



Committee: SPECPOL (The Special, Political and Decolonization Committee)

State: Israel

Delegate: Ayşe Melek Baytürk

Agenda item: “Establishing a Global Framework for the Protection of Stateless People”

Officially known as the State of Israel. It is a country located in Western Asia, on the southeastern coast of the Mediterranean and the northern coast of the Red Sea. On May 14, 1948, the Jewish National Council, gathered in Tel-Aviv under the leadership of David-Ben Gurion, announced its establishment. It borders Lebanon to the north, Syria to the northeast, Jordan to the east, Egypt to the southwest, and the Palestinian territories of Gaza Strip and West Bank to both the west and east, respectively. Various geographical differences can be seen within its relatively small surface area. While the center of economy and technology in the country is Tel Aviv, the administrative center and declared capital is Jerusalem; but the state's sovereignty over Jerusalem is not fully recognized. 73% of the country is Jewish, 18% is Muslim and 1.9% is Christian. Israel is a country that does not get along well with its neighboring countries. Most of the time it imports to Europe and America. Israel is seen as politically more free and democratic than neighboring countries in the Middle East.

Israel is a parliamentary democracy with universal suffrage. The Head of State is elected every seven years by the majority vote of the Knesset (Parliament). The Head of State generally performs ceremonial and official duties but also has executive powers, such as the power to grant pardons. To the Prime Minister, the leader of the party that wins the majority is chosen by the President. Ministers can be appointed to the government from outside the parliament. The election system of the parliament, which has 120 members, is Proportional Representation and the minimum voting age is 18 and the longest government term is 4 years. Additionally, the election threshold in the country is 3.25% of the votes, and Israel has been governed by a coalition for approximately 32 years.

On July 19, 2018, the Israeli Parliament passed a basic law designating the State of Israel as the "Nation State of the Jewish People" and declaring Hebrew the official language.

Israel has the highest defense budget relative to its GDP, behind only Oman and Saudi Arabia. The Israel Defense Forces is the only military wing of Israeli special forces. Most Israelis join the army at age 18, with men serving 3 years and women 2 to 3 years. After compulsory

service, Israeli men join the reserve forces and often serve several weeks a year until they are in their forties. Most women are exempt from reserve duty.

The Israeli economy is based on high-tech equipment production, agriculture, industry, diamond processing and tourism. In the field of technology, the Israeli economy is the fastest growing country in the world. Companies such as Intel, IBM, Motorola and Google have R&D centers in Israel. Despite various security problems, Israel has ensured the growth of its economy by constantly attaching importance to training quality manpower.

Industry in Israel is developing at an increasing pace. The first industrial initiative took place between 1958-65. During this period, the country's industry increased by 142%. Potassium and copper industries are the main ones. 33.4% of the total workforce works in industry. Industrial zones are concentrated in Tel Aviv and Haifa. The main developing industrial sectors are pharmaceuticals, optics, electrical equipment, and diamond mining and weapons industry. The country's ongoing water shortage spurred innovation in water conservation techniques, and drip irrigation was invented, a major agricultural modernization in Israel. Israel is also at the technological forefront of desalination and water recycling. The Sorek Seawater Desalination Plant (SWRO) is the largest desalination plant in the world.

Since its founding in 1948, Israel has always received immigration. These migrations were generally due to Jews living in other parts of the world settling in the country, but the increase in job opportunities in the country in the last 10 years and the fact that it is a rapidly developing country in the Middle East have caused people from many different nations to immigrate to Israel. As of June 2012, 60,000 African immigrants had entered the country. Illegal entry of immigrants into Israel was perceived as a threat by the government and a ministerial meeting was held

Israel was always committed to further expand its partnership with the international community with the spirit of the United Nations hence it partners with the United Nations Office for Disaster and Risk Reduction (UNDRR) by being part in the Making Cities Resilient Campaign. But Israel reminds the international community that after a crises there is a need of support for the victims of a crises, they should not suffer any further nor should they be forgotten. The probability of more crises affecting mankind in the next decades worries Israel. As facing together the same issues Israel is committed to combat them together as well. Israel is committed to intensify the close partnership with the UN and other member states and is willing to reach joined goals and guidelines such as the Sendai Framework as an approach of governance.

Jews have always been stateless since their existence. The founding purpose of Israel is to gather stateless Jews living all over the world. As the only Jewish state in the world, they were forced and oppressed. The traumas that Jews were exposed to due to their difference in origin seriously affected the formation of the understanding of citizenship in Israel.

Policies based on the understanding that is influenced by and formed have a serious impact on social life. It cannot be denied that it found reflections.

After the Arab and Israeli wars, the "Law of Return" was passed in the country. It came into force on July 5, 1950, and Jews were given the right to return to Israel and become Israeli citizens. Israel, which had problems between Middle Eastern countries, was always at war. However, the effects of wars were not only limited to the number of deaths, but also refugee problems caused social and economic problems. According to UNHCR data, there were 16,121 refugees in the country in 2018. Mostly, the people who govern the country insist on not allowing non-Jews into the country. Israel ratified the 1951 refugee legal status convention in 1968. Kav Laoved, Israel's leading educational association for the refugee community, is supported by UNCHR. In 2024, 20 young refugees were trained. ISraAID Israel international humanitarian aid form is a non-governmental organization based in Israel. ISraAID has been involved in emergency response and international development projects in more than 60 countries

After the Palestinian war on October 7th 2023 650 thousand people became homeless. Universal health insurance is available for stateless people in Israel. The United Nations is working tirelessly in the Middle East region to end the Israeli-Palestinian rebellions. The UN is trying to defuse the conflict by engaging key actors and providing emergency aid to civilians on the ground. People can benefit from vaccination services, standard health services and health education rights. 24% of the regions live at the poverty line. Today, the number of civil society in Israel is around 50,000. However, approximately 400 of them are thought to work on equality, human rights and freedoms.

