



Israel  
Religious  
Action  
Center



Israel Movement for Reform  
and Progressive Judaism  
התנועה הרפורמית והתנועה הפרוגרסיבית  
יהדות מתקדמת בישראל

Pluralism in Action

## The Legal Aid Center for Olim (LACO)

Israel actively encourages Jewish immigration (Aliyah) under the “Law of Return,” which grants the right to immigrate to Israel to people whose Jewish status is universally accepted and acknowledged, as well as to non-Jewish people with a Jewish parent or grandparent, and to non-Jewish spouses of Jews. Lacking the knowhow to navigate such a bureaucracy, these already vulnerable newcomers are at the mercy of a system which can take months or years to deal with their case, if at all. During this period, they are often deprived of the considerable governmental assistance that is the basic right of all Jewish immigrants, access to healthcare, assistance in housing, employment, language courses and more.

IRAC established the Legal Aid Center for Olim (LACO) in 1992 to enable all new immigrants coming to Israel under the Right of Return to enjoy equal rights. LACO helps immigrants (olim) who encounter a hostile bureaucracy secure their rights by giving them access to some of the best immigration lawyers in the country through services such as a hotline, legal advice, and full legal representation.

