

The Organization of the Jews in Bulgaria "Shalom" has adopted a political statement on the issue of the fate of the Jews under Bulgarian administration during the years of the Holocaust in Europe. The statement was adopted on December 4, 2011, on the highest forum – the Reporting-election conference of the Organisation of the Jews in Bulgaria "Shalom"

Our statement is the following:

1. During the years of WWII the Bulgarian Jews were rescued from deportation in the Nazi death camps.

The rescue comes as a result of the actions of the larger part of the Bulgarian people, the Bulgarian Orthodox Church and the Bulgarian non-fascist public. The Jews will be forever grateful to the Bulgarians for this act of kindness.

2. The deportation of the Jews from East Thrace, Vardar Macedonia and the town of Pirot during WWII is an historical fact, which cannot be denied. We, the Bulgarian Jews, mourn for the death of the innocent victims, honor and will honor their memory.

Culpable for the deportation of the Jews from those territories are the German authorities, along with the Bulgarian pro-Nazi government, as well as the lack of resistance by the local population. A Bulgarian government, at a time and place of its choice, should assume the moral responsibility for the actions of the pro-Nazi government against the Jews during the years 1941 – 1943.

3. The historical facts for the fate of the Jews during WWII in Bulgaria and in the territories, under the administration of the Bulgarian pro-Nazi government, cannot be used as a reason for anti-Bulgarian propaganda today and in the future.