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The World Zionist Congress elections have deep impact on how we continue to foster and welcome Israel and Israelis into our camps in the summer. These are the top points of current realities and definitive impact on outcomes, the areas that will be diminished if we don't get out the vote.

1. We host over 300 Israeli staff at our camps every summer – which builds lifelong connections between our families
 - a. The Summer Shlichim program will be downsized and/or only Haredi/Orthodox shlichim will be able to participate in shlichut, which eliminates our camps from participation because of observance, dietary laws, thoughts that we aren't Jewish enough and that many campers wouldn't be recognized as Jewish at all.
2. Last summer Israeli evacuees were campers and were able to enjoy a summer without fear – a new home away from home
 - a. Our Israeli camper program will be impacted without financial support from major Israeli granting institutions. Bringing Israeli campers into our camps is one enormous step towards ensuring the future of Jewish peoplehood and relational Judaism.
3. The National Institutions financially support Israel education in our camps, congregations, communities
 - a. Progressive/liberal initiatives will become irrelevant in Israel (Reform congregational support, Reform rabbinic salaries, Netzer Olami, etc.)
4. NFTY Israel/Yallah! trips and Heller High are supported by the national institutions
 - a. We will lose funding from the major institutions that help to ensure the continuation of Yallah! Israel and Heller High.
5. Israeli teachers, principals, get to better understand Reform and other forms American Judaism through programs of the Jewish Agency.
 - a. The Jewish Agency's funding is directly affected by the outcome of the election, which trickles down to funding that affects Reform Jews in Israel.
6. Several of our camps have benefitted from the environmental, climate change and building expertise that KKL provides.
 - a. KKL will not be able to prioritize initiatives like the Teva grants, grant money for solar education, and other initiatives that align with our values.
7. For our college age and older young adults, programs like MASA can be attractive to them.
 - a. Gap-year programs and post-college programs whose values align with ours will be downsized or eliminated.

When Theodore Herzl convened the first Zionist Congress in 1897, the Zionist movement began the process of building the State of Israel. To bring about the founding of the State, they established the National Institutions: The World Zionist Organization, the Jewish Agency for Israel, Keren Kayemeth Leyisrael-Jewish

National Fund, and Keren Hayesod. **These Institutions still exist today in acknowledgement that 50% of the worldwide Jewish population live outside of Israel and should also have a voice in the State of Israel.**

The Major Institutions of Israel

- **The World Zionist Organization (WZO)**, established in 1897, has served as the parliament of the Jewish people ever since. It allows for representation of the various Zionist movements from the full political bandwidth from left to right. The power distribution in the WZO is determined every five years through the elections to the World Zionist Congress.
- **Keren Kayemet Leyisrael (KKL/JNF – the Jewish National Fund)** was established in 1901 as a 100% daughter organization of the WZO to purchase land and develop the land of Israel. Today KKL is the largest private landowner in Israel. Its landholdings generate income that helps fund the Zionist movement and supports Arzenu in doing Zionist work around the world.
- **Keren Hayesod (United Israel Appeal)** was founded in 1920 as a fundraising organization with branches around the world to provide the Zionist movement with the necessary financial resources. In the USA, Keren Hayesod works through the Jewish Federations of North America.
- **The Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI)** was founded in 1929. In the pre-state era, its Jerusalem executive organized the movement and absorption of immigrants, fostered settlement on the land, took part in the development of the Jewish economy, and promoted educational and social services in cooperation with the National Council of the Jews of Palestine.

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