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Israel–Estonia Parliamentary Friendship Group in statement marking centenary of cultural autonomy for Estonian Jewry: "Exceptional and forward-looking step for its time"



The following is the full text of a statement issued by the Israel–Estonia Parliamentary Friendship Group, chaired by MK Simon Davidson (Yesh Atid), to mark the centenary of the recognition of cultural autonomy for Estonian Jewry:

"The Israel–Estonia Parliamentary Friendship Group, chaired by MK Simon Davidson, extends its congratulations to the Government of Estonia and the Jewish community of Estonia on the centenary of Jewish cultural autonomy.

"The recognition of cultural autonomy for Estonian Jewry in the 1920s was an exceptional and forward-looking step for its time. It reflected a commitment to tolerance, respect for minority rights, and the belief that Jewish life constitutes an integral part of Estonian society.

"Today, the Jewish community in Estonia continues to maintain vibrant and free religious, educational, and cultural life within an independent and democratic state.

"We express our appreciation to the Estonian Government and authorities for their ongoing commitment to preserving Jewish heritage, commemorating the Holocaust, and recognizing the importance of ensuring open and thriving Jewish life.

"We also express our appreciation to the Estonia–Israel Parliamentary Friendship Group for its important work in advancing relations between our countries and its steadfast support for Israel and the Jewish community

"We wish for the continued flourishing of Jewish life in Estonia and for the deepening of friendship between our nations and peoples."

On Friday, MK Davidson participated via videoconference in an event held in the Estonian capital of Tallinn to mark the centenary of cultural autonomy for Estonian Jewry.