

## Ruth W. Messinger

Ruth W. Messinger is the president of American Jewish World Service, an international development organization providing support to 300 grassroots social change projects throughout the world. Prior to assuming this role in 1998, Ms. Messinger was in public service in New York City for 20 years. She is an active member of her synagogue and serves on the boards of several not-for-profit organizations. In honor of her tireless work to end the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, Ruth Messinger received an award from the Jewish Council for Public Affairs in February 2006. In tribute to her life's work, she was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Hebrew Union College in 2005, and was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters, Honoris Causa, from Hebrew College in June 2007. For the past seven years, she has been named one of the 50 most influential Jews of the year by the *Forward*. Ms. Messinger has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.