ANNUAL REPORT

INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON ISRAELI ARAB ISSUES

2021
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2021 was a pivotal year for Jewish-Arab relations in Israel. In May, Israel experienced some of the worst clashes between Arab and Jewish citizens in its history. Only weeks later, an Arab party joined Israel's governing coalition for the first time. In November, this government passed an unprecedented NIS 30 billion (USD 9.6 billion) socio-economic development budget for Arab communities in Israel.

The May events are widely compared to the deadly events of October 2000 for their impact on Jewish-Arab relations in Israel. In the wake of those events, the Government of Israel formally acknowledged longstanding inequalities, the term 'shared society' took root in the civil sector, and Arab community leaders deepened their pursuit of equal rights and inclusion.

Since 2006, the IATF has been an educational resource for American Jewish communities about these developments, enabling leadership, funders and professionals to become increasingly informed stakeholders in some of Israel's most consequential domestic issues.

The violence last May raised hard questions about the state of Jewish-Arab relations and the investments that had been made over the last two decades. Still, just as Israel's government and civil society did not retreat, neither did American Jewish leadership.

This year, many American Jewish organizations involved in these issues dug in deeper, and many of those long contemplating engagement leaned in. The demand this urgency fueled for IATF resources and expertise was also characterized by thoughtful awareness of the complexity and sensitivity of these issues.

This combination accelerated changes to IATF educational activities that had begun to take shape years earlier. The goals and programs detailed in the pages below reflect more supports for partner-led strategic learning, professional development and training, and tailored resources for Israel education platforms, along with ongoing activities.

The IATF Executive Committee remains steadfast in its commitment to ensuring these issues are accessible to the full spectrum of the American Jewish community. We invite you to learn more.

Sincerely,

Brian Lurie, Ariel Zwang, JDC CEO
Co-Chair Co-Chair
The Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli Arab Issues (IATF) is a non-partisan educational resource center that supports American Jewish leadership, professionals, and funders in learning about Arab society and Jewish-Arab relations in Israel and effectively incorporating these issues into their work.

Since 2006, IATF has provided educational programs and resources tailored to American Jewish communities and organizations. Today, IATF is a trusted educational bridge, making field insights and expertise accessible in a growing range of American Jewish contexts.

Expanding Services

As these issues gain prominence in Israel and the US, more American Jewish organizations seek to strengthen their capacities and bring Arab citizens of Israel into their community engagement and activities.

In response, along with our core programs and publications, IATF is providing more professional development and training, content and curricula creation, and support for strategic processes and discussions.

As we expand our services and reach, we continue to rely on our member coalition to ensure these issues are a mainstream part of American Jewish discourse.
IATF 2021 IN NUMBERS

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

- **24** Public-Facing Events
  Speaker events in partnership with national and regional Jewish organizations.

- **14** Funder Briefings
  In-depth briefings with field experts on socio-economic priorities.

- **23** Lay & Professionals Programs
  Briefings and trainings for communal and educational leaders.

**PUBLICATIONS**

- **5** Briefing Papers
- **4** Israel Updates and Newsletters
- **17** Issue Posts
- **3** Audio Shorts: podcast episodes

**EVENT & PROGRAM PARTNERS**

National and regional communal organizations, professional and constituent networks, educator and advocacy organizations

**ISRAELI SPEAKERS**

First-person insights from Arab and Jewish leaders and changemakers

**ACTIVE MEMBERS**

American Jewish federations, foundations, communal, religious, and advocacy organizations

Field visit on Jewish-Arab relations for iCenter Master’s program
Jewish-Arab relations in Israel are impacted by the social and economic realities in Arab communities and fluctuations in the larger Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This year, a series of watershed events underscored the connection between the economic and social, challenging and expanding activities in the field.

**May Events.** On top of economic strains worsened by COVID-19, four elections, and unrelenting violent crime in Arab communities, this past May flashpoints in East Jerusalem triggered an outpouring of frustration and riots in Arab society. These escalated into widespread clashes between Arabs and Jews in mixed cities and beyond, sending shockwaves throughout the country.

**Government budgets.** By November, this new government approved a long-awaited NIS 30 billion socio-economic development plan for Arab society, building on its predecessor, GR-922. This new plan is broader, designed in greater partnership with Arab local and civil society leadership, and touches on issues of shared society.

**Unprecedented visibility.** As a result, public acknowledgment of concerns in Arab society have never been higher in Israel. How this moment will affect overall efforts to narrow gaps and strengthen Jewish-Arab relations depends on the various government, community, civil society, Jewish and Arab stakeholders involved.

**Key Insights.** IATF maintains a vast network of experts and leaders from government, civil society, academia, and communities in order to synthesize and provide key insights into this dynamic field.
Over the last decade, unprecedented Government of Israel budgets for socio-economic development of Arab society expanded strategic opportunities for American Jewish philanthropy. In 2021, the first major five year plan (GR-922) was on a one-year extension. Meanwhile, the fragile coalition inaugurated in June would not approve new budgets until November. At the same time, the global pandemic and clashes which shook the country in May accentuated urgent funding needs.

In this complex and dynamic year, IATF brought leading government and civil society figures to brief on new priority areas and government plans. We produced in-depth reports on key developments, and convened discussions to support greater coordination and alignment between funders and the field.

**Government Resolution 550 (Takadum)**
NIS 30 Billion for Socio-Economic Development of Arab Society

**Mixed Cities Primer**
Arab Communities and Jewish-Arab Relations in Israeli Mixed Cities

**May 2021 Escalations**
Jewish-Arab Clashes within Israel

**Gov't Economic Development Budgets**
Hassan Tawafra, Director of the Authority for Economic Development in the Ministry of Social Equality

**Gap Year Options for Arab Youth**
Nasreen Hadad Haj'Yahya, IDI, NAS Consulting, and Portland Trust

**COVID-19 Vaccination Barriers**
Dr. Mohammad Khatib, Galilee Society and the National Council of Arab Mayors.

**Narrowing Gaps in Public Health**
Shlomit Avni, Director of the Policy Planning Division at the Strategic and Economic Planning Administration of the Ministry of Health,

**JFN ISRAEL IDEAS FESTIVAL**
IATF convened the issue exploration on Arab society. Raghad Jaraisy (Sikkuy), Uriya Rosenberg and Sameh Zakout (’Let’s Talk Dugri), and Maisam Jaljoly (leader and activist) on policy, identity, and Jewish-Arab relations after May.

**SVF/IATF Mixed Cities Series.**
One of several collaborations with SVF, Prof. Daniel Monterescu kicked off this series on cities with sizable Jewish and Arab populations.
The pivotal events in 2021 sparked many American Jewish organizations to lean in and learn more. IATF expanded our services to formally provide training programs for professionals and educators, and to support strategic organizational processes.

**Development & Training.** Building on our training work for JAFI emissaries and Birthright educators, IATF partnered with JCPA to pilot a 4-part professional development series for JCRCs. Participants explored topics and best practices for engaging these issues in their communities.

**Israel Education.** Deepening our Israel educator track, we worked with Birthright to begin updating sites in Arab society post-pandemic and to adapt Israel educator trainings for American tour staffers. We produced sessions for iCenter’s Master’s program in Israel, and Certificate Program in Experiential Israel Education.

**Strategic Discussions.** After the May violence, IATF was invited as a non-partisan issue expert to support JFNA, the Jewish Agency, and several federations with processes to set priorities and integrate these issues into their work and structure.

**Briefings.** Part of our ongoing services, IATF presented to American Jewish lay and professional groups nationwide about the dynamic landscape of Jewish-Arab relations with respect to their Israel engagement efforts.
In partnership with dozens of Jewish organizations, IATF brought Arab and Jewish experts from Israel to share their work and perspectives with diverse audiences. Six nation-wide calls on major events – four in partnership with the JCPA – brought behind-the-headlines insights to thousands. With local and regional partners, we helped make these issues part of American Jewish communal events and discussions.

TOPICS

On briefing calls, conferences, community events and festivals, we covered:
- COVID-19 and public health
- Arab political participation
- Insights and Underpinnings of the May events
- Women’s experience and leadership
- High-tech and employment
- Media and culture
- Arab Identity in Israel
- Jewish-Arab Relations
- The evolving field of shared society
- Crime and violence

EVENT PARTNERS

PUBLICATIONS

IATF in-depth reports, issue updates, professional toolkits, and new podcast bring field insights, data, and a range of perspectives into accessible formats.

Briefing Papers

Reports on political events, Jewish-Arab relations, and government budgets.

Toolkits

Resources for professionals and educators.

Newsletter and Media Updates

Weekly media review, periodic newsletters, and posts cover ongoing developments in the field and IATF activities.
"[There are] so many misconceptions about Israeli-Arabs and the relationships within their own communities and Israel. The need for accurate information and education is crucial."

Participant — IATF/JCPA professional development course for JCRCs
# 2021 FINANCIALS

### INCOME

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<th>2020</th>
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### RESERVES

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<td>Cash</td>
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*Final financial calculation for 2021, made in February 2022

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FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Since 2006, IATF has been supported by steadfast commitment of annual dues from a broad coalition of American Jewish organizational members.

Members are fundamental to IATF's mission of making Arab society and Jewish-Arab relations in Israel an integral and enriching part of American Jewish discourse.

With interest in these issues growing, demand for IATF programs and services now exceeds the professional capacities that can be sustained by dues alone.

In 2022, IATF will initiate a fee-for-service track for in-depth professional services as a secondary income stream, enabling us to diversify our financial resources while deepening our impact.

We remain committed to our non-partisan mission and to ensuring any new funding sources align with IATF's dedication to the wide range of organizations in the American Jewish community.

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FINANCES | الموازنة المالية | ALMWAZANA ALMALIYA | KSAFIM
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Brian Lurie, Co-Chair
President, Caroline and Brian Lurie Philanthropic Fund*

Kenneth Jacobson
National Director, Anti-Defamation League*

Michael Hirschhorn
President of the Trustees, The Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation

Malcolm Hoenlein
Executive Vice Chairman, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations*

Alisa Doctoroff
Member-at-Large

Roni Rubenstein
Member-at-Large

Ariel Zwang, Co-Chair
Chief Executive Officer, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee*

Howard Sohn
Chair and Executive, Fohs Foundation

Jeffrey Solomon*
Senior Advisor, Chasbro Investments, The Karev Foundation

Daniel Sokatch
Chief Executive Officer, New Israel Fund*

Rebecca Katz-White
Planning Director, UJA-Federation of New York*

*Founding members

IATF STAFF

SUMMER JABER-MASSARWA
Content Specialist

ILAN FATHI AMIT
Content Expert and Israel Representative

LIRON SHOHAM
Executive Director

ERICA SHAPS
Educational Programs Manager

ALISA SHODIYEV
KAFF Program Coordinator

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE | هيئة إدارة | [HAY'A AEDARIA] [VAAD MENAHEL]
IATF MEMBERS

Alan B. Slifka Foundation
Alfred and Hanna Fromm Fund
Alisa Doctoroff
Ameinu
American Friends of Hand in Hand
American Friends of Hebrew University
American Friends of Kedem / SAE
American Friends of Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam
American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
American Society of the University of Haifa
Anonymous
Anti-Defamation League
Arnow Family Fund
Carole Zabar
Caroline and Brian Lurie Philanthropic Fund
Central Conference of American Rabbis
Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston
Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations
Crown Family Foundation
Diane and Guilford Glazer Philanthropies
Fohns Foundation
Friends of Israel Sci-Tech Schools
Friends of the Daniel Centers for Progressive Judaism
Gimpich Family Foundation
Givat Haviva Educational Foundation
Greater Miami Jewish Federation
Hadassah
Hadassah Foundation
Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life
Jacob & Hilda Blaustein Foundation
Jewish Agency for Israel
Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund of San Francisco
Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore
Jewish Council for Public Affairs
Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor
Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles
Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest New Jersey
Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia
Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh
Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle
Jewish Federation of Greater Washington
Jewish Federation of St. Louis
Jewish Federation of the Berkshires
Jewish Federations of North America
Jewish Funders Network
Jewish United Fund of Chicago
Jonathan Russo and Deborah Grayson
Joseph and Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds
Klarman Family Foundation
Marcia’s Light Foundation
Mimi and Peter Haas Fund
Morningstar Foundation
Naomi & Nehemiah Cohen Foundation
National Council of Jewish Women
New Israel Fund
One8 Foundation
Robert Kuchner & Phyllis Bernstein Philanthropic Fund
Roni Rubenstein and Barry Berson Charitable Fund
Schusterman Family Foundation-Israel
Social Venture Fund for Jewish-Arab Equality and Shared Society
The Abraham Fund Initiatives
The Charles H. Revson Foundation
The Hadassah Foundation
The Karev Foundation
The Lucius N. Littauer Foundation
The LunArt Fund
The Russell Berrie Foundation
The Schocken Foundation
Truah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto
UJA-Federation of New York*
Union for Reform Judaism
United Jewish Federation of San Diego County
Wils Family Foundation
Youngstown Area Jewish Federation
2021 ACTIVITIES

Jan 7 | JAFI DC | IATF Briefing for DC Area JAFI Shlichim. With Liron Shoham, IATF Executive Director, and Erica Shaps, IATF Program and Resource Manager.

Jan 8 | JCRC | Briefing for Israel Board of the Hartford JCRC. With Liron Shoham, IATF Executive Director, and Erica Shaps, IATF Program and Resource Manager.

Jan 19 | Jewish Federation of Baltimore | Arab Citizens in the Start-Up Nation: A Work in Progress. With Imad Telhami, Founder and CEO Takwin Labs.

Jan 27 | SVF | Education Gaps and COVID-19 in Arab Society. With Sharaf Hassan, Chair of the education committee of the High Follow-Up Committee for Arab Citizens of Israel.

Jan 28 | Jewish United Fund | "Voices". With Ola Najami, Director of Safe Communities at The Abraham Initiatives, and Thabet Abu Ras, Co-director at The Abraham Initiative.


Feb 4 | Hillel | Curriculum Development for Hillel professionals. With Erica Shaps, IATF Program and Resource Manager.

Feb 8 | Access and Misinformation: Coordinated Approaches to Vaccination Barriers. With Tomer Lotan, Director of Mage Magen Israel's National COVID-19 Response Center, Dr. Naim Abu Freiha, Director of the Association of Arab Doctors in the Negev, and Dr. Mohammad Khatib, Head of the Health Committee at the National Council of Arab Mayors.


Feb 11 | Gaps in Public Health in Arab Society. With Shlomit Avni-Vaknin, Director of the Policy Planning Division at the Strategic and Economic Planning Administration of the Ministry of Health, and Dr. Fahed Hakim, Medical Director of the Nazareth Hospital.

Feb 16 | The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore | Baltimore Insight Israel: politics and election. With Samah Salame, Chairperson of Neve Shalom, Ehab Jabareen, CEO of Musk Media, and Ghaida Rinawie-Zoabi, Member of the Knesset.

Feb 17 | Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh | Rising Crime in Israel’s Arab Communities: Urgent Concern and Complex Realities. With Makkubla Nassar, Mandel Fellow, activist, and radio broadcaster, and Aya Mana’a, Director of the Majd al-Krum Community Center.

Feb 18 | JCRA meeting for JCRC Professionals: Task Force Introduction and discussion of relevance to JCRCs. With Liron Shoham, IATF Executive Director.

Feb 23 | San Francisco JCRC and Boston JCRC | Bridging Equity Gaps: The Impact of Diverse Leadership in Haifa, Springfield, MA and San Francisco. With Fayez Hanna, Haifa District Commissioner, Myrna Merger, San Francisco District 7 Supervisor, and Justin Hurst, Springfield, Massachusetts City Council Member.

March 3 | Jewish United Fund | Young Leadership Old City Tour ("Old City New Views"). With Erica Shaps, IATF Program and Resource Manager.

March 9 | JCPA | The Arab Vote: A Watershed Moment in Israeli Politics. With Aluf Benn, Editor in Chief of Haaretz, and Makkubla Nassar, Journalist and Fellow at Mandel Program for Social Leadership.

April 1 | Israel Policy Form | Israel’s Election Insights. With Thabet Abu Ras, Co-director at The Abraham Initiative, Michael Koplow and Shira Efron, Israel Policy Forum.

April 5 | COVID-19 and Arab Young Adults: Addressing Dropouts, Unemployment, and Crime. With Hassan Tawafra, Director General of the Authority for Economic Development for the Arab Sector, Dr. Nasreen Hadad Haj’Yahya, Director of Jewish-Arab relations at the Israel Democracy Institute, and Ariel Bloom, Co-Executive Director of AJEC-NISPED.

April 6 | Jewish Funders Network | The Challenges and Opportunities of Remote and Hybrid Learning in Israel’s Arab Society, As a Tool to Reduce Social Gaps. With Idan Yurman, Partner and head of public sector at Deloitte, Adina Shapiro, Bader Philanthropies, and Eliana Mahamid, Mubarakat.

April 25 | JCPA | The Great Pivot: Israel’s COVID19 Efforts and Lessons Learned. With Hadil Elsana, Medical Doctor at Saroka Hospital.

May 11 | Stanford Hillel | Identities in Israel. With Jeryes Murkus Ballan, Musical Director of Caravan Orchestra.

May 19 | SVF | May 2021 Escalations: Jewish-Arab Clashes in Mixed Cities. With Ruth Lewin Chen, Director of the Shared Cities Initiative, Ola Najami, Director of Safe Communities at The Abraham Initiatives, and Naim Obeid, CEO of the Akko Center for Arts and Technology (A-CAT).

May 19 | JFNA | JFNA I&O meeting - briefing on Task Force. With Liron Shoham, IATF Executive Director.

May 25 | JCRC | Briefing for the Israeli committee of Abraham Initiatives. With Thabet Abu Ras, Co-director at The Abraham Initiative.


May 26 | Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen Foundation | The 21%. With Erica Shaps, IATF Program and Resource Manager.
June 1 | May 2021 Escalations: Economic and Shared Society Insights. With Meirav Arlosoroff, Senior Commentator for The Marker Magazine, and Mohammad Darawshe, Director of the Center for Equality and Shared Society at Givat Haviva.


June 9 | JFNA | Israel & Overseas board. With Fida Nara Tabony, Shatil’s Director of Shared Society.

June 15 | JCPA | Political Change and Social Unrest: The Arab Minority and Jewish Arab Relations in Israel. With MK Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi (Meretz) and BG (ret.) Dr. Meir Eran of the Institute for National Security Studies.

Jun 24 | JCRC | Perspectives and insights: Israel’s changing political & social landscapes. With Ghaida Rinawie-Zoabi, Member of the Knesset.


July 8 | JFNA | Solidarity Mission. With Ilan Amit, IATF Content Expert and Israel Representative, and Summer Jaber-Massarwa, IATF Content Specialist.

July 19 | JAFI | Ahavat Hinam: Shinshinim training. With Muhammad Zoabi, Activist, and Ehab Jabareen, CEO of Musk Media.

Jul 26 | BBYO. With Mohammad Darawshe, Director of the Center for Equality and Shared Society at Givat Haviva.

July 26 | Advancing Bedouin High-Tech Integration in Israel: Realities, Findings, and Recommendations. With Eli Booch, Director of Philanthropy at the Edmond de Rothschild Foundation (EDRF), and Hassan Elziadna, Software Engineer.

Aug 4 | iCenter | Field visit on Jewish-Arab Relations. With Alaa Muhtasib, and Mohammad AbdEnabi, accompanied by IATF Israel staff.

Aug 31 | JCPA | Israel’s 4th Wave | The Delta Variant in Arab Society. With Professor Salman Zarka, Israel’s Coronavirus Commissioner, and Aiman Saif, the Head of the Arab Desk for the Ministry of Health.

Sep 14 | Birthright | Field Day for professionals. With Ilan Amit, IATF Content Expert and Israel Representative.

Oct 11 | SVF | May 2021 Events - Unprecedented Intercommunal Violence. With Daniel Monterescu, Associate Professor of Urban Anthropology at the Central European University.

Oct 18 | JCPA | Beyond the Conflict. With Aya Mana’a, Director of the Majd al-Krum Community Center, and Erica Shaps, IATF Program and Resource Manager.

Oct 25 | iCenter | Arab citizens of Israel session for iCenter certificate program for birthright staffers. With Rabea Zloud, Co-Founder & CEO at Hasoub, and Shada Edress Mansour, Deputy Director of Community Department at Hand in Hand.

Oct 26 | JFN | JFN Ideas Festival: Jewish-Arab Relations in Israel after May 2021. With Raghad Jaraisy, Director of the Equality Policy Department at Sikkuy, Reem Younis, Co-Director of the Equality Policy Department at Sikkuy, Barak Loozon, Executive Director of the Israel Office at the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation, Maisam Jaljuli, Renowned feminist and Social Activist, Uriya Rosenmann, Educator and Social Entrepreneur, and Sameh Zakout, Musician and Actor.

Nov 7 | JCC Manhattan | The 15th annual Other Israel Film Festival. With Erica Shaps, IATF Program and Resource Manager.

Nov 8 | SVF | Program Series on Mixed Cities: Focus on Governance. With Ruth Lewin Chen, Director of the Shared Cities Department at the Abraham Initiatives, Michael Vidal, Mayor of Ramle, and Shahira Shalabi, Haifa council member and the first Arab woman to serve as deputy mayor.

Nov 8 | MetroWest | MetroWest Shared Society Committee Presentation. With Liron Shoham, IATF Executive Director.

Nov 9 | Financial Inclusion: Business Lending for Arab Society. With Chagit Rubenstein, Vice President Of KIEDF.

Dec 1 | Hartford and New Haven JCRC | Education for Shared Society. With Noa Yammer, International Communications Director, Shada Edress Mansour, Deputy Director of Community Department at Hand in Hand, Guy Aloni, Veteran Teacher, Hand in Hand Jerusalem and Haifa.

Dec 1 | iCenter | Arab citizens of Israel session for iCenter certificate program for Jewish professionals. With Naim Obeid, CEO of the Akko Center for Arts and Technology (A-CAT).

Dec 8 | IATF Annual Meeting - The Year in Arab Society and Jewish Arab Relations in Israel. With Shahira Shalaby, Haifa’s deputy mayor, Mohammed Wattad (LL.B., LL.M., JSD), Associate Professor and the Dean of Law at Zefat Academic College and a Senior Researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies at Tel-Aviv University, and Barak Loozon, the Executive Director of the Israel Office at the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation.


Dec 11 | MetroWest | Shared Society Committee Meeting. With Liron Shoham, Ilan Amit, Summer Jaber-Massarwa.

Dec 12 | Bnai David-Judea | Arab citizens of Israel. With Summer Jaber-Massarwa.