

MEDIA STATEMENT 31 January 2018

ECAJ dismayed at latest Malka Leifer ruling

The Executive Council of Australian Jewry, the peak representative body of the Australian Jewish community is profoundly disappointed by the latest decision by Israeli authorities that Malka Leifer is mentally unfit to face court hearings to determine whether she should be extradited to Australia to face 74 criminal charges of child sexual abuse.

This decision will cause further anguish to child sexual abuse survivors who have been demanding Ms Leifer's extradition from Israel in their steadfast quest for some measure of justice and closure.

The ECAJ passed a resolution at its 2017 Annual Conference which expressed "solidarity with all who may have suffered by reason of the conduct of Malka Leifer" and praised "the courageous activism of Dassi Erlich and others on behalf of all survivors of child sexual abuse." We called for the extradition of Malka Leifer without delay and we repeat that call at this time.

We will continue to offer whatever assistance we can provide to Ms Erlich and other survivors of child sexual abuse. We wish them continued strength and determination in their righteous struggle and hope that the Israeli authorities will see sense to compel Malka Leifer at long last to face justice.

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