



EUROPEAN REGION

**WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE
JUDAISM**

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

HONORARY OFFICERS AND STAFF 2007

Honorary Life President	Jeffery Rose, UK
President	Ruth Cohen, UK
Vice-Presidents	Rabbi Tony Bayfield, UK Stephane Beder, France Rabbi Menno Ten Brink, The Netherlands Alex Dembitz, Hungary Rachel Dohme, Germany Dr Leo Hepner, UK Katarina Seidler, Germany
Chairman	Rabbi Dr Andrew Goldsetin, UK
Joint Vice-Chairmen	Leslie Bergman, UK Paul Zatz, UK
Honorary Secretary	Andrew Hart, UK
Honorary Treasurer	Raymond Kann, UK
Co-opted	Nathan Alfred, eurojews Peter Galgut, UK Rabbi David Goldberg, UK Kathryn Michael, UK Rabbi Joel Oseran, Israel Michael Reik, UK Gordon Smith, UK Jonathan Wootliff, Belgium/Czech Republic
Project Development Manager	Linda Kann
Administrator	Vivienne Zubaida

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Since taking over from Gordon Smith in March last year I have found that the work of the European Region of WUPJ has increased week by week. Hopefully a sign of our ever increasing activity, not my increasing inefficiency! I feel honoured to be building on the foundations laid by my predecessors and am grateful for my fellow Officers and other volunteers who also give much time. However without the devoted work of Linda Kann (ably assisted by Vivienne Zubaida) we just could not cope with the day to day work of the Region and the incredible amount of planning needed for our Conference in March in Vienna. Linda has indicated that she will retire from her position as Development Director after the Vienna Conference and the Officers are beginning the difficult task of replacing her. She has been an incredible asset to the Region as well as Exodus 2000 for several years now, we are incredibly grateful to her.

A theme for the year was set at the AGM in Jerusalem with the call for the Region to be less London-centric. In November we held a Board Meeting at MJLF in Paris ably coordinated by Felix Mosbacher) which was attended by over 50 representatives of 15 communities from across Europe. The opportunity was taken, in the morning, to hold a meeting for French speaking communities and this too was a great success with 27 delegates attending. This led to further meetings that will hopefully lead to greater cooperation between the French communities and help us expand their activities.

A second focus of our work has been to explore our relationship with the WUPJ personnel and offices in Jerusalem and New York. Rabbi Joel Oseran (together with Paul Liptz) has given great attention to establishing our presence in the Czech Republic that has led to Rabbi Tom Kucera being accepted as a rabbi of the Federation of Czech Jewish Religious communities and thus qualify for central funding. Investigations are being made for the first dedicated synagogue building in Prague. Rabbi Oseran, in cooperation with ER Board members, is turning attention to Budapest, where we now have two congregation and two rabbis. Rabbi Uri Regev has initiated visits by groups of American rabbis and leaders to our central Europe congregations which, we hope will lead to greater support for them.

There are great opportunities for expansion across the Region, but our financial position is poor. An attempt was made to obtain a grant from European Community in Brussels (and we are grateful to Jonathan Wootliff for his attention to this), and this activity must continue as well as seeking other forms of funding to support our activities. The bulk of our income comes from the two British Reform and Liberal Movements as well as the British based "Friends of Progressive Judaism", together with our Dutch Movement. I am grateful for the work of our new treasurer Ray Kann in chasing up late contributions and highlighting the weaknesses in our financial position. We must seek to widen our sources of funding not just for our own work but also for the WUPJ generally and this must be a task for the coming years.

The growth in our constituents and the need to increase involvement by continent based officers has led to us rewriting our constitution and Paul Zatz has spent much time on this revision which will be presented for acceptance at our Vienna AGM. I am most grateful for the support Paul, together with officers Leslie Bergman, Andrew Hart and Ray Kann and other Board members have given me, and know that without Linda Kann's devoted work we could not flourish as I believe we have this past year.

This Annual report will list many of our successes and I look forward to an exciting conference in Vienna and year of continued growth ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Goldstein". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rabbi Dr Andrew Goldstein
January 2008

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE EUROPEAN REGION IN 2007

The European Region Officers continually solicit reports of activities and developments from all the constituent members of the European Region, throughout the year. The aim is to share their news, via European Eye and our e-newsletter edited by Kathryn Michael among all members. Hearing and seeing how other communities are organising and developing, may help inspire other communities, especially the smaller and newer ones. We print below extracts from reports sent to us to be included in this Annual report of our constituents' activities.

Andrew Hart
Honorary Secretary

- **Abraham Geiger College: Rabbis and Cantors for Europe :** In 2007, Germany's federal president Horst Köhler conferred the title "Landmark in the Land of Ideas" on Abraham Geiger College (AGK). In November 2007 the Bundestag decided to raise the annual funding for rabbinical training at the AGK and to move from project funding to federal institutional funding - this means that our financial support will come regularly and continually. We have to thank the WUPJ especially for all the support we have been given to reach this groundbreaking success.

At the moment, we train 16 students. On April 26th, an agreement of cooperation with HUC-JIR was formalized. Starting last fall, our first-year students have joined their counterparts from London and the U.S. for a year of studies in Jerusalem. In summer 2007, Rabbi Professor Samuel Joseph of HUC-JIR/Cincinnati taught as a fellow in Potsdam. Rabbi Dr. Dalia Sara Marx of HUC-JIR/Jerusalem is teaching our students during the 2007-8 academic year as a visiting professor. Rabbi Dr. Michael Leipziger of Sao Paulo (formerly Berne), served as "rabbi in residence" in Potsdam, while Rabbi Dr. Tovia and Adina Ben-Chorin were mentoring our students in Jerusalem. On May 31st, the Rector Rabbi Dr. Walter Homolka was appointed an adjunct full professor by the philosophy department of the University of Potsdam .

Another major breakthrough is our newly-founded Jewish Institute of Cantorial Arts (JICA). JICA was established in co-operation with HUC Jerusalem's School of Sacred Music with a five-year grant from the Breslauer families of California and Texas in partnership with the Leo Baeck Foundation. It will also receive German government funding for the new cantorial training starting in 2008. Danny Maseng has agreed to serve JICA as Patron Artist. We thank the Women of Reform Judaism (WJR) for having established the WRJ Music Library at JICA, and we are truly grateful for the WJR for having found us the match with the *Shaarai Shomayim Congregation* Lancaster who donated a Torah scroll for the use of both rabbinical and cantorial students in prayer and study. The Torah handover took place at the URJ Biennial in San Diego in December.

- **Austria: Or Chadasch Vienna.** On 16 February 2007, Rabbi Walter Rothschild was officially installed as spiritual leader of Or Chadasch Vienna. The inauguration was conducted by Rabbi James Baaden and Rabbi Nancy Morris, both of whom had served Or Chadasch as visiting Rabbis. The "full-house" of members and invited guests included a representative from the Einheitsgemeinde, Georg Haber, who gave a short but moving speech. "Judaism is like a tree with many branches," was his comment in his remarks on diversity in the Vienna Jewish Community—a landmark gesture! Rabbi Walter Homolka spoke in eloquent words on behalf of the WUPJ. Dr. Theodor Much, President of Or Chadasch praised Rabbi Homolka as "the father of our synagogue," referring to his fundamental role in establishing the Robertgasse Synagogue. At the same time, Or Chadasch celebrated the third anniversary of the opening of the new synagogue. The occasion was accompanied by a exhibition of photos from Israel by photographer Chris Dematte. Israel Independence Day (Yom Ha'atzmaut) was celebrated in the Synagogue with the Israeli Ambassador, Dan Ashbel and his wife. Rabbi Schuman from Beit Warszawa (Poland) led the service on 17 August as visiting Rabbi which has resulted in strong ties between the Vienna and Warsaw congregations. During the year there has been the opportunity for Or Chadasch members to learn more about the WUPJ and the upcoming conference. The year also saw the

establishment of a cemetery area for Or Chadash and the founding of our own Chevra Kadisha. 2007 saw exciting growth and developments at Or Chadash. Thanks to the support of the European Region WUPJ we have been able to expand our Rabbinical support. We are looking forward in 2008 to hosting the WUPJ European Regional Conference and to establishing even closer ties with sister communities in Central and Eastern Europe.

- **Belgium** : Our two congregations in Brussels have flourished during the past year. Beth Hillel under the leadership of Rabbi Dr Florian Chinsky has greatly expanded its activities in its new building. And the International Jewish Centre (IJC), in its fifth year, has greatly increased its membership and activities under the guidance of Rabbi David Lilienthal, with Rabbi Joel Oseran taking its High Holyday services.
- **The Czech Republic** : This has been a successful year promoting the work of Rabbi Tom Kucera who visits the Czech Republic one weekend a month. He is officially the rabbi of the Liberec community and also on his visits holds a Kabbalat Shabbat service and dinner in Prague for about 100 people. A successful weekend conference was held in Decin in the summer and the on-going educational seminars in Prague, sponsored by the Breslauers for the WUPJ, have been most popular. Bejt Simcha continues its weekly services, and ZLU (Czech Jewish Liberal Union) also holds weekly services, educational courses and is involved in many Czech Jewish communal organisations.
- **European Beit Din** : There are a number of Batei Din serving Progressive Movements in Europe (in Britain, Holland, France and Germany) but the European Bet Din continues, under the hardworking leadership of Rabbi Rodney Mariner aided by Sylvia Morris, to serve many small communities. In 2007, 41 proselytes were converted to Judaism (compared with 37 the previous year). There are already 38 candidates registered for 2008.
- **EuroJews** is celebrating a sort of Bar Mitzvah in Vienna as it will be their 13th meeting. Their programme will run alongside the main conference programme and they will lead our Friday evening service. Their last meeting was in Brussels in the summer and their next gathering will be in Rome this summer, and they have other on-going projects like one on Yiddish songs.
- **France: MJLF Paris**. After receiving smicha from Leo Baeck College in London, Célia Surget joined MJLF as full-fledged rabbi last summer. As Rabbi Gabriel Farhi unexpectedly left us at the same time, we still have 3 rabbis, with Daniel Farhi and Stephen Berkowitz. Our 'main house' has been getting too small for several years. We have completed the 1st phase of space additions. On the Paris East side, the local Talmud Torah has outgrown our center and we have moved it to a nearby Jewish school building. And in Sceaux (Paris-South), we have just celebrated the 1st anniversary of our local community center. It is important to mention a promising drive towards more cooperation among French reform communities in 2007. This was prompted by a joint initiative from WUPJ Jerusalem office and the European Region of the WUPJ. Local collaboration along 2007 on two substantial projects – the opening of a 'modernistic' Jewish day-school supported by the Massortim, Copernic and MJLF, and the celebration of 100 years of French reform Judaism around Copernic - have helped show people how much more can be achieved by working together.
- **Italy** : In Milan Ugo Volli took over as president of Lev Chadash and together with rabbinic leader Haim Cipriani the congregation has seen a great increase in services and educational activities. Meanwhile, Beth Shalom has shared with the Liberal community in Florence two famous retired American rabbis: Bernard Mehlman and Harvey Tattlebaum, who have greatly inspired the congregation during their three month stay.
- **Leo Baeck College 2008** : 2007 saw the ordination of five rabbis from Leo Baeck College. Rabbi Celia Surget now serves in Paris and Rabbi Leonid Bimbat in Moscow while Rabbis Josh Levy, Michael Faulds, Jenny Goldfried Amswych serve Progressive communities in the UK. We currently

have the largest group of 4th years in recent years and are pleased to report the admission of student rabbis Andrea Zanado (Italy) and Lea Muhlstein (Germany) into the 1st year of the programme.

As has been reported elsewhere, our decision to integrate our first years with the year in Israel programme of Hebrew Union College Jerusalem has proved to be of both educational and symbolic significance. Our first years will return to the UK with greater facility in handling Hebrew texts and will have spent a significant time with their peers from USA and Europe.

The 50th anniversary of the College was an enormous success in highlighting the important work of the College and its graduation of 150 rabbis now serving in 15 countries around the globe. The Board of Governors has now resolved to honour worthy graduates of 25 years and more with a College Fellowship to be awarded annually. This year the first of the 65 Fellowships will be awarded at the European Region Vienna Conference and then others at an International rabbis day on 29th June 2008 in London incorporating a rabbinic seminar on the past, present and future of the rabbinic sermon: keynote speaker Prof Marc Saperstein.

The College has extensively developed its professional development programme offering academic courses to Educators, Community Professionals and Youth workers. As the rabbinate in the UK becomes to examine its own structures for career development, the College's Rabbinic In-Service Training Programme (RIST) will become the centre for Continuing Professional Development.

We were pleased to award our first PhD to Professor Ludwik Finkelstein. His investigation of the history of the Progressive Warsaw seminary is a unique contribution to the history of Progressive Judaism in Polish lands much of which has never been related before.

The College now holds an annual Summer Institute for all those working with or for Jewish communities with visiting scholars and trainers. We welcome all to our next Summer Institute with resident scholar Rabbi Steve Greenburg of CLAL, New York from July 1-3rd 2008.

The developments at the Sternberg centre site in London will enable the College library, now perhaps the single most important Jewish library collection in Europe to have greater accessibility and facilities as befits its status. With over 75,000 volumes and an enviable rare book collection, it holds a unique collection of Progressive Jewish liturgies from the past 200 years from many lands. We were honoured to receive the sermons and papers of Rabbi John Rayner for the College library. The College now awards an annual student prize in Rabbi Rayner's memory for the best piece of written work at Masters Level.

College teaching faculty now include Professor Saperstein, (Principal), Rabbi Dr Michael Shire, Dr Annette Boeckler (librarian), Rabbi Dr Charles Middleburgh, visiting lecturer Dr Avshalom Weistrich of Bar Ilan University, interim Director of Education Mrs Golda Zafer-Smith and a host of part-time lecturers, tutors, pastoral care counsellors and placement rabbis in the field.

- **The Netherlands :** There were three significant events in the history of Dutch Liberal Jewry. On 28th October 2007 the iconic Amsterdam Liberal Synagogue, erected by Rabbi Jacob Soetendorp, saw an emotional last service before the building was demolished. On the same day a temporary building was consecrated at the Stationweg 269. It will be the home of the congregation until its new building is opened in two years time. In February 2008 a ceremony was held at The Hague Liberal Synagogue to mark the retirement of Rabbi Awraham Soetendorp, a former President of the European Region. This historic synagogue will be the site of the ordination of the first graduation of the Dutch Rabbinic College - the Levisson Institute, in August 2008.
- **Poland: Beit Warszawa :** Rabbi Burt E. Schuman has reported that 2007 was a year of significant growth for Beit Warszawa and Progressive Judaism in Poland. Rabbi Tanya Segal served the community earlier in the year and after receiving her Rabbinic ordination at Hebrew

Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem in November 2007, has returned to serve Beit Warszawa and Poland's Progressive Jewish community on a full-time basis. She is the first full-time female Rabbi to serve Poland in its history. Rabbi Segal's activities have been many faceted and have included teaching, leading services and doing outreach to the emerging communities in Lublin Krakow and Chelm, co-leading with Rabbi Schuman the Beit Warszawa Pesach Seder which drew more than 120 persons, a wedding in Gdansk, at least one Shabbat service per month and so on. Rabbi Segal also co-led Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur services and study sessions at Beit Warszawa. These activities drew more than 120 participants. Under a grant from the Rothschild Foundation, Rabbi Segal will soon begin a supplemental program in the communities in which she is working to combine media such as dramatic movement, drama, music and storytelling with the teaching of Jewish text, particularly Midrash. Core groups of local residents will be trained in these areas and performance workshops will be given this summer, including during the Krakow Jewish Festival. A second major addition to our staff has been Gosia Szymanska, our managing director. With her help we have thoroughly revised our publications and communications, helped host a visit to Beit Warszawa by Rabbi Joel Oseran in July and a WUPJ Rabbinic Familiarization tour in November, led by WUPJ President Rabbi Uri Regev. This past year, two of Beit Warszawa's most active members attended the Beutel Seminar in Israel, and two more have been accepted for 2008. Several other members have attended conferences sponsored by Eurojews and the JDC as well as Hasbarah seminars sponsored by the Israeli Embassy.

During the year there have been 4 B'nai Mitzvah, 3 Adult B'nai Mitzvah 3 Britot Milah, 3 and 3 weddings, a near-record for contemporary Poland. With financial support from the European Region and private donors, Rabbi Schuman prepared 6 candidates accepted by the European Progressive Beit Din during a special session in Krakow. Each of these candidates now plays an active role in Beit Warszawa. In 2008 we hope to present between 9 and 13 candidates before the Beit Din. Beit Warszawa's religious school, Beit Sefer Alef, has more than doubled its enrollment since September, adding Classes for 3 and 11 year olds, a Jewish music program, tot worship services, and monthly parent workshops with Rabbi Schuman and with guest educators and psychologist. Beit Warszawa has also organized its first Youth Club.

- **Switzerland: Jewish Liberal Congregation Or Chadasch** (www.jlg.ch) now counts about 400 members and 145 children (from cradle to age 18). Significant events in 2007 included Rabbi Reuven Bar-Ephraim becoming the successor of Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin. In June, the 1st Schalom Ben-Chorin s.l. Symposium was a tremendous success; over a hundred people were enjoying Avital and Tovia Ben-Chorin's memories of their late husband and father. There were also lectures about the importance of inter-religious dialogue. **Communauté Israélite Libérale de Genève GIL** (www.gil.ch) acquired premises for a new community centre "maison communautaire de Beith GIL", with construction due to start shortly. GIL is currently counting approximately 1000 members, with more than 100 children attending GIL's Talmud Torah. GIL is now able to access a separate Jewish quarter of the communal cemetery in Geneva for burial of GIL members. **The Platform of Liberal Jews in Switzerland PJLS/PLJS** (www.liberaljews.ch) is a newly organized and now has an office with a general secretary which allows the PJLS/PLJS to handle its activities more professionally and efficiently. At a meeting in Geneva in June 2007, representatives of CILG-GIL and JLG Or Chadasch set objectives, strategies and measures to be taken forward by this umbrella organization. Representatives of PJLS/PLJS were invited by the Swiss government this summer for constructive dialogues. It was an important opportunity to represent relevant political interests of liberal Jews in Switzerland. These meetings are being held regularly.

TREASURER'S REPORT ON ER WUPJ ACCOUNTS FOR 2007

Format of the 2007 Accounts

ER is regulated by the UK's Charity Commission under the UK's Charities Act and is also registered as a non-taxpaying charity under UK tax law. The prescribed format of the 2007 accounts is a "Statement of Financial Activities" and Balance Sheet. The accounting records and accounts have been examined by an independent accountant, as recommended by the Charity Commission.

The income and expenditure of "unrestricted" funds are shown separately from those of "restricted" funds. Under Charity Commission rules, "unrestricted" means ER may deal with the income and expenditure at its discretion, in support of its constitutional objectives. A "restricted" fund of ER is one whose income can be spent only towards the objective for which that fund was specifically established.

Since 2003 ER has been also Trustee of the restricted funds of Exodus 2000.

As in previous years, in 2007 ER received some unrestricted fund donations, called "designated donations". In each case the donor made the donation of funds to ER on the stated understanding that such amounts would be paid by ER to particular ER-associated and Exodus-associated communities, designated by the donor. The making of such designated payments is delayed on occasion by the processing and collection of Inland Revenue Gift Aid tax refunds to form part of the designated receipts and payments.

Review of ER's 2007 financial result

In continuing its coordination role for developing progressive Jewish communities and events in continental Europe, ER was able to provide some financial support and assistance to some of the communities, as in previous years. So some of ER's unrestricted funds were applied in 2007 for the benefit of several communities including Germany, Hungary, Italy and Poland. Grants were also given to fund the registration costs of six community leaders from various countries to attend the WUPJ convention held in Jerusalem in 2007 to enhance their knowledge of the WUPJ and their leadership skills.

From the Rabbinic Training Fund, in 2007 ER was able to provide support for two rabbinic training college students, both at Leo Baeck College. Subsidies for registration fees for the Vienna Conference were also given from this fund.

There was little change to the core sources of income for ER in 2007. The mainstay contributors continue to be the Movement for Reform Judaism and Liberal Judaism and the Friends (Friends of Progressive Judaism in Europe). In addition, annual dues were paid and payable by the other constituents of ER.

Raymond Kann
Honorary Treasurer European Region of the World Union for Progressive Judaism
February 2008

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE (TRUSTEES) OF EUROPEAN REGION - WUPJ ("ER")

I report on my examination of the accounts of ER for the year ended 31 December 2007, to which this report is attached. This report is required under the UK's Charities Act 1993 ("the Act") because ER is a registered charity under the Act (under registration number 253000) and the Act requires that all registered charities with an income over £10,000 in a year must have their accounts scrutinised by an "independent person".

Respective responsibilities of the ER Executive and the Independent Examiner

ER's Executive (designated "trustees" under the Act) is responsible for the preparation of the accounts of ER. Given the level of income of ER in 2007, ER's Executive considers that the accounts of ER for 2007 do not require an audit under section 43(2) of the Act. But given that ER had income of over £10,000 in the year, the Executive has appointed me to scrutinise the accounts as an "independent person" and to provide this report as required by the Act and regulations made under the Act.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts, to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)b of the Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by ER and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included considering if there appeared to be any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the ER treasurer, on behalf of the Executive, concerning any such matter. The procedures undertaken do not provide for presentation and review of all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination of the ER accounts for 2007,

- (1) no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements for ER to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act, have not been met: and
- (2) no matter has come to my attention to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(signed) D P Barua

Chartered Accountant

20th February 2008

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA) 2007

INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Constituent contributions (Members Subscriptions)	35,622		35,622
Undesignated Donations	2,019		2,019
Investment Income	501		501
Bank Interest Receivable	1,434	5,623	7,057
Designated Donations	63,767		63,767
Rabbinic Training Fund		6,327	6,327
Exodus Donations	15,125		15,125
Vienna Conference Income	15,065		15,065
Grant - Stiftung Project	5,975		5,975
Total Incoming Resources	<u>139,508</u>	<u>11,950</u>	<u>151,458</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Office Staff and Administration Expenses	29,274		29,274
ER Assistance & Projects	6,084		6,084
Designated Payments	80,548		80,548
Exodus Designated Payments	15,319		15,319
Rabbinic Training Fund		11,500	11,500
Exodus Rabbinic Travel Fund - FSU		383	383
Vienna Conference Expenses	867		867
Grant - Stiftung Project	2,224		2,224
Miscellaneous -asset depreciation	515		515
Total Resources Expended	<u>134,831</u>	<u>11,883</u>	<u>146,714</u>
Net Movement in Funds	2,564	-393	2,171
Fund balances b/f 1 January 2007	57,410	104,911	162,321
Fund balances c/f at 31 December 2007	<u>59,974</u>	<u>104,518</u>	<u>164,492</u>
Summary fund movements			
Unrestricted	2,564		2,564
Rabbinic Training Fund		-10	-10
Exodus Book Fund		-125	-125
Exodus FSU Travel Fund		-258	-258
	<u>2,564</u>	<u>-393</u>	<u>2,171</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

CURRENT ASSETS	Note	£
Investment Trust Units at Market Value	1	11,202
Cash at Bank	2	153,290
Total Current Assets		<u>164,492</u>
Total Current Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>164,492</u>

FUNDED BY:

Unrestricted Funds

Reserves 59,974

Restricted Funds

Rabbinic Training Fund 97,212

Exodus Travel Fund 7,306

Total Restricted Funds 104,518

TOTAL FUNDS **164,492**

NOTES

1 The depreciation of the asset at 31 12 2007 (£11,718 as at 31 12 2006) is reflected in the accounts

2 Cash at Bank

	£
Reserve Account	29,550
Current Account	100
Euro Account	60
Money Market Deposit Account	<u>123,580</u>
	<u>153,290</u>

3 Currency amounts are shown to the nearest whole unit

4 An exchange rate of £ = €1.35 has been used in these accounts

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA) 2007

For Information Only

INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	€	€	€
Constituent contributions (Members Subscriptions)	48,090		48,090
Undesignated Donations	2,726		2,726
Investment Income	676		676
Bank Interest Receivable	1,936	7,591	9,527
Designated Donations	86,085		86,085
Rabbinic Training Fund		8,541	8,541
Exodus Donations	20,419		20,419
Vienna Conference Income	20,338		20,338
Grant - Stiftung Project	8,066		8,066
Total Incoming Resources	<u>188,336</u>	<u>16,132</u>	<u>204,468</u>

RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	€	€	€
Office Staff and Administration Expenses	39,520		39,520
ER Assistance & Projects	8,213		8,213
Designated Payments	80,548		80,548
Exodus Designated Payments	20,681		20,681
Rabbinic Training Fund		15,525	15,525
Exodus Rabbinic Travel Fund - FSU		517	517
Vienna Conference Expenses	1,170		1,170
Grant - Stiftung Project	3,002		3,002
Miscellaneous -asset depreciation	696		696
Total Resources Expended	<u>153,830</u>	<u>16,042</u>	<u>169,872</u>

Net Movement in Funds	3,461	-531	2,930
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Fund balances b/f 1 January 2007	77,504	141,630	219,134
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Fund balances c/f at 31 December 2007

	<u>80,965</u>	<u>141,099</u>	<u>222,064</u>
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Summary fund movements

Unrestricted	3,460		3,460
Rabbinic Training Fund		-14	-14
Exodus Book Fund		-169	-169
Exodus FSU Travel Fund		-348	-348
	<u>3,460</u>	<u>-531</u>	<u>2,929</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

For Information Only

CURRENT ASSETS	Note	€
Investment Trust Units at Market Value	1	15,122
Cash at Bank	2	<u>206,941</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>222,063</u>
Total Current Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>222,063</u>

FUNDED BY:

Unrestricted Funds

Reserves 80,965

Restricted Funds

Rabbinic Training Fund 131,236

Exodus Travel Fund 9,863

Total Restricted Funds 141,099

TOTAL FUNDS **222,063**

NOTES

1 The depreciation of the asset at 31 12 2007 (£11,718 as at 31 12 2006) is reflected in the accounts

2 Cash at Bank	€
Reserve Account	39,893
Current Account	135
Euro Account	81
Money Market Deposit Account	<u>166,833</u>
	<u>206,942</u>

3 Currency amounts are shown to the nearest whole unit

4 An exchange rate of £ = €1.35 has been used in these accounts

THE EUROPEAN REGION AND THE WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM

The World Union for Progressive Judaism, founded in 1926, confirms the universal appeal of the Progressive Movement in Judaism and unites kindred organisations across the globe to further their ideals, both in thought and practice. Diversity among Progressive congregations has not prevented the development of an effective voice, which has been one of the strengths of the World Union throughout its history. It encourages innovation, not revolution, facilitating change but not overthrowing tradition. It has actively promoted the role of women, and has played an important part in furthering religious pluralism and tolerance in Israel.

At the first gathering in London in 1926, there were representatives from eight nations. Dr Claude Montefiore was the first President and Rabbi Israel Mattuck the first Chairman; Lily Montagu was the Secretary. Rabbi Dr Leo Baeck succeeded Dr Montefiore as President in 1939. In 1959 the administrative headquarters were transferred to New York and Rabbi Hugo Gryn became the General Secretary, working closely with the Joint Distribution Committee to rebuild European Jewry. In 1971 the administrative Head Office was moved from New York to Jerusalem under Rabbi Dick Hirsch. The total number of members affiliated to the World Union through their congregations is close to two million, making it the largest religious grouping of Jews in the world today.

The European Region is active throughout Europe from Amsterdam to Zurich supporting growing communities and helping to establish new ones, while fostering links between congregations within the Region. In the UK alone, there are now over 70 congregations, mostly constituents of the Movement for Reform Judaism (formerly RSGB) and Liberal Judaism (formerly ULPS) both of which are members of the European Region. There are also substantial congregations in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, The Netherlands and Switzerland, as well as smaller ones in the Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Spain and Sweden. Currently significant activities include the development of several congregations in Germany, particularly to serve the needs of a large number of immigrants from the former Soviet Union. The major work in activating around 60 congregations within the former Soviet Union is now organised from WUPJ headquarters in Jerusalem, but the European Region co-ordinates affinity groups and provides support under Exodus 2000. Affiliated organisations include the eurojews, Friends of Progressive Judaism (FPJ), the Leo Baeck College, the Abraham Geiger College, the Levisson Institute, the European Beit Din as well as Arzenu Europe and Netzer Europe.

The European Region, like the parent WUPJ, endeavours to strengthen established congregations and to support emerging groups by helping with finance to obtain premises, setting up synagogue infrastructure, training and employing indigenous teachers and rabbis, and providing rabbinic support. In addition, both bodies provide great networking opportunities for rabbis and lay members to work together on similar problems in different parts of the world.

Although each member congregation establishes its own practices and traditions, all accept the basic principles of Progressive Judaism, such as the equal status of men and women in all religious areas, the celebration of Shabbat and the Festivals in an appropriate manner, the commitment to the State of Israel, the conduct of services in languages familiar to the congregation, and a respect for the ethical values of Judaism. The European Region holds regular conferences and other meetings, encouraging rabbis and lay people to attend in order to discuss specific topics and problems of mutual interest and concern in a convivial Jewish atmosphere.

The fact of Europe is changing rapidly, with several new additions to the European Region and the spread of liberal democracy (with opportunities for religious expression) in the former Soviet bloc. The work of the European Region reflects these changes. Although its financial resources are relatively small, they can be put to good use in providing small grants to help new communities become established. Of equal importance, it has a considerable range of skills and experience which can be used to deal with those difficulties which often arise in communal life, and which new leaders may find especially troublesome. It plays a small but vital role in assisting the development of Progressive Judaism, providing an alternative for those to whom orthodoxy does not appeal in all its aspects, but who wish to participate in the richness of the Jewish Heritage.

A full Directory of the organisations and communities in the European Region can be found on our website: www.europeanregion.org

Andrew Hart
Honorary Secretary



SAVE THE DATE!

**MARCH 17-23, 2009
JERUSALEM & TEL AVIV**

The 33rd International Convention
of the
World Union for Progressive Judaism

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An opportunity, like no other, to come together
— as friends, family, colleagues and Progressive Jews —
from all corners of the globe.

Meet, learn, share, rejoice and celebrate the global
community that is the World Union.

* * *

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