

Executive Council of Australian Jewry Inc.

הועד הפועל של
יהודי אוסטרליה

The Representative Organisation of Australian Jewry

2nd Floor
146 Darlinghurst Road
Darlinghurst NSW 2010
Australia

Tel (+61 2) 9360 1600
Fax (+61 2) 9331 4712
Web www.ecaj.org.au
Email info@ecaj.org.au

PRESIDENT

Robert M. Goot A.M., S.C.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT

Jillian Segal A.M.

HON. TREASURER

Peter Wise

HON. SECRETARY

Peter Wertheim A.M.

VICE PRESIDENTS

Robin Margo S.C. (NSW)

John Searle (VIC)

Dr Keith Shilkov A.M. (WA)

Norman Schueler (SA)

David Paratz (QLD)

Daniel Albert (TAS)

Dr Anita Shroot (ACT)

CONSTITUENTS

New South Wales Jewish

Board of Deputies

Jewish Community Council

of Victoria Inc

Jewish Community Council of

Western Australia Inc

Queensland Jewish Board of

Deputies

Jewish Community Council

of South Australia

Hobart Hebrew Congregation

ACT Jewish Community Inc

AFFILIATES

Australasian Union of

Jewish Students

Australian Federation of WIZO

Union of Progressive

Judaism – Australia

Federation of Jewish Aged

and Community Organisations

Maccabi Australia Inc

National Council of Jewish

Women of Australia

OBSERVERS

B'nai B'rith of Australia/NZ

Council of Progressive Rabbis

Federation of Australian Jewish

Ex-Service Associations

Jewish National Fund

New Zealand Jewish Council

Zionist Federation of Australia



ECAJ Statement of Principles about Unions and the Jewish Community – 4 May 2009

The Australian Jewish community, because of its long held commitment to social harmony and inclusion, calls on all employers to treat their workers with respect and decency in these hard economic times and, wherever possible, to keep providing real employment opportunities for them.

The current global economic crisis brings with it the potential for social divisions and a fracturing of civil society, including outbreaks of racism and xenophobia, especially if unemployment continues to rise and there is severe competition for available jobs.

The Australian Jewish community therefore urges all Australians to be vigilant against racist or xenophobic attacks on, or scapegoating of, any sector of our society,

Traditional Jewish religious texts strongly advocate the rights of workers, and firmly support their right to form and join unions.

In the 21st century we continue to honour those traditions and to support the right to freedom of association in Australia. See further on labour rights in our tradition:

<http://www.jewishlaborcommittee.org/LaborRightsInTheJewishTradition.pdf>

Many members of the Jewish community are members of their respective trade unions and the Australian Jewish community respects the role and responsibility of Australian Trade Unions to voice concerns that workers be treated with respect and decency and to stand up for the job security of their members.

We believe that both unions and employers have important roles to play in this current global economic crisis – to ensure that Australia's fair go traditions are maintained for all peoples living in our great country and that organisations providing employment for Australians remain strong.

Strong and independent civil society organisations like Trade Unions and a vibrant private and corporate sector are essential elements of a democratic society that respects human rights and the rule of law.

The ECAJ adopts the above Statement of Principles and will promote them to leaders of all organisations representing employers and workers, through the general and Jewish media and on our communal websites.

Robert M Goot AM SC	President, Executive Council of Australian Jewry
Robin Margo SC	President, NSW Jewish Board of Deputies
John Searle	President, Jewish Community Council of Victoria
Dr Keith Shilkin AM	President, Jewish Community Council of Western Australia
Mr Norman Schueler	President, Jewish Community Council of South Australia
Dr Anita Shroot	President, A.C.T. Jewish Community
Daniel Albert	President, Hobart Hebrew Congregation
David Paratz	President, Queensland Jewish Board of Deputies