

The Law of Return, 5710-1950

1. Right of "aliya"

Every Jew has the right to come to this country as an "oleh". "aliya" means immigration of Jews. "oleh" (plural "olim") means a Jew immigrating into Israel.

2. Oleh's visa

(a) Aliya shall be by oleh's visa.

(b) an oleh's visa shall be granted to every Jew who has expressed his desire to settle in Israel, unless the Minister of the Interior is satisfied that the applicant -

(1) is engaged in an activity directed against the Jewish people;

(2) is likely to endanger public health or the security of the State; or

(3) is a person with criminal past, likely to endanger public welfare.

3. Oleh's certificate

(a) A Jew who has come to Israel and subsequent to his arrival has expressed his desire to settle in Israel may, while still in Israel, receive an oleh's certificate.

(b) The restrictions specified in section 2(b) shall apply also to the grant of an oleh's certificate, but a person shall not be regarded as endangering public health on account of an illness contracted after his arrival in Israel.

4. Residents and persons born in this country

Every Jew who has immigrated into this country before the coming into force of this Law, and every Jew who was born in this country, whether before or after the coming into force of this Law, shall be deemed to be a person who has come to this country as an oleh under this Law.

4A. Rights of members of family

(a) The rights of a Jew under this Law and the rights of an oleh under the Nationality Law, 5712--1952), as well as the rights of an oleh under any other enactment, are also vested in a child and a grandchild of a Jew, the spouse of a Jew, the spouse of a child of a Jew and the spouse of a grandchild of a Jew, except for a person who has been a Jew and has voluntarily changed his religion.

(b) It shall be immaterial whether or not a Jew by whose rights a right under subsection (a) is claimed is still alive and whether or not he has immigrated to Israel.

(c) The restrictions and conditions prescribed in respect of a Jew or an oleh by or under this Law or by the enactments referred to in subsection (a) shall also apply to a person who claims a right under subsection (a).

4B. Definition

For the purpose of this Law, "Jew" means a person who was born of a Jewish mother or has become converted to Judaism and who is not a member of another religion.

5. Implementation and regulations

The Minister of the Interior is charged with the implementation of this Law and may make regulations as to any matter relating to such implementation and also as to the grant of oleh's visa and oleh's certificates to minors up to the age of 18 years. Regulations for the purposes of section 4A and 4B require the approval of the Constitution, Legislation and Judicial Committee of the Knesset.