



## Communism

Communism is a financial-social method in which all property is publicly owned, while maintaining social and financial equality. In the twentieth century, Communism became a political ideology and was implemented as a governing method in a large number of states, with the most prominent of them being the Soviet Union. Most of the countries that implemented Communism were dictatorships.

In the Eastern European countries, that were mainly ruled by Communism, Zionist activities began at the end of the nineteenth century. However, the more the pogroms against the Jews intensified, especially after the Holocaust, the more the Jewish people living there wanted to immigrate to Israel.

Communism forbade any kind of religious activity and viewed the desire to uphold Jewish traditions and to leave for Israel as treason against the homeland. Zionist activists in Eastern Europe were frequently accused of spying and undermining the regime. This led to them being sent to extended periods of imprisonment, being exiled in harsh conditions, hard labor, and more. The situation of these Eastern European Zionist activists improved after the authorities were subjected to great pressure from around the world when the suffering of the activists was made known. Eventually, at the beginning of the nineties, with the fall of Communism and the Soviet Union, the resistance to immigration to Israel ended entirely.

