

Over 3,000 years ago, the Jewish People received the gift of the Torah. Now, your congregation can share this precious gift by donating a *sefer Torah* to those who need but cannot afford one.

Donating a Torah to a Reform community in the former Soviet Union, Israel, Europe, Latin America or Asia is one of the most meaningful ways to strengthen the ties that sustain us as one people throughout the world, and to enhance our identity as the People of the Book.

Dozens of Reform congregations across North America have already given *sifrei Torah* through the World Union's *Shomrei Torah* (Guardians of Torah) program.

THE GIFT OF A TORAH

SPANS CONTINENTS AND GENERATIONS

MANY CONGREGATIONS worldwide, especially in re-emerging Jewish communities, lack the most essential element of our lives as Jews: a Torah scroll.

Some congregations that participate in the World Union's *Shomrei Torah* program choose to send a delegation to personally deliver their donated Torah, creating a memorable event for both communities. Others invite the rabbi or lay leader of the recipient community to their city to receive the Torah during a special presentation in which all donor congregants may participate. Alternatively, a World Union staff or board member may deliver the Torah on the donor's behalf.



“ Seeing the Torah that we carried from Houston, placed in the ark that had been built for it in St. Petersburg reinforced the connections that we have as Jews – connections to each other, to Torah and to God. It was an experience I shall never forget. ”

Dolores Wilkenfeld
Temple Emanu-el, Houston, Texas

“ This gift of a Torah has given our congregation so much energy and will ensure its continuation for many years. ”

Lauren Nijkerk
International Jewish Center
Brussels, Belgium

For more information about the World Union's *Shomrei Torah* program, contact Mandy Eisner at 818-907-8740 (ext. 28) or meisner@urj.org

The **WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM** is the international umbrella organization of the Reform, Liberal, Progressive and Reconstructionist movements, serving 1,200 congregations with 1.7 million members in 42 countries. The World Union strengthens Jewish life in Israel and worldwide by establishing and supporting modern, pluralistic congregations and institutions, developing Jewish communal and youth leadership and advancing social justice.

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