

Autonomy in Flux

Education and Employment in the Ultra-Orthodox Sector

The Annual Conference of the Ultra-Orthodox in Israel Program
at the Israel Democracy Institute

April 5, 2022 | Israel Democracy Institute, 4 Pinsker Street, Jerusalem

10:00–10:20 **Opening**

Prof. Suzie Navot, Vice President, Research, Israel Democracy Institute

Adv. Shlomit Ravitzky Tur-Paz, Director, Center for Religion, Nation and State, Israel Democracy Institute

10:20–11:50 **Education Session**

Implementing Core Studies in the Ultra-Orthodox Sector - Internal Motivation, Incentivization, or Coercion?

Chair: Dr. Lee Cahaner, Ultra-Orthodox in Israel Program, Israel Democracy Institute; Oranim Academic College

Ultra-Orthodox Education in Israel: Challenges and Opportunities

Dr. Anat Bart, Michlalah Jerusalem College

What Can Be Learned from Ultra-Orthodox Education in the United States?

Yair Ettinger, Correspondent and Commentator, Kan News

Economic Incentives for Implementing Core Studies in Ultra-Orthodox Education

Eli Morgenstern, Budget Division, Ministry of Finance

Challenges Facing the Ultra-Orthodox Education Networks

MK Ya'akov Margi, Former Chair of the Knesset Education Committee

Recommendations for Strengthening the Ultra-Orthodox Education System

Dr. Gilad Malach, Director of the Ultra-Orthodox in Israel Program, Israel Democracy Institute

11:50–12:20 **Budgets in Exchange for Attainment - The Case of the Belz Hasidic Community**

Racheli Ibenboim, TELEM company for socioeconomic development, in conversation with **MK Moshe (Kinley) Tur-Paz** and **Rabbi Yonatan Reiss**, Belz Hasidic community, head of the Ultra-Orthodox Yeshivat Hesder in Gan Yavneh

Open discussion

12:30–13:15 Lunch Break

13:15–14:45 **Employment Session**

Government Initiatives for Ultra-Orthodox Integration and Change Processes Within the Ultra-Orthodox Sector

Chair: Malki Rotner, Haredi Society Area Head, Shoham Institute

Economic Changes in Ultra-Orthodox Households

Prof. Karnit Flug, Vice President, Research, Israel Democracy Institute; Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Attitudes Among Employers in the General Sector Toward Ultra-Orthodox Workers

Dr. Asaf Malchi, Israel Democracy Institute

The Five-Year Plan and the Implications of Lowering the Military Service Exemption Age for the Entry of Young Ultra-Orthodox Adults into the Labor Market

Yulia Eitan, Head of the Special Populations Employment Administration, Ministry of Economy and Industry

Higher Education as a Lever for High-Quality Employment?

Ronen Kotin, Ultra-Orthodox Area Head, Council for Higher Education

Ultra-Orthodox in Hi-Tech: Initiatives and Barriers

Avigdor Rabinovich, Director of the National Initiative for Ultra-Orthodox Integration into Hi-Tech

14:45–15:15 **The Challenge of Ultra-Orthodox Integration - Is it Mission Impossible?**

Yohanan Plesner, President of the Israel Democracy Institute, in conversation with **Major-General (retd.) Orna Barbivai**, Minister of Economy and Industry

Open discussion

15:30 **Conclusion**

[Register for the Conference](#)

The conference will be streamed live on the Israel Democracy Institute website

19:00 **International Session: The Ultra-Orthodox According to Shtisel—Conservatism and Modernism Between Film and Reality** (by invitation only)

Welcome: Yohanan Plesner, President of the Israel Democracy Institute

Participating:

Chair: Adv. Shlomit Ravitzky Tur-Paz, Director of the Center for Religion, Nation and State, Israel Democracy Institute

Michael Aloni, Actor, Akiva in Shtisel

Dr. Gilad Malach, Director of the Ultra-Orthodox in Israel Program, Israel Democracy Institute

Rabbi Nechemia Steinberger, Director of the Ultra-Orthodox Pre-Academic Program at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Ultra-Orthodox Area Head at the Maimonides Fund

Dr. Nechumi Yaffe, Tel Aviv University and the Netunei Emet Institute

The session will be recorded and made available on the Israel Democracy Institute website