The American Jewish Committee acknowledges with appreciation the foresight and wisdom of the founders of the Jewish Publication Society (of America) in the creation of the **American Jewish Year Book** in 1899, a work committed to providing a continuous record of developments in the U.S. and world Jewish communities. For over a century JPS has occupied a special place in American Jewish life, publishing and disseminating important, enduring works of scholarship and general interest on Jewish subjects.

The American Jewish Committee assumed responsibility for the compilation and editing of the **Year Book** in 1908. The Society served as its publisher until 1949; from 1950 through 1993, the Committee and the Society were co-publishers. In 1994 the Committee became the sole publisher of the **Year Book**.
The year 2008 marks six decades since the creation of the State of Israel. The YEAR BOOK marks this anniversary with a special article by Prof. Jack Wertheimer, "American Jews and Israel: A 60-Year Retrospective," which offers a sweeping and original analysis of how American Jewry has been affected by the reemergence of Jewish sovereignty in the ancient Jewish homeland.

In its regular articles, the volume covers the events of 2007. The YEAR BOOK's coverage of American Jewish life includes treatments of national affairs, Jewish communal affairs, and American Jewish population trends. The article on Israel and those about other Jewish communities around the world chronicle important events and trends. Updated demographic data are provided in the article on world Jewish population. Carefully compiled directories of national Jewish organizations, periodicals, and federations and welfare funds, as well as religious calendars and obituaries, round out the volume.

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THE EDITORS
Contributors

TOBY AXELROD: Correspondent, Jewish Telegraphic Agency and Jewish Chronicle (London); Berlin, Germany.

ARNOLD DASHEFSKY: Doris and Simon Konover Chair of Jewish Studies, professor of sociology, and director, Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life and Mandell L. Berman Institute-North American Jewish Data Bank, University of Connecticut.

SERGIO DELLAPERGOLA: Professor and head, Division of Jewish Demography and Statistics, Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel; senior fellow, The Jewish People Policy Planning Institute.

BERNARD EDINGER: Former longtime international correspondent for Reuters; Paris, France.

ETHAN FELSON: Assistant director, Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA); New York.

ELISE FRIEDMANN: Director of Anti-Semitism Research, CIDI, Center for Information and Documentation Israel; Amsterdam, Holland.

PAULINA GAMUS: Former minister of culture, senator, member of Congress, Venezuela; former vice president, Union of Jewish Associations in Venezuela; attorney, newspaper columnist; Caracas, Venezuela.

LAWRENCE GROSSMAN: Editor, American Jewish Year Book; associate director of research, American Jewish Committee.

RUTH ELLEN GRUBER: European-based American journalist and author, specialist in contemporary Jewish affairs; Morre, Italy.

LEV KRICHEVSKY: Bureau chief, Jewish Telegraphic Agency; Moscow, Russia.

COLIN L. RUBENSTEIN: Executive director, Australia/Israel and Jewish Affairs Council; honorary associate, Monash University; Melbourne, Australia.

GEORGES SCHNEK: President, Jewish Museum of Belgium; former president, Jewish Central Consistory of Belgium; emeritus professor of biochemistry, Free University of Brussels, Belgium.

MILTON SHAIN: Professor of Hebrew and Jewish studies, and director, Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies and Research, University of Cape Town, South Africa.


IRA M. SHESKIN: Associate professor of geography, and director, Jewish Demography Project of the Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies, University of Miami.

MURRAY GORDON SILBERMAN: Adjunct professor, Austrian Diplomatic Academy, Vienna, Austria.

BRIGITTE SION: Former secretary general, CICAD, the Committee against anti-Semitism and Defamation; Geneva, Switzerland; assistant professor/faculty fellow, program in religion and School of Journalism, New York University.

HAROLD M. WALLER: Professor of political science, McGill University; director, Canadian Centre for Jewish Community Studies; Montreal, Canada.

JACK WERTHEIMER: Joseph and Martha Mendelson Professor of American Jewish History, Jewish Theological Seminary of America.