



THE ISRAEL
DEMOCRACY
INSTITUTE



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Message from the President and the Chairman of the Board

Dear Friends,

We went about our work in 2018 with a heightened sense of urgency. In part, this was born of a realization that in a world of democracy in retreat, IDI's mission has never been more timely or important.

We are ever conscious of the fact that Israel's margin of error is much smaller than most other democracies, and that the stakes we face are accordingly higher. Here in Israel the traditional left-right debate over issues of security and economic policy has morphed into a dangerous tug-of-war over the very values and institutions of our embattled democracy. In this environment, we have striven to fulfill the role of "responsible adult," doing our best to educate our leaders and the public about the enduring significance of our founding values and democratic institutions, and the risks of bringing the house down in a fit of populist pique.

In the following pages, we share highlights of our activities over the course of 2018, with an emphasis on their contribution to Israel's security, prosperity, and democratic vitality. In this letter, we would like to single out two developments that reflect a new approach to generating impact.

First, in response to the changing environment around us, and in particular the rise of social media as a dominant force shaping the public debate, we conducted a comprehensive review of our model of impact. This review resulted in a decision to modify our traditional focus on "influencing policy and legislation on the basis of excellent applied research" by adding a third influence objective. Thus: "influencing policy, legislation and *public opinion*,

on the basis of outstanding applied research." This addition signifies our conviction that with the breakdown of traditional mediating structures (political parties, the media) in the information age, and the rise of strong anti-establishment forces, we must in some complement our traditional focus on working with key decision-makers by reaching out directly to segments of the public at large.

We seized a singular opportunity to implement this new strategy with the launch of our Democracy Pavilion, a multi-media exhibition in the heart of Tel Aviv's Rothschild Boulevard. The Pavilion evolved into a vibrant public space for discussion and debate on the core principles of Israeli democracy as articulated in Israel's Declaration of Independence, and an arena of civic education for students, IDF soldiers, and families from all over Israel. Our broader-based strategy was also manifest in the significant ramping up of our media activities in response to a legislative initiatives aimed at weakening Israel's democratic institutions, primarily by producing and disseminating short videos online. Creative deployment of media contributed greatly to our success in convincing decision-makers to drop the "override clause," a proposal that would have given a simple majority in the Knesset the power to overrule the Supreme Court, and make a series of crucial improvements to the controversial Nation-State Law. All told, our media exposure in 2018 was up by more than 80% as compared to 2017.

Second, our emphasis on cultivating professional ties with senior civil servants led to a significant breakthrough in our efforts to improve the ease of doing business in Israel. This achievement



is the most recent proof of the potential of applied research to generate large scale transformation at the policy level. In response to the continuous decline in Israel's ranking on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index, IDI assembled a task force to work with leaders of the business community and senior government officials in the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Economy, to address the issue. Only 18 months later, following a presentation of our recommendations at IDI's Eli Hurvitz Conference on Economy and Society, the government adopted our plan for better regulation. One immediate outcome: In the most recent Index, Israel jumped five places, from 54 to 49, for the first time in a decade.

A success story of similar magnitude was our Master Plan for Informal Education in the Arab Sector. At the Ministry of Education's request, and in the context of the government's landmark Resolution 922 on investment in the educational, economic and social development of the Arab sector, IDI researcher Nasreen Hadad Haj-Yahya developed a comprehensive master plan for promoting the much neglected area of informal education. In the spirit of IDI's longstanding commitment to better integrate this significant sector of society, our plan shaped the allocation of 650 million shekels of taxpayer money to critical initiatives to improve after-school education for Arab children, giving them—and all of us—a shot at a better future.

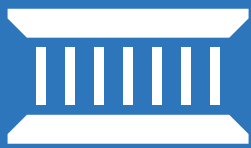
2018 was also a year of turnover in IDI's leadership. Most significantly, we bid farewell to two longstanding IDI Vice Presidents—Professor Mordechai Kremnitzer and Prof. Yedidia

Stern—two of Israel's foremost public intellectuals. Thankfully, we will continue to benefit from the singular contributions of both, who are staying on at IDI as Senior Fellows. We were delighted to welcome Prof. Yuval Shany, former Dean of the Hebrew University Law School, and the Chair of the United Nations Human Rights Committee, as Vice President for Research. Prof. Vered Vinitzky-Seroussi, former Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Hebrew University, joined our board of directors. Orna Barbivai stepped down from the board to run for parliament.

All the good work featured in this report would not be possible without the generous support of our philanthropic partners in Israel and overseas. We raised a record \$11.1 million in 2018, including \$1.6 million in Israel, from a growing family of supporters who share our passion and commitment to strengthening the foundations of Israeli democracy. We are grateful for your partnership, the fruits of which are highlighted in the pages that follow.

Amir Elstein,
Chairman of the Board

Yohanan Plesner,
President



The Israel Democracy Institute

OUR MISSION

The Israel Democracy Institute is an independent, non-partisan center of research and action dedicated to strengthening the foundations of Israeli democracy in the spirit of Israel's Declaration of Independence. The Institute seeks to influence policy, legislation, and public opinion in Israel on the basis of outstanding applied research.

OUR GOALS ARE THREE-FOLD:

1

To strengthen the foundational values and institutions of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state.

2

To improve the functioning of Israel's government and economic institutions.

3

To foster partnership, solidarity, civic participation, and a common civic denominator among the members of Israel's diverse society.

Why is this important?

Israel is perhaps the most challenged democracy in the world. Grave existential threats, deep internal divisions, and shallow traditions of democratic sovereignty necessitate constant efforts to ensure its future as a Jewish and democratic state. Israel must therefore pursue smart, moral policies grounded in long-term planning, an uncompromising striving for excellence, and a deep commitment to preserving the delicate balance between Israel's Jewish and democratic identities. Strong constitutional foundations, visionary governance, a free society characterized by solidarity and pluralism; these are not "nice-to-haves"; they are essentials. And yet, in Israel's crisis-ridden reality, no significant actor in government, academia, or civil society tackles these enormous challenges professionally over time.

This is the mission of IDI.

IDI'S MODEL OF IMPACT

IDI typically pursues its objectives in a three-stage process:

Research

We conduct high-quality, applied research designed to generate actionable proposals for reform.

Debate

We convene decision-makers, academic experts, and civil society leaders from a variety of viewpoints for practical debate on those proposals.

Impact

We work with partners in government, civil society, and the media to advance the resultant policy recommendations over time.



Activities & Achievements

Pre-election seminar for first-time voters in the run-up to the 2019 elections



1. Yohanan Plesner, Bernie Marcus, Prof. Gerhard Casper

2. Donna Dubinsky & Dr. Leonard Shustek

3. Prof. Ronald Daniels, Prof. Irving Abella; Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella

4. Bernie Marcus & Prof. Andrew Viterbi



Engaging Global Leaders: The Seventh Meeting of IDI’s International Advisory Council

IDI’s International Advisory Council comprises a distinguished group of scholars, jurists, and statesmen who care deeply about Israel and its future as a Jewish and democratic state. Members gather every 18 months to debate the critical challenges facing Israel, the Institute’s role in overcoming them, and to help shape the Institute’s strategy and programmatic agenda.

The President of John Hopkins University, Prof. Ronald Daniels, hosted the Council’s seventh retreat in Baltimore, MD between September 8-12, 2017. Over the course of the four-day retreat, the Council toured Baltimore and held sessions at the Carey Business School, the Four Seasons Hotel and the Peabody Library.


The Council discussed the situation in the Middle East, IDI’s alternative to the proposed “Basic Law: Israel as the Nation State of the Jewish People,” ways to deal with emerging challenges to cybersecurity, and the delicate balance that Israel and other democracies must strike between fighting terrorism and maintaining the rule of law.


At the close of the retreat, Associate Justice Stephen Breyer welcomed participants to the United States Supreme Court for a special panel comprised of Supreme Court Justices from around the world to discuss the role of the Supreme Court in a democracy.




1. (l-r) Yohanan Plesner, Sean Taube, Amir Elstein, Speaker of the Knesset MK Yuli Edelstein, Tel Aviv-Yafo Mayor Ron Huldai
2. Yohanan Plesner & MK Yair Lapid

Celebrating Israel’s 70th Anniversary: Reaffirming Our Commitment to Its Founding Values

 **The Challenge:** Israel’s 70th anniversary gave cause for celebration of its numerous achievements, and pause for reflection on the many challenges yet ahead. The seeming erosion of commitment to some of Israel’s fundamental values—in particular, the promise of equality that resounds from Israel’s Declaration of Independence—gave rise to an understanding that greater efforts must be made to ensure that these values continue to guide Israel’s leadership and enjoy the commitment of its people.


 **Our Response:** In celebration of Israel’s 70th anniversary, IDI partnered with the Tel Aviv municipality to launch a unique project in the heart of Rothschild Boulevard, made possible by a landmark \$1.2 million gift from Taube


Philanthropies. The Democracy Pavilion, an innovative multi-media exhibition, showcased the enduring significance of the values embedded in Israel’s Declaration of Independence for its past, present, and future.

 **The Impact:** The Pavilion attracted 70,000 visitors in its first 10 months, and provided a unique and lively hub for discussion and debate on democracy among politicians, artists, journalists, and the public at large. It hosted visiting groups of IDF soldiers and high school students who enjoyed a one-of-a-kind experiential civics lesson on the foundational values that have guided Israel through 70 years of trials and triumphs, and kept the Israeli people united around a common vision of their future.



Achieving a Breakthrough in Business Regulation

 **The Issue:** A sharp drop in Israel’s ranking on the “Ease of Doing Business” index brought to light the frustrations of investors and entrepreneurs in trying to navigate a complex regulatory environment and overcome the many bureaucratic hurdles they encounter when trying to establish a business in Israel.

 **Our Response:** Two years ago, IDI assembled a team to tackle the challenge head-on. The team brought in the World Bank economist responsible for the Ease of Doing Business Index to Israel; organized a Finance Ministry Delegation to Washington; conducted extensive research on best practices in other countries, and formulated a comprehensive proposal for cutting red tape, including practical recommendations and a detailed plan of action. Consistent with IDI’s model of impact,


the team convened all relevant stakeholders to work together throughout the process. Partners included the Prime Minister’s office, the Economy Ministry, and the Manufacturers’ Association. Among their key recommendations: the creation of a one-stop-shop, digital portal for investors that would dramatically simplify the process of establishing a business in Israel.

 **The Impact:** Just 18 months after the project’s launch, the Israeli government announced a resolution adopting its key recommendations, and established an inter-agency process for implementation. In the latest Ease of Doing Business Index, Israel’s rank rose by five places for the first time in a decade. Going forward, the IDI team will continue to work hand-in-hand with our partners in industry and government to see the plan through to its full implementation.




1. Yohanan Plesner & Prof. Mordechai Kremnitzer
2. Prof. Irwin Cotler, former Minister of Justice & Attorney General of Canada
3. Prof. Aharon Barak, former President of the Israel Supreme Court and Justice Elisheva Barak-Ussoskin, former Vice-President of the Israel National Labor Court
4. Israel's Deputy Attorney General for Criminal Matters Adv. Raz Nizri, Prof. Yuval Shany, Adv. Alona Vinograd

Orchestrating Landmark Criminal Justice Reform

 **The Challenge:** For many years, Israel's penal law system was outdated and unsuited for a 21st century democracy. One of its most problematic aspects was the lack of precise definitions for various degrees of murder. An antiquated homicide law made a rigid distinction between predetermined murder, manslaughter, and negligent killing, with different maximum sentences for each. Serious offenses falling between these extremes made it difficult for judges to mete out punishments that fit the severity of the crime.

 **Our Response:** In 2007, the Justice Minister appointed IDI's Vice President and Senior Fellow, Prof. Mordechai Kremnitzer, to head the Commission for Amending the Israeli Homicide Law, and appointed IDI researcher Dr. Amir Fuchs as a Commission member. In 2011, at the conclusion of four years of discussions among IDI researchers and the Knesset Constitution, Law, and Justice Committee and Ministry of Justice officials, the

Commission presented its recommendations for reform to the Knesset. The recommendations centered on a proposal to adopt five grades of homicide: two for murder, and three for different types of manslaughter.

 **The Impact:** At the end of an 11-year process, the Knesset passed this sweeping legislative reform, with almost no changes, on the basis of the Institute's recommendations. The resultant changes to the law grant the courts greater flexibility, enable them to exercise their judgment and arrive at a better fit between the severity of the crime and the punishment. The successful culmination of this prolonged effort underscores that in advancing our recommendations, one of the most important keys to achieving impact is sustained effort by recognized experts over time.

DEAR KNESSET, HAVEN'T YOU FORGOTTEN SOMETHING?



AMEND THE
NATION-STATE
LAW AND ADD: | "JEWISH, DEMOCRATIC
AND EQUAL"



Safeguarding Democratic Values and Institutions



The Issue: 2018 saw a wave of populist legislative initiatives, some of which threatened to undermine core values such as freedom of speech, equality, religious freedom, minority rights, and the independence of the judicial system. These included, among others, the Override Clause and the Nation-State Law. The first—a proposal to empower the Knesset to overrule the Supreme Court and to re-enact legislation struck down by the Court, would have undermined the separation of powers by divesting the Court of its power of judicial review. The second, passed on a narrow partisan basis, upsets the balance between the Jewish and democratic character of the state by proclaiming the national identity of the state while omitting any guarantee of equal rights for every Israeli citizen.



Our Response: IDI worked vigorously to inform, educate, and advocate on these bills, including the submission of more than 20 expert opinions to the Knesset and government ministries; appearing in more than 50 Knesset sessions; meeting with key players, including the Speaker of the Knesset, MKs from all parties,

the Attorney General and others, and significantly expanding both the scope and diversity of media exposure on these bills.




The Impact: Together with responsible elected and appointed officials and other civil society organizations, we succeeded in blocking the most harmful initiatives; achieving significant modifications of others; and mitigating their damaging effects.


- Neither the Override Clause nor the Loyalty in Culture bills passed in the Knesset.
- We succeeded in making major modifications to the Nation State Law, including the deletion of several of its most problematic clauses, thus mitigating its harmful effects.
- Media coverage of our work was extensive in both the print and social media. For example, a video we produced on the Loyalty Bill went viral and was viewed by a million people within the first week.




1. Israel President Reuven (Ruvi) Rivlin
2. Dr. Tehilla Schwartz Altshuler
3. Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit, Prof. Mordechai Kremnitzer, Admiral (res.) Ami Ayalon
4. Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Gadi Eisenkot
5. Dr. Idit Shafran Gittleman

Protecting National Security while Safeguarding Democracy

 **The Challenge:** One of Israel's greatest challenges is how to preserve the norms and values of a free society, while withstanding the pressure of chronic security threats. A key component of Israel's response to this challenge has been the creation of a people's army in which all citizens, in theory, share the burden. Yet in recent years, a series of profound changes in Israeli society, coupled with the transformation of the modern battlefield, have called into question the viability of the IDF's model of service. Since the IDF is the ultimate guarantor of Israel's existence, changes to its structure and relationship with the Israeli people carry important implications for national security.

 **Our Response:** In conversation with the leadership of the IDF, the Institute launched a new initiative aimed to reform the IDF's model of service and help redefine the relationship between the IDF and Israeli society. This initiative focuses, among other issues, on pressures to opt for a professional army, and the need to devise a new social contract between army and society. This is a highly charged issue, given the varying rates of enlistment

among different sectors of Israeli society and the outsized role played by the IDF in shaping Israeli society over the years.


 **The Impact:** Two major conferences held over the past year demonstrated the strong public interest in this new endeavor. First, at an international conference on Liberal Democracies and their Fight against Terrorism, IDI scholars unveiled a policy paper summarizing a three-year effort to develop new strategies for liberal democracies waging asymmetric conflict. Participants included Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit and IDF Chief of Staff, Lt. General Gadi Eisenkot. Then, at a well-attended conference on The Future of the IDF as the People's Army participants debated alternative models of military service; the IDF code of ethics in a changing reality; challenges of the ordinance for joint service of men and women to observant soldiers, and the enlistment model for the ultra-Orthodox. IDI's team presented findings from a new IDI survey of the public's attitudes towards counterterrorism measures, revealing troubling gaps between the IDI's code of conduct and public opinion.




1. Yohanan Plesner, Dr. Gilad Malach, Racheli Ibenboim, Dr. Lee Cahaner
2. Avi Mimran
3. Yair Ettinger
4. Naomi Perl
5. Dr. Nechumi Yaffe




Integrating the Ultra-Orthodox (*Haredi*) Community into Israeli Society

 **The Challenge:** Israel's rapidly growing ultra-Orthodox community presents numerous social, economic, and national security challenges. In previous years, IDI's work focused on integrating the ultra-Orthodox into the workforce. This year, the focus of our work shifted to the all-important issue of education. The ultra-Orthodox school system is producing graduates who are ill prepared for productive participation in the knowledge economy. This situation, if it continues, will have serious implications for Israel's economic prosperity and democratic viability

 **Our Response:** Building on the success of the Master Plan for Ultra-Orthodox Employment, adopted by the government in 2016, IDI's experts launched a project to create a blueprint for reform of K-12 education. They worked closely with the Ministry of Defense to shape a new recruitment bill for the Haredi community. In addition, a team of economists launched a concerted effort to map the Haredi real estate market and help the government address the anticipated demand for 200,000


housing units for this rapidly-growing community within the next 30 years. IDI also published its third annual Statistical Report on ultra-Orthodox Society, widely acknowledged as the most reliable, comprehensive, and up-to-date source of information on the Haredi community for policymakers, academic experts, and the media.


 **The Impact:** IDI developed a detailed plan for the enlistment of the ultra-Orthodox together with experts from the Ministry of Defense. The concrete nature of the plan—which specifies target numbers for annual enlistment, proposes specific language for legislation, and defines economic sanctions for violation of the law—led the way to shaping a new bill on enlistment of the ultra-Orthodox into the IDF, which has since passed a first reading in the Knesset. In parallel, IDI experts drafted a new civics textbook for the ultra-Orthodox community, and worked closely with counterparts in the Ministry of Education on changes to the Haredi education system.



1. Nasreen Hadad Haj-Yahya, Director, Arab-Jewish Relations Program, and seminar participants


Strengthening the Partnership between Israel’s Arab and Jewish Citizens

 **The Challenge:** The rift between Arabs and Jews in Israel and the economic and social gaps between the two groups pose a real threat to Israel’s social cohesion, economic prosperity, and democratic vitality.

 **Our Response:** Over the past year, IDI continued to make progress on shaping policy to facilitate integration of Israel’s Arab population into the economy and society. At the Ministry of Education’s request, we developed a Master Plan for reform in the much neglected area of informal education, working hand in hand with the Ministry officials to ensure implementation of the recommendations. The plan was released at a day-long conference on “Challenges to Informal Education in the Arab Community,” celebrating the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Authority for Economic Development of the Minorities in the Prime Minister’s Office—an agency established on the basis of IDI advocacy. Conference participants included the Director General of the Ministry of Education, high-level ministry

officials and professionals, leading academic experts, and Arab municipal leaders.

We also tackled the underrepresentation of the Arab sector in decision-making positions on the national level, an issue widely acknowledged as crucial for promoting equality between Israel’s Arab and Jewish citizens. Institute researchers conducted an in-depth analysis of the current situation and formulated concrete recommendations as to the steps that must be taken to create significant change in this area, with an initial focus on the Ministry of Health.


 **The Impact:** We had concrete accomplishments in this area: The adoption of the Institute’s master plan on informal education maximized the effective utilization of \$150 million in government funding, and IDI’s proposals to ensure adequate representation of the Arab sector in decision-making positions won the endorsement of Israel’s Civil Service Commission and the Ministry of Health.




1. Prof. Gideon Rahat
2. Dr. Chen Friedberg
3. Dr. Ofer Kenig
4. Parties' representatives Eran Hermoni, Avi Davush, Nir Orbach




Advancing Electoral Reform

 **The Challenge:** Over the last several decades, Israel has experienced an acute crisis of governance. The most significant factor behind the decline of Israeli governance is political fragmentation. The proliferation of small and medium-sized parties has eroded the capacity of successive governments to govern effectively, and holds the national interest hostage to narrow sectoral agendas.

 **Our Response:** In 2015, the Institute released a comprehensive plan for reforms to Israel's governing structure—everything from the process of forming a government to the selection of candidates in primary elections. Over the past year, we promoted the concept of an open ballot which would enable voters to select individual Members of Knesset as well as the party of their choice. We also mounted vigorous

advocacy efforts to implement change in the process of forming a government whereby the head of the party which receives the largest number of votes would become the Prime Minister, thus boosting governance and stability.

 **The Impact:** We achieved significant progress in convincing party leaders from across the spectrum to consider adoption of our open ballot proposal. We also gained significant traction on both traditional and social media for our proposal to alter the way the Prime Minister is chosen, and are now working with the leaders of all the major parties to try and promote the proposal after the 2019 election. Two IDI videos featured well-known Israeli actor, Lior Ashkenazi, explaining in laymen's terms why these issues are so critical for the average citizen. The videos garnered a total of 177,990 views on Facebook.



Conference on the Challenge of Pluralism in Religious Services

Attenuating the Tensions between Religion and State: Promoting Jewish Pluralism



The Challenge: Israel is justly proud of the religious freedom it accords to all. However, the Chief Rabbinate and the Ministry of Religious Services, which are controlled by the Orthodox, enjoy a longstanding monopoly on the provision of all religious services, including marriage and divorce, conversion, burial, kosher food certification, and more. This monopoly has resulted in discriminatory actions toward Jews who identify with other streams of Judaism.



Our Response: In recent years, popular resistance against the Orthodox monopoly over religious services has grown to the point where it is possible to shape change from below. Accordingly, we have been working with religious innovators, municipal leaders, and civil society activists to create alternatives to the rabbinate's monopoly over kosher product certification; develop viable responses to the question of Shabbat observance in the public space; promote reform in the conversion process; and guarantee equal funding for the non-Orthodox streams.



The Impact: On the basis of IDI research and advocacy, a private bill to create full transparency of the Kashrut market has been submitted to the Knesset. The bill even gained the support of relevant government ministries (Religious Services, Finance), who realize they must respond to public pressure. IDI scholars also helped shape the public debate over a controversial law barring grocery stores from opening on the Sabbath. They published a study exposing the significant gaps in funding for Orthodox and non-Orthodox religious services, and proposed a new mechanism for allocation of state budgets to services provided by the Reform and Conservative Jewish movements. Since this gap is now documented, there is reason to believe that the institutionalized inequality of funding will prove unsustainable from a legal perspective.



Presentation of the 2018 Israeli Democracy Index to Israel President Reuven (Ruvi) Rivlin

Taking the Pulse of Israeli Democracy



The Challenge: While there is widespread concern about the future of Israeli democracy, and a sense of widening rifts among the various “tribes” that make up Israeli society, there is a conspicuous lack of accurate data on these issues, or rigorous analysis of their implications.



Our Response: The Democracy Index project, now in its 16th year, is conducted by the research team of IDI’s Guttman Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research. The index, based on a representative sample of over 1,000 Jewish and Arab respondents, examines public attitudes towards the institutions and values of Israel’s democracy. This year’s Index highlighted a growing polarization among Left and Right in Israel, alongside with low levels of trust in the political system.



The Impact: This year’s Index sparked widespread attention and lively and often heated discussion of its findings among government decision-makers, scholars, and the media. IDI’s leadership presented the report to President Reuven Rivlin at a ceremony at his official residence. The President said the findings clearly demonstrate the need to fortify trust between Jews and Arabs, Right and Left, and between the citizens of Israel and their elected representatives, in order for Israeli democracy to thrive. Yohanan Plesner, IDI President commented that “We must endeavor to do and be better. There is no reason why the start-up nation, which excels in innovation, should not be one of the world’s leading nations in governance as well.”



1. The Eli Hurvitz family
2. Prof. Eugene Kandel
3. David Brodet & Daphna Aviram-Nitzan
4. Dr. Karnit Flug

The 2018 Eli Hurvitz Conference on Economy and Society

The Eli Hurvitz Conference is widely recognized as Israel’s most influential economic forum. It serves as a unique platform for the presentation and discussion of practical proposals to improve government decision-making processes and social and economic policy.

This year’s conference, held in partnership with Startup Nation Central (SNC) under the banner of “Two Economies—One Society,” focused on ways to bridge the gap between Israel’s high-tech economy and its more traditional sectors; prepare Israel’s workforce for the labor market of the future; improve the ease of doing business in Israel; and reform the pension system in light of actuarial realities.

The 2018 conference afforded an important platform for the presentation and dissemination of some of the Institute’s most important reform initiatives. One highlight was the presentation of a plan developed jointly by IDI, the Manufacturers’ Association,

and a number of government agencies to improve the ease of doing business in Israel, including a series of measures designed to cut by 70% the time it takes to open a factory in Israel. This proposal was formally adopted by the government shortly after the conference. A second highlight was the discussion of a series of proposals, developed jointly with the business sector, labor unions, and relevant ministries, to reform Israel’s outmoded labor laws and ensure that the Start-Up Nation continues to meet the demands of a rapidly changing labor market.

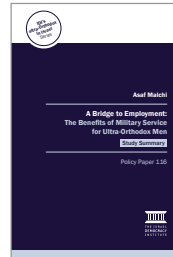
Participants included the Governor of the Bank of Israel; the Ministers of Education, Economy and Justice; Members of Knesset; Chairman of the National Economic Council; the Vice President of Intel Capital; the Director General and other senior officials from the Finance Ministry; prominent business leaders; union executives; notable economists and civil society leaders.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS



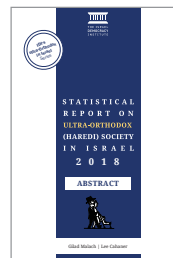
Ultra-Orthodox Employment: Emerging Trends

Yael Cohen,
Dr. Gilad Malach



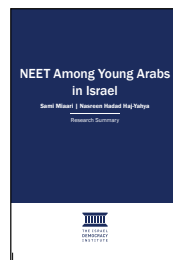
A Bridge to Employment: The Benefits of Military Service for Ultra-Orthodox Men

Dr. Asaf Malchi



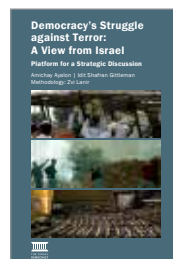
The Yearbook of Ultra-Orthodox Society in Israel 2018

Dr. Gilad Malach,
Dr. Lee Cahaner



NEET Among Young Arabs in Israel

Dr. Sami Miaari,
Nasreen Hadad
Haj-Yahya



Democracy's Struggle against Terror: A View from Israel

Dr. Idit Shafran
Gittleman, Admiral
(Res.) Amichay (Ami)
Ayalon



Conversion in Israel: Vision, Achievements, and Challenges (Hebrew)

Editors:
Prof. Yedidia Z. Stern
and Netanel Fisher



The Israeli Democracy Index 2018

Prof. Tamar Hermann,
Or Anabi, Ella Heller,
Fadi Omar



A Conditional Partnership: Jews and Arabs

Prof. Tamar Hermann,
Chanan Cohen,
Fadi Omar, Ella Heller,
Tzipy Lazar-Shoef



Religious Councils - Religious Services, Public Administration and Politics

Ariel Finkelstein



Employment Discrimination in Israel: A Differentiated Approach (Hebrew)

Ron Hermon,
Att. Haggai Porat,
Prof. Yuval Feldman,
Dr. Tamar Kricheli-Katz



Excessive Arrests and their Blow to Equality under the Law (Hebrew)

Dr. Guy Lurie



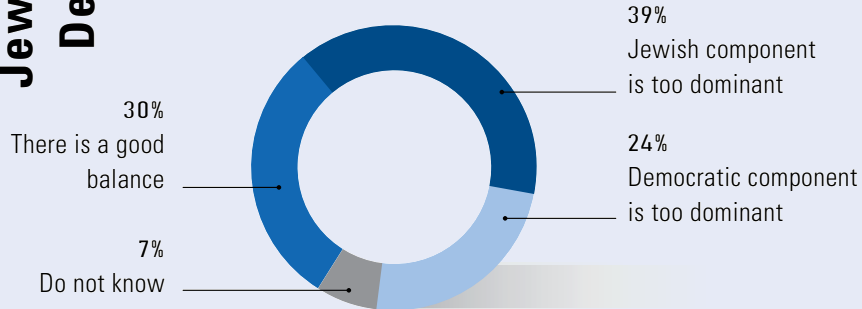
Open Primaries in Israel: Opportunities and Challenges (Hebrew)

Dr. Ofer Kenig

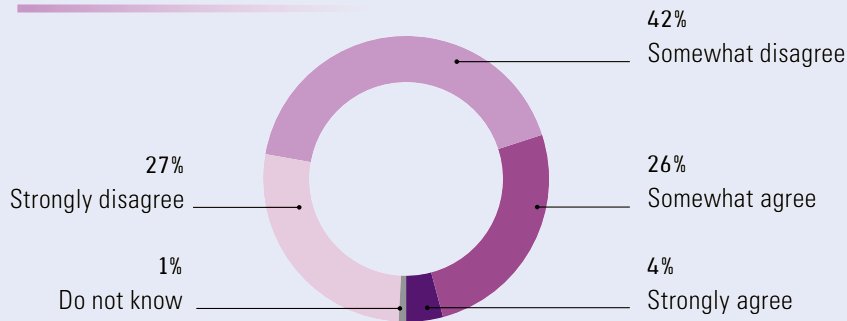
Jewish and/or Democratic?



Is there a good balance today between the Jewish and democratic components of the character of the state? (Jewish respondents)

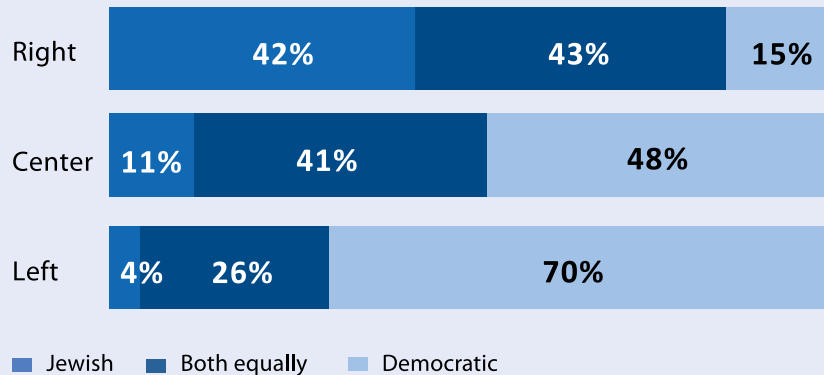


“Israel has the right to be defined as the nation-state of the Jewish people” (Arab respondents)



Which component would you want to be the dominant one?

By political affiliation (Jewish respondents)



MEDIA EXPOSURE

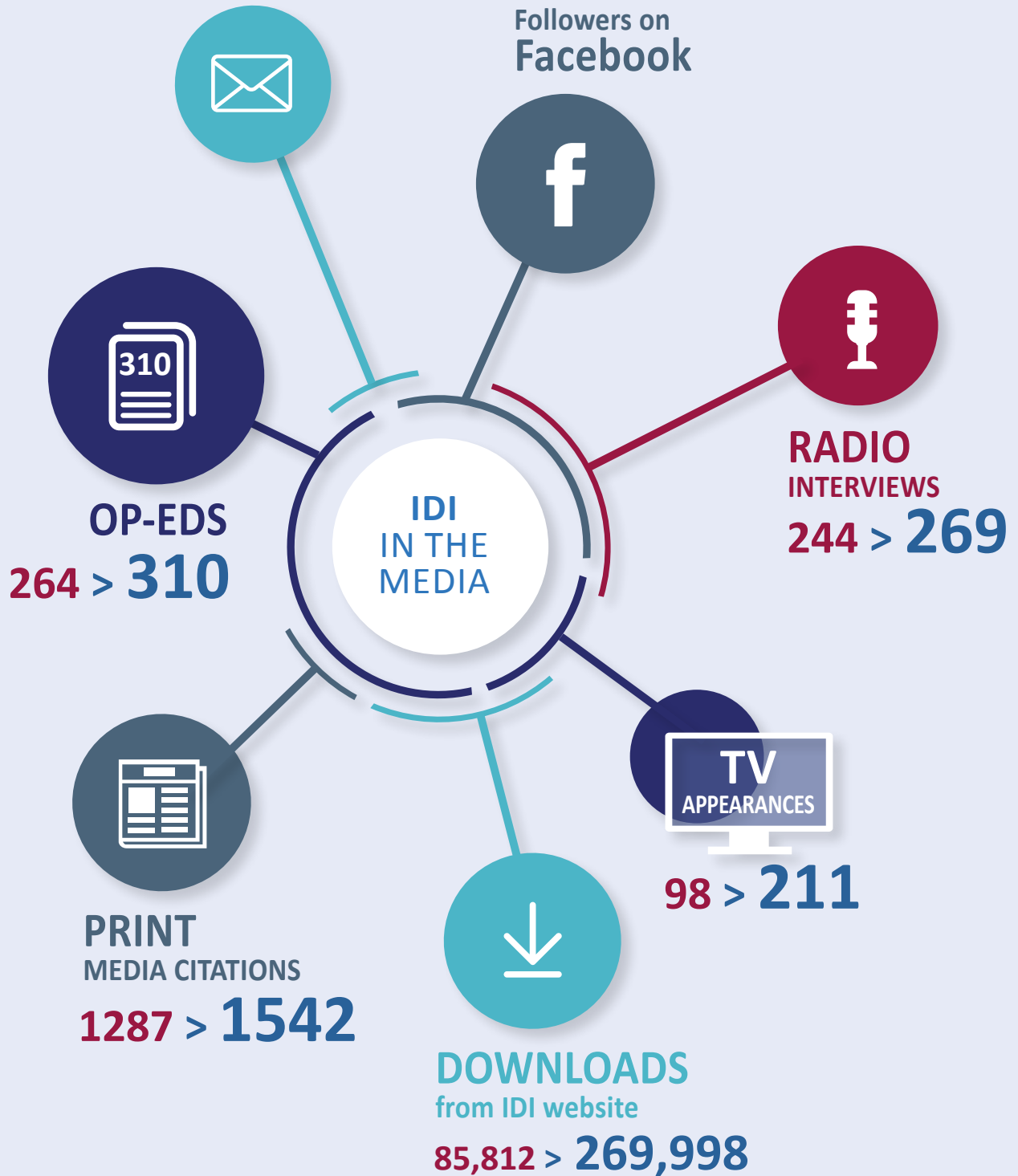
2017

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26,693 > 40,403
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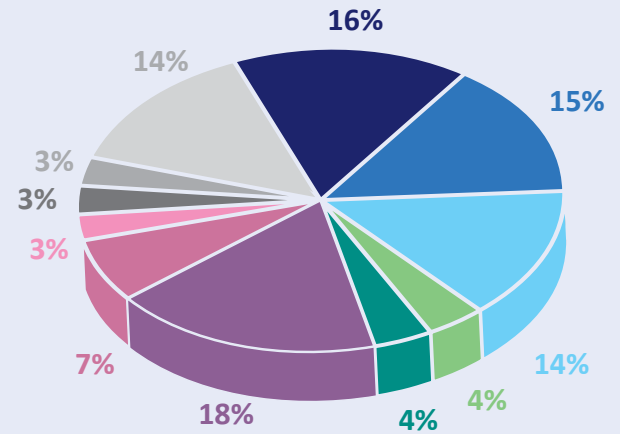
Yad Vashem - The World Holocaust Remembrance Center

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FINANCIALS

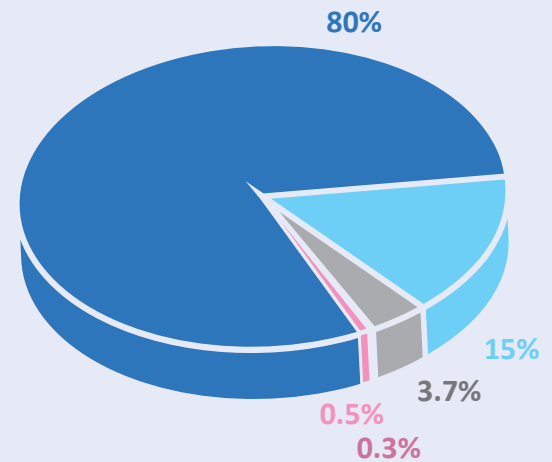
EXPENSES

	\$	%
Policy Centers		
Democratic Values & Institutions	1,685,610	16%
Religion, Nation, and State	1,573,126	15%
Governance & the Economy	1,440,974	14%
National Security & Democracy	404,351	4%
Guttman Center for Public Opinion	419,220	4%
Impact & Support Units		
Government relations & conferences	1,898,316	18%
Marketing & Communications	763,068	7%
Publications	281,537	3%
Development	301,858	3%
IT & research support	339,874	3%
Administration	1,544,113	14%
Total expenses	10,652,049	



INCOME

U.S. foundations & donors	8,987,527	80%
Israeli foundations & donors	1,628,249	15%
European Research Council	394,179	3.7%
Collaborative research	50,123	0.5%
Royalties & misc.	31,974	0.3%
Total income	11,083,052	





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