

Statement of the Platform of Liberal Jews in Switzerland (PLJS)

We will never forget Hamas' terror attack on October 7 2023.

Israel's actions in the Gaza Strip are also leaving Jews in Switzerland horrified. For months, Israel has been withholding urgently needed food for the people of Gaza. The PLJS is calling for an end to the war and for Israel to take responsibility.

The PLJS calls on the Israeli government to allow unrestricted aid deliveries to the Gaza Strip and to assume its responsibility for the civilian population in Gaza.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced that even if Hamas released more hostages, Israel would not end the war. A temporary ceasefire was possible, but not a permanent end to the fighting.

We are convinced that the continuation of hostilities will cause great harm not only to all who live in the region today, on both sides of the border, but will also inflict long-lasting damage — preventing any possibility of building a shared future, which is essential for the safety of Jews in Israel and around the world. This is already evident in the sharp rise in anti-Semitic statements and actions.

Israel's security is close to all our hearts. But the war must come to an end. The release of the hostages is the first prerequisite for this.

A central value of Judaism is to stand up for justice and for a better world.

We remain committed to the values enshrined in the Declaration of Independence:

"... It (the State of Israel) will devote itself to the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants. It will be based on freedom, justice and peace in the spirit of the visions of Israel's prophets. It will guarantee social and political equality to all its citizens without distinction of religion, race or gender. It will guarantee freedom of faith and conscience, freedom of language, education and culture, take the Holy Places under its protection and remain faithful to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations."

The dignity of every human being, regardless of ethnicity, religion or social status, is central to Judaism.

Zurich/Basel, 2025 May 26