

ANTI-TERRORISM, IMMIGRATION AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

1 Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, shares the shock, grief and  
2 concern felt by all Americans following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New  
3 York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. Hadassah reaffirms its policy statement that  
4 urges the U.S. government and governments throughout the world to take strong and  
5 decisive action to root out international terrorism and its support structure.

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7 Hadassah applauds the swift action of President Bush and Congress to pass strict anti-  
8 terrorism legislation in response to these attacks; particularly those efforts that undermine  
9 the financial and supply support networks around the world that permit terrorist groups  
10 with global reach to function. We commend the Administration's statements and policies  
11 that include all terrorist groups, such as those that perpetrate violence against Israel and  
12 Israeli citizens.

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14 Furthermore, we believe that the definition of terrorism in President Bush's Executive  
15 Order should form the basis of an internationally recognized definition of terrorism. The  
16 Executive Order defines terrorism as involving, "a violent act or an act dangerous to  
17 human life, property, or infrastructure; and appears to be intended to intimidate or coerce  
18 a civilian population; to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion;  
19 or to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, kidnapping,  
20 or hostage-taking."

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22 As the U.S. government moves forward in its counter-terrorism policies, we urge that it  
23 exercise caution to ensure the protection of civil liberties. We reaffirm our commitment  
24 to the nondiscriminatory application of United States immigration legislation and  
25 attendant policies, without regard to an individual's race, religion, ethnicity, national  
26 origin or monetary status. Rights to privacy, due process and freedom of association are  
27 fundamental to the American "way of life".

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29 Hadassah calls on President Bush, Congress and the Administration to continue to  
30 employ all efforts to root out international terrorism and its support structure, while  
31 ensuring that civil liberties for U.S. citizens and resident aliens are protected in the  
32 United States.