new opportunities
- ◆ rekindling Jewish life



(l-r) NCSJ President Lesley Israel, Union of Belarusian Jewish Organizations and Communities Chairman Leonid Levin and NCSJ Executive Director Mark Levin.



NCSJ Executive Director Mark Levin receives the Ukrainian Order of Merit from President Viktor Yushchenko in New York City.

PROTECTION ♦ RENEWAL ♦ CONTINUITY

2008 HIGHLIGHTS

RUSSIA

- Monitored and reported on anti-Semitism in the Russian Federation and called on the government to vigorously prosecute perpetrators of hate crimes.
- Provided analysis of the Russian Presidential election.
- Monitored, briefed, and consulted with U.S., Russian and Georgian officials and the Jewish community on the Russian conflict with Georgia.



NCSJ Student Leadership Program in Moscow.

UKRAINE

- After advocating for greater prosecution of perpetrators of anti-Semitism, xenophobia and extremism, the Ukrainian government introduced new hate crime legislation.
- Hosted a meeting for member agencies with the Ukrainian Special Envoy on Anti-Semitism.
- Executive Director Mark Levin received the Order of Merit of Ukraine from President Viktor Yushchenko for “helping to raise Ukraine’s level of prestige in the world by promoting the country’s achievements.”
- Worked with the U.S. and Ukrainian governments to counter Ukrainian university MAUP’s message of hate and intolerance, resulting in a Ukraine Supreme Court decision against the university.
- Monitored and provided analysis of on-going political turmoil in Ukraine.



NCSJ Chairman Edward Robin and Moldova Jewish community leader Alexander Bilinkis.

BELARUS

- Monitored and reported on the diplomatic tensions between the United States and Belarus and anti-Semitic desecrations in the Belarusian cities of Gomel and Slutsk.
- Led NCSJ Missions to Belarus to demonstrate our commitment to the well-being and security of the Jewish community and to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the liquidation of the Minsk Ghetto.
- Provided analysis of the Belarus Presidential election.

MOLDOVA

- Led NCSJ Leadership Mission to Moldova, meeting with President Voronin, senior government officials, and Jewish community leaders.

JEWISH FEDERATIONS

- Organized a Student Leadership Program in Moscow with American University and Moscow Hillels, funded by the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.
- A student leadership program is scheduled for March 2009 in Moscow with the Jewish Federation of San Francisco and Stanford University Hillel.

- Continued to foster community-to-community partnerships, such as those between Boston and Dnepropetrovsk, Chicago and Kyiv, and Washington, D.C. and Moscow.
- Assisted UJA New York Federation with planning an educational mission to Odessa.

GEORGIA

- Participated in and helped coordinate the Conference of Presidents mission to Georgia.
- Provided key political contacts with the Georgian, Russian and U.S. governments and analysis during the Russian-Georgian conflict.

LITHUANIA

- Met with Prime Minister Kirkilas about restitution of Jewish communal property, anti-Semitism, and the government’s war crimes investigation of Jewish partisans.
- On-going consultations with the Lithuanian and U.S. governments about Jewish community property restitution in Kaunas.

INTERNATIONAL FORUMS

- Met with world leaders attending the opening of the United Nations General Assembly, including the Presidents of Ukraine, Georgia and Latvia and the Russian Foreign Minister.
- Provided information, analysis and guidance to FSU embassies and consulates in Washington and New York and officials in FSU capitals.
- Participated in the Global Forum on Anti-Semitism in Israel.

U.S. GOVERNMENT

- Testified on regional anti-Semitism before the U.S. Congressional Helsinki Commission.
- Participated in roundtables on human rights and democracy in the FSU convened by the U.S. State Department.
- Consulted with the U.S. Commission on the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad on Jewish cemeteries.
- Participated in State Department meetings on Holocaust assets and religious freedom.

ISRAEL

- Worked closely with the FSU countries to vote against anti-Israel and anti-Semitic resolutions in the United Nations.
- Continued working to strengthen the bilateral relationships between Israel and the FSU governments.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Jewish leaders from across the former Soviet Union and United States gathered together as NCSJ presented Alexander Machkevitch, President of the Euro-Asian Jewish Congress, the NCSJ Torch of Liberty Award.