

Jewish Community Calls for Employers to Protect Their Staff

The Executive Council of Australian Jewry has emphasised the need for employers to treat their staff with respect, especially during the current economic downturn.



ECAJ President Robert Goot

The ECAJ President, Robert Goot, has indicated that there is concern that some trade unions could call on a boycott not only of Israel but also of companies supporting the country.

He told J-Wire: "We have written to Sharon Burrow at the ACTU and we will meet with her to discuss the Statement we have published as soon as possible."

In the statement, the ECAJ calls on all Australian employers "to treat their workers with respect and decency and wherever possible, to keep providing real employment opportunities for them."

The statement expresses concerns that there is "potential for social divisions, racism and xenophobia especially if unemployment continues and there is severe competition for available jobs."

The ECAJ adds that Jewish religious texts advocate the right of workers to form and to join Trade Unions. The statement asks Trade Unions to show concern for the fair and decent treatment of workers and to make a continuing stand for their job security.

The statement adds: "Strong and independent civil society organisations like Trade Unions and a vibrant private and corporate sector are essential elements of a democratic society that respects human rights and the rule of law."

The ECAJ plans on promoting its statement throughout the Australian community. The Trade Union movement numbers many Jews among its membership.

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