

November 2nd, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.
Yours sincerely,

Arthur James Balfour

« (...)

Le gouvernement de Sa Majesté considère favorablement l'établissement en Palestine d'un foyer national pour le peuple juif et fera tous ses efforts pour faciliter l'accomplissement de ce dessein, étant bien entendu qu'il ne sera rien fait qui puisse porter préjudice aux droits civiques et religieux des communautés non-juives existant en Palestine ni aux droits et aux statuts politiques dont jouissent les Juifs dans les autres pays.

(...) »

Lettre d'Arthur Balfour, ministre anglais des affaires étrangères, à lord Rothschild, le 2 novembre 1917.