



THE SHALEM CENTER

January 6, 2008

Mr. David Harris  
Executive Director  
American Jewish Committee  
New York City

Dear David,

I just heard that the American Jewish Committee will be awarding the AJC Soviet Jewry Liberty award to Congressman Chris Smith.

Allow me to congratulate the AJC for its discerning judgment in picking Congressman Smith for this honor. Chris Smith is a dedicated and conscientious soldier in the fight for human rights who also understands its importance and connection to peace and security.

Chris Smith was one of the first to reach the Soviet Gulag and reveal its terrible truths. As Head of the Helsinki Commission, he was one of the refusenik's greatest allies in fighting totalitarianism in the Soviet Union and oppression around the world.

A strong and consistent voice for moral clarity in US politics, Chris is most worthy of this honor the American Jewish Committee is bestowing on him.

It is also particularly fitting that your organization which stresses the direct link between Jewish and universal values has chosen Chris Smith as your honoree.

Best personal regards,

Natan Sharansky