

The International Red Cross

Since 1949, Israel's first aid society (Magen David Adom) has tried to gain admission into the International League of the Red Cross. Although the Israeli Magen David Adom meets every important criterion for admission, all of its applications have been rebuffed. The reason for this rejection is hard to believe: The International Red Cross refuses to recognize the legitimacy of the Red Star of David which the Israeli society uses as its emblem.

Currently the International Red Cross recognizes as its official symbols the Christian Red Cross, the Moslem Red Crescent and the Red Lion and Sun of Iran. When the Moslem nations objected to the use of the Cross because of its religious significance, they were promptly and properly allowed to use their own emblems. When Israel raised the same objection, they were denied admission. The refusal of the International Red Cross to act properly in this matter has occurred because the organization has succumbed to the political pressure of those members who seek the destruction of the Jewish state. In allowing itself to be politicized in this way, the Red Cross has damaged its reputation for impartiality. The Red Cross, through its refusal, is helping to promulgate the anti-Semitic idea that the symbol of Judaism is unworthy and that Israel is an illegitimate country.