



ANNUAL REPORT

2023

Geneva Initiative

H. L. Education for Peace



DEAR FRIENDS,

2023 was one of the most difficult years in the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Despite our own countless warnings that conflict “management” would ultimately lead to disaster, none of us could foresee the scope and horror of October 7th and the war in Gaza. The human cost and heartbreaking evidence of the failure of status quo policies have strengthened our resolve to work with redoubled efforts towards promoting a two-state solution. 2024 will be full of challenges, but it will also be a year of unprecedented opportunities for change. Our job is to overcome the former and embrace the latter.

Ultimately, the direction that the conflict takes in the coming months depends on each and every one of us. We at the Geneva Initiative will try to work better and smarter. Thank you for supporting us in our efforts to create real, lasting peace and security for Israelis and Palestinians.

Best regards,

Gadi Baltiansky

Director General of the Geneva Initiative



2023 IN NUMBERS



76

Meetings, Events, and Conferences

1,650

Israeli Participants

754,000

**Israelis exposed to our content on
social media**

16

**Israeli-Palestinian
Educational Activities**



Female leadership seminar, January

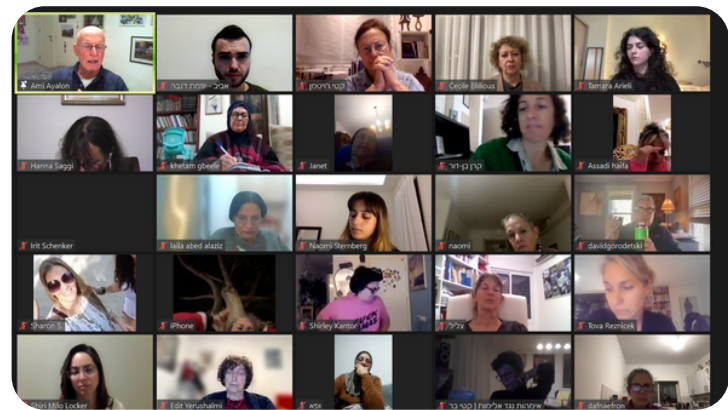
THE WAR IN GAZA



Following the horrific attacks on Israeli civilians on October 7th and subsequent outbreak of war in Gaza, our work has been divided into two main tracks: high-level projects for planning ‘the day after’ the war and the opportunities that will arise, and public action emphasizing that only a two-state solution will bring long-term security



Yossi Beilin, the Chairman of the Geneva Initiative, on the war in Gaza and ‘the day after’, in our new podcast, “The Guide to Hope”



Zoom meeting of 100 project participants and alumni with Major General (ret.) Ami Ayalon, on possible scenarios for the ‘day after’ the war



Jewish and Arab participants of our female leadership project join the volunteer effort in Rahat



Video featuring graduates of the Geneva Initiative’s young leadership program

PUBLIC LEADERSHIP



Throughout the year we met 183 Israeli public figures leading in fields ranging from politics to media, with the goal of encouraging them to act on behalf of the most pressing issue for our future - a two-state solution

“Those who do not hold continued political dialogue with the leadership of the Palestinian Authority will end up holding negotiations with the Islamist terrorist organisations and strengthening them.” - **MK Gilad Kariv, following his visit to Ramallah with the Geneva Initiative, August**



Launch event of the Two-State Solution Lobby chaired by MK Gilad Kariv, July



Jewish religious leaders meet MK Mansour Abbas, December



Parliamentary advisors and journalists in a meeting with senior figures in Ramallah, September



Conversation between Israeli and Palestinian activists and MK Ram Ben Barak, January

PEACE AND DEMOCRACY CONFERENCE



Nearly 500 people, including party leaders, Knesset members and experts, attended a special conference we held to discuss the connection between the fight for democracy and the fight for peace



The audience listens to a conversation with MK Ram Ben Barak, Yesh Atid



MK Benny Gantz, leader of the National Unity party



Conversation with MK Merav Michaeli, leader of the Labour party



Conversation with MK Ayman Odeh, leader of the Joint List party

HARNESSING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY



This year, together with our Palestinian partners, we met dozens of ministers, members of parliament and foreign ambassadors, in order to make a clear joint call for a two-state solution



Israeli and Palestinian Directors of the Geneva Initiative with Josep Borrell, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs, November



Israeli and Palestinian representatives of the Geneva Initiative with Tobias Lindner, German Minister of Foreign Affairs, September



Tour for diplomats led by Dr. Shaul Arieli, March



Presentation of the Geneva Accord to Mireille Clapot, Vice President of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the French National Assembly, May

ARAB SOCIETY IN ISRAEL



This year we worked with 105 leading figures from Arab society in Israel who come from a variety of fields, including national and local politics, media and civil society, with the aim of increasing their involvement in promoting a resolution of the conflict

“We are all paying the price for the continuation of the conflict, but Arab society in particular. We must be more involved to bring it to a peaceful end, in two states.” - **Noha Jaber Bader, acting mayor of Maghar**



Participants of our project for Arab women leaders in conversation with MK Aida Touma-Suleiman, August



Meeting for youth members of the Ra'am party and several MKs with Israela Oron, August



Local leaders in a meeting in Jerusalem, July



Meeting for Arab female leadership in Nazareth, May

FEMALE LEADERSHIP



This year, 150 women leaders from all areas of Israeli society participated in our conflict training programs, in which they deepened their understanding of the conflict and the two-state solution, and met Palestinian women leaders and peers

“I met the Palestinian leadership and I understand that together we can create a change to lead our two societies to a reality of agreement and peace.” - **Cecil Belilios, business sector leader**



Talia Sasson's lecture to a group of women leaders, December



Dialogue meeting between Arab and Jewish women leaders, July



Women leaders at a joint meeting in Ramallah, August



Dialogue meeting for Israeli and Palestinian women leaders, June

YOUNG LEADERS



This year we met 727 young leaders in politics, business and civil society, in political enrichment programs which included Israeli-Palestinian dialogue

“The Geneva Initiative meetings opened my mind. I got to know the other side better and learned about the conflict from new angles that I hadn’t thought of before.” - **Omer Schechter, a municipal council member in Rosh HaAyin**



US Ambassador to Israel, Tom Nides, in a joint meeting for young Israelis and Palestinians, June



Dialogue meeting for young leaders, April



Conversation with Nas Daily, an Israeli-Palestinian viral content creator, and close to 350 young Israelis and Palestinians, June



Religious, ultra-orthodox and secular young leaders on a tour in Jerusalem, January

THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE JUDICIAL OVERHAUL



With the judicial overhaul dominating Israeli discourse for much of 2023, this year our activities emphasized the direct impact of undermining democratic norms and institutions on the conflict.



Tour of settlements on the connection between the judicial changes and de facto annexation, led by Dr. Shaul Arieli, July



Talia Sasson in the 'KAN News' studio, on the impact of a bi-national reality on Israeli democracy, August



The recording of a special episode of our podcast 'The Road to an Agreement' on the relationship between the judicial overhaul and the conflict, March



Meeting between dozens of young new Israeli immigrants with Dr. Michal Saliternik on the consequences of the judicial overhaul, May

THE TWO- STATE COALITION



The Geneva Initiative is proud to lead a coalition of over 20 Israeli and Palestinian civil society organisations working to promote a two-state solution. This year we met dozens of decision makers and public opinion shapers, in Israel and around the world, to promote public discourse and political action



Representatives of the Israeli and Palestinian coalition on a joint tour of the desalination plant in the Gaza envelope, September



A delegation of the Two-State Coalition in conversation with senior officials in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, May



Coalition discussion with MK Meirav Cohen, August



Coalition briefing with Professor Tamar Hostovsky Brandes on the implications of the judicial overhaul on the conflict, May

INFLUENCING THE PUBLIC DISCOURSE



This year, 754,000 Israelis were exposed to the content of the Geneva Initiative on social networks, as well as through media appearances of GI leaders, new publications and the launch of a new Hebrew website



We published the Lexicon of the Conflict which includes 50 basic concepts clarifying the discourse on the topic



מנכ"ל היוזמה, גדי בלטיאנסקי, לג'קי חוגי בגל"צ: "בסוף תמיד חוזרים לפתרון שתי המדינות"

Interview with the Israeli Director of the Geneva Initiative on Army Radio, January

סקר: 60% ממצביעי הליכוד תומכים בהקפאת בנייה בהתנחלויות במסגרת הסכם עם סעודיה
הסקר, שנערך על ידי יוזמת ז'נבה, מגלה גם שרוב הציבור בישראל תומך בהמשך התיאום הביטחוני עם הרשות הפלסטינית



Article in Haaretz about a public opinion poll conducted by the Geneva Initiative, January



An animated video we published that received 156,000 views showing the model of the Geneva Accord



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