

NGO MONITOR

**ANNUAL REPORT 2019** 

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## TOP ACHIEVEMENTS

2019 —



Germany passes resolution defining BDS as antisemitic

Revealed NGO connections to terrorists arrested for murder





UN releases report on antisemitism citing NGO Monitor research

UN committee on racism calls out Palestinian antisemitism & incitement





Exposing terror-linked NGOs behind Congressional bill leads co-sponsors to withdraw

Uncovering ties between Europeanfunded NGO partnering with Islamic O Jihad kindergarten that teaches violence





Canada adds new clause to grant against funding BDS

NGO Monitor research prompts credit card companies to shut down online donations for terror-linked NGOs





Annual Conference: Human Rights in an Era of Increased Antisemitism

## Letter from the President

2019 was a difficult year, with a rise in violent antisemitism mixed with ongoing attacks on Israel. At NGO Monitor, we understood the necessity of expanding our activities and impact, and our staff succeeded in responding to these challenges.

The year ended with a very successful conference, held on December 18 in Tel Aviv. We were honored by the kind words of our keynote speaker, US Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism Elan Carr, who highlighted the different forms that antisemitism takes and praised NGO Monitor's contributions. It was also a remarkable privilege to be joined by Chair of ISGAP Natan Sharansky, Chair of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights Irwin Cotler, Jewish Agency Chair Isaac Herzog, and other outstanding participants. Their support for NGO Monitor's work is all the more meaningful given their life-long commitment to real human rights. (You can read more about the conference on page 20.)

These accolades and encouragements are a testament to NGO Monitor's unique role in bringing about important policy changes, which are discussed in this Annual Report.

As more governments are adopting the IHRA definition of antisemitism, which recognizes that hatred of Jews is often manifest in the demonization and delegitimization of Israel, we are increasing our emphasis here. Groups that claim to promote universal human rights are not immune from engaging in this anti-human rights activity, and NGO Monitor will continue to demand that governments are vigilant in refusing to fund such NGOs.

Among other notable steps, the German Bundestag passed a groundbreaking resolution, equating BDS campaigns against Israel with antisemitism and condemning funding to NGOs that promote antisemitism and BDS. Judging by the angry reactions of the chronic Israel-bashers, including NGOs, this was a very important step.

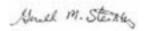
Accurate, credible, and actionable research continues to constitute the core of NGO Monitor's activities. Our meticulously detailed findings on the demonization and BDS activism of Human Rights Watch and its employee Omar Shakir served as the factual basis of multiple Israeli court decisions, including a Supreme Court ruling denying Shakir's request to renew his Israeli work visa. Even Kenneth Roth, the executive director of this powerful human rights organization, and someone with deep personal animus toward Jews and the Jewish state, took notice of our impact.

Our research was again affirmed at the end of the year, when a number of terrorists from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine were arrested, and we showed that some also worked for European-funded NGOs.

Despite our substantial achievements, our work is hardly done. We know that the year ahead will be even more difficult. Israel faces challenges in the form of investigations at the International Criminal Court and the publication of the BDS "blacklist" by the UN Human Rights Council. NGO Monitor research shows that both have been driven primarily by hostile NGOs, often with financial support from European governments specifically for this type of lobbying.

In 2020. NGO Monitor will remain at the forefront of these battles.

We can only do it with the assistance and support of our gracious supporters, who allow our dedicated staff to continue to make a difference.





## NGO MONITOR

A project of the Institute for NGO Research



## Our Top Accomplishments

#### **UN Issues Report on Antisemitism**

For years, NGO Monitor has raised the issue of NGO antisemitism and the importance of adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism, which determines that anti-Zionism, singling out Israel, and Holocaust comparisons are all antisemitic. These efforts are now proving effective and bringing significant results.

Through our official UN accreditation, in June, NGO Monitor submitted a detailed report to the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief to be used in the preparation of his report for the UN General Assembly on antisemitism.

In our submission, we highlighted the presence of antisemitism within human rights and humanitarian NGOs, and provided numerous examples of the development, promotion, and dissemination of antisemitic tropes and imagery by NGOs claiming to promote human rights. We described how NGO activity is a significant contributing factor to the rise in antisemitism occurring today across the globe.

In July, NGO Monitor also met with the Special Rapporteur and presented our research findings, highlighting the increasingly clear links between BDS (boycott, divestment, and sanctions) and antisemitism.

On September 20, the UN published an unprecedented report dedicated to addressing the problem of antisemitism. This report represents a major departure from the typical UN rhetoric and acknowledges that anti-Israel activism can cross the line into blatant antisemitism. The report references the IHRA definition and further highlights that the IHRA definition of antisemitism can be a useful tool for combating anti-Jewish sentiments.



#### FRANCE PASSES RES. STATING HATE OF ISRAEL ANTI-SEMITIC

FRENCH PRESIDENT MACRON SAYS FELLOW NATO MEMBER TURKEY WORKS WITH 'ISIS PROYIES'

^

NGO Monitor Vice President Olga Deutsch debates Former Director of Peace Now Yariv Oppenheimer on i24 News, December 2019.

### Terrorists Who Worked at Europe-Funded NGOs Arrested

Over the last three years, a major element of NGO Monitor's research has been uncovering, exposing, and combating NGO ties to terror groups, resulting in significant funding cuts.

Towards the end of 2019, the Israel Security Agency (Shin Bet) arrested 50 members of a Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) terror cell that was responsible for the murder of an Israeli teen. Many of the terrorists arrested also work for European-funded NGOs.

For example, NGO Monitor revealed that Samer Arbid, who according to the indictment both assembled and detonated the bomb used in the attack, worked as a Financial Director at Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC). He had also been previously employed at Addameer. UAWC received more than \$10 million from European governments in 2016-2019. Addameer also received more than \$2 million from European governments and UN bodies in 2016-2019.

Another NGO employee who was arrested for being part of the violent terror cell, Waleed Hanatsheh, serves as the Financial and Administrative Director of Health Work Committees (HWC). HWC received more than \$3 million from European governments in 2016-2019.

NGO Monitor alerted government donors to NGOs with employees involved in this incident and is demanding that they immediately cease their support.

#### > NGO Monitor President Prof. Gerald Steinberg and Legal Advisor Anne Herzberg at HRW's Omar Shakir's court hearing, November 2019.

#### NGO Monitor Research Central to Court Rulings Against Human Rights Watch

On November 5, the Israeli High Court rejected Human Rights Watch's (HRW) demand that Israel renew "Israel/Palestine Director" Omar Shakir's work visa, citing the factual record established by NGO Monitor on Shakir's and HRW's roles in promoting BDS campaigns. This upholds the April 2019 ruling of the Jerusalem District Court. Both court decisions relied on research provided by NGO Monitor.

The case began in 2018, after the Israeli Ministry of Interior decided against renewing Shakir's work visa. Since then, HRW and Shakir have been challenging this decision in Israeli courts.

NGO Monitor joined the case in an amicus ("friend of the court") capacity in order to set the record straight, submitting several briefs to counter the false claims of Shakir and his supporters. NGO Monitor appeared at the court hearings, documenting Shakir's and HRW's leadership role in BDS campaigns targeting FIFA (the world soccer federation), Airbnb, and others.

The District Court decision referenced NGO Monitor's amicus brief, which "provided additional documentation...about hundreds of tweets showing a clear and continuous recent support of boycotts."

The High Court decision, like that of the District Court, included extensive references to the facts provided by NGO Monitor. The High Court noted that NGO Monitor "provided further examples" of Shakir's "BDS activity" and "sought to prove that the language of human rights bandied about by the appellants is nothing more than a fig leaf designed to hide their animosity toward the State of Israel." Our briefs, according to the Court, centered on demonstrating that Shakir is methodically "taking advantage of and distorting the realm of human rights in order to advance boycott activity against the State of Israel."

In responses quoted in the media, NGO Monitor President Prof. Gerald Steinberg explained that the decision "is yet another severe blow to HRW, which has lost all credibility on issues relating to Israel. The court has confirmed what we already knew: HRW is devoted to attacking Israel through BDS and other forms of political warfare, not human rights."





#### German Bundestag: End Funding for Antisemitic BDS Groups

NGO Monitor research has exposed Germany's severe lack of transparency, accountability, and oversight in funding to NGOs, including support for groups that promote antisemitism and BDS. We presented the evidence to key German decision makers and journalists, leading to increased debate in Germany.

On May 16, our work was featured in a major article in Germany's *Bild* newspaper. The article, "German Development Aid for Israel Haters?," detailed the findings from a series of leaked German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) documents, including grants to Palestinian NGOs that have ties to terror, spread antisemitism, and promote BDS.

GIZ works with Islamic Relief, an NGO that is banned by Israel due to its financing of Hamas, and Miftah, a group that has glorified suicide bombers and promotes antisem-

itism. It also funded Ma'an Development Center, which supports BDS and employed a PFLP terrorist that died in Gaza clashes, and the Palestinian NGO Network that condemned Norway for defunding a center named for a terrorist who murdered 37 Israelis.

The following day, the Bundestag passed a landmark resolution defining BDS as antisemitic. The resolution, "Stand Resolutely Against the BDS Movement: Combat Antisemitism," calls for ending German government funding to NGOs that promote BDS.

NGO Monitor was widely quoted in German, Israeli, and international media, praising the German decision and emphasizing that the "the next challenge is the implementation of the resolution and we look forward to cooperating with the relevant actors in Germany to ensure this." Even Amira Hass, who attacked the German decision in *Haaretz*, acknowledged that "The investment in nongovernmental organizations (such as NGO Monitor)… has proved itself."

NGO Monitor was quoted in *Bild*, *Haaretz*, *Israel Hayom*, and *Maariv*. NGO Monitor Vice President Olga Deutsch was also featured on Israel's Channel 20.



# UN Retaliates against NGO Monitor – Highlighting Our Reach and Impact

NGO Monitor has had an ongoing presence at the UN since 2013, when we received Special Consultative status. In submissions and speeches, we call out the antisemitism and anti-Israel bias of NGOs that partner with the UN and UN officials.

Rather than engaging with and substantively responding to NGO Monitor's concerns, the UN continues to fund and cooperate closely with antisemitic, BDS, and terror-tied NGOs. Together they are working to malign our name.

A notable example is UN Humanitarian Coordinator for the region, Jamie McGoldrick. He spoke at the launch of the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan, the central UN document on activities in the West Bank and Gaza, attacking NGO Monitor by name and claiming that "humanitarian actors are faced with record low funding levels this year." He added that "Funding for 2018 was at a record low with 40%, the global average is 58%...The operating space for humanitarian actors is increasingly impacted by the actors of people like UN Watch and NGO Monitor."





NGO Monitor Legal Advisor Anne Herzberg speaks at a side event at the UN Human Rights Council, March 2019.

McGoldrick also wrote about "groups seeking to undermine some UN and NGO operations" in the foreword of the Palestinian Humanitarian Response Plan. Clearly referring to our detailed reports on the PFLP links and anti-human rights agendas of NGOs, he complained that UN "time and effort spent on rebutting spurious allegations is diverting the attention of managers from operational priorities." Neither he nor any other UN official was able to provide an example of "spurious allegations."

In March, UN Special Rapporteur "on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territory Occupied since 1967" Michael Lynk lashed out against NGO Monitor when we spoke at the Human Rights Council decrying Lynk's use of antisemitic rhetoric in his reports.

Then in May, three other UN Special Rapporteurs sent a letter to the Israeli government falsely accusing NGO Monitor of "harassment" of NGO staff in UN forums. The letter states that "the organization in question has publicly accused multiple organizations working for the protection and promotion of respect for human rights in the OPT of disseminating demonizing statements against Israel, having ties with armed groups, and being engaged in anti-Israeli 'lawfare', a practice alleged to include engaging with the Human Rights Council and the International Criminal Court." It is unclear how any of this constitutes "harassment" or how it is in keeping with human rights for UN officials to pressure the Israeli government to silence NGO Monitor.

NGO Monitor was also featured in an annual report from the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, on "ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem." She claimed that "some organizations [that] have been instrumental in distributing information aimed at discrediting human rights defenders and civil society actors," citing a defamatory report about NGO Monitor produced by a group of BDS activists. At no time did the High Commissioner contact NGO Monitor, nor did she explain how it was "discrediting" to provide the public with accurate information on government funding of NGOs.

## **Exposing NGO Terror Connections**

For years NGO Monitor has documented the indisputable links between terror groups and government-funded anti-Israel NGOs. These NGOs also argue that the use of violence is "legitimate" and accuse Israel of committing war crimes.

#### EXPOSING EUROPEAN-FUNDED NGOS CONNECTED TO ISLAMIC JIHAD KINDERGARTEN

In August, NGO Monitor researchers uncovered a video in which children at a Gaza kindergarten dressed as armed terrorists and simulated shooting and kidnapping Israelis.

NGO Monitor research further discovered that the Swedish government, together with Save the Children and the Palestinian Centre for Democracy and Conflict Resolution, sponsored a workshop at this same kindergarten titled "Training of Teachers on Positive Discipline in Everyday Teaching." Ironically, the Swedish government committed approximately \$2 million to Save the Children for a 2017-2019 West Bank and Gaza project designed to "address the systemic nature of violence against children." NGO Monitor alerted the government funders and demanded they end funding and launch an investigation immediately.

#### CREDIT CARD COMPANIES CLOSE ACCOUNTS OF NGOS LINKED TO TERROR

Our research on NGOs tied to terror was also brought to the attention of credit card companies by UK Lawyers for Israel. As a result, Visa, Mastercard, and American Express shut down online credit card donations for a number of terror-linked NGOs active in the Arab-Israeli conflict. NGO Monitor research played a critical role in this development. Furthermore, in June 2019, Citibank and Arab Bank closed the New York accounts of Defense for Children International-Palestine (DCI-P), a PFLP-linked group. Global Giving also removed DCI-P from its website.

In addition, NGO Monitor uncovered a submission by CUNY Law School's human rights clinic to the UN, written in conjunction with the PFLP-tied DCI-P. NGO Monitor sent the administration and relevant faculty at CUNY a letter and published a detailed report exposing the false claims made in their submission. CUNY has since launched an investigation, which is ongoing.

#### FRENCH FUNDED NGO PROJECT DIRECTOR - ALSO PFLP MEMBER

NGO Monitor researchers discovered that various French government bodies are providing €400,000 to a youth program in East Jerusalem. The point-person for the project, Daoud Ghoul, was convicted in 2015 of membership in the PFLP terrorist organization.

Following exposés in Israeli media, the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a number of Jerusalem City Council members sent an official protest to the French government, raising their concerns about the issue. Following this, Ghoul was replaced.





## Calling out NGO Antisemitism

Antisemitism has surfaced, once again, as a serious threat to Jews around the world. NGO Monitor's response has been to reveal the NGOs that promote antisemitic ideologies and tropes, and to highlight the enabling role of their funders, especially governments. In 2019, NGO Monitor "named and shamed" NGOs for their antisemitic activities and demanded that their funders end their support. Our work in this area has been coordinated with a number of allied organizations that rely on NGO Monitor's unique and respected research capabilities.

In January, Amnesty International published a report, accompanied by a major marketing campaign, targeting tourism to holy and historic sites in Israel. NGO Monitor was able to preempt this campaign and successfully re-framed the discussion in terms of Amnesty's antisemitic denial of Jewish history.

The day before Amnesty planned on releasing the report, NGO Monitor's research and analysis appeared on Israel's Channel 12 prime time news, exposing Amnesty's BDS campaign targeting TripAdvisor, Airbnb, Booking.com, and Expedia. We highlighted how Amnesty attacks the Western Wall, City of David, and the Tomb of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs, falsely alleging that visitors to the sites and companies that advertise them are complicit in committing war crimes. Most of the media attention related to this report focused on the antisemitic content.

Also in January, NGO Monitor published a new report on the World Council of Churches' (WCC) Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI). Our research documents how EAPPI participants misuse tourist visas to enter Israel, and upon returning to their home countries, many activists engage in anti-Israel demonization including promoting BDS campaigns and comparing Israel to apartheid South Africa and Nazi Germany. EAPPI rhetoric at times draws upon theological rejection of Israel's existence as the Jewish state, and crosses into overt antisemitism. Our analysis shows that government donors for EAPPI have included the UK, Ireland, Finland, Denmark, Switzerland, Germany, Canada, and Japan.

Following NGO Monitor's exposure of the WCC's promotion of antisemitism and BDS, which received significant attention, the WCC ended EAPPI's presence in Hebron.



## Initiating NGO Funding Policy Changes

Expanding on our successes from previous years, in 2019, NGO Monitor initiated new NGO funding policies in North America and Europe. In addition to the German legislature's resolution calling for an end of funding to NGOs that promote BDS, NGO Monitor research led to shifts in policy in both Canada and the US.

In the US, NGO Monitor's detailed analysis of a proposed Congressional bill, which called for sanctions against Israel and was largely copied from NGO language, highlighted the false claims and involvement of terror-linked actors. A number of US Representatives withdrew from co-sponsorship.

In Canada, NGO Monitor met with senior government officials and parliamentarians informing them of inconsistencies between their funding practices and official government policy. As a result, the Canadian government added a new clause to a grant stating that no funding can support BDS. Senator Linda Frum also introduced a motion in the Senate, based on NGO Monitor research, to freeze funding to a pro-BDS NGO, Wi'am.







Other speakers included Chair of the Jewish Agency Isaac Herzog, Chair of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights Irwin Cotler, Chair of ISGAP Natan Sharansky, and former Director General of the Ministry of Strategic Affairs Sima Vaknin Gill. We also held a panel with Charges d'affaires at the Czech Embassy to Israel Kateřina Moravcová, ADL Israel Director Carole Nuriel, and *Jerusalem Post* Senior Contributing Editor Lahav Harkov.

The conference focused on trends in new antisemitism and practical solutions, as well as understanding and implementing the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) definition of antisemitism. It was widely attended by senior government officials, decision makers, diplomats, academics, journalists, and allies.

This conference is part of NGO Monitor's strategy of pressing governments to implement funding guidelines, particularly regarding NGOs promoting antisemitism, and to apply the IHRA definition to NGO funding.



### **Combating BDS**

In November 2018, Airbnb issued a press release announcing it was "removing listings" in "Israeli settlements in the Occupied West Bank." This policy was a clear result of a coordinated and well-financed campaign targeting the company by NGOs involved in BDS campaigns against Israel, led by Human Rights Watch (HRW) and Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP). The funders behind NGOs in this campaign include several European governments as well as the US-based Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

NGO Monitor played a leading role in pushing back against the Airbnb decision, demonstrating the false premises and discriminatory nature of the HRW led campaign. We published numerous reports, analyses, and statements, and held detailed discussions with Airbnb officials, encouraging the company to reconsider its decision.

In April 2019, Airbnb announced that it had reversed its previous decision to remove listings of Jewish homes in the West Bank. Airbnb's decision marks a major victory for NGO Monitor and our allies in combating BDS.

NGO Monitor was also, once again, instrumental in delaying the UN's proposed BDS blacklist of companies doing business over the 1949 Armistice line. For the third time, in March 2019, a letter to the President of the UN Human Rights Council from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights delayed the blacklist, stating that "further consideration is necessary...My office shall continue to devote requisite attention to the matter, with a view to finalizing this mandated activity in coming months."

▼ NGO Monitor Vice President Olga Deutsch speaks at the Western Balkans Summit, December 2019.





NGO Monitor's Vincent Chebat spoke at ELNET France's conference,
 "Facing Security Challenges: European and Israeli Perspectives," November 2019.

## A Voice for Israel at the United Nations

The Institute for NGO Research, NGO Monitor's parent organization, regularly engages with the UN, presenting submissions and participating in UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) sessions. This year, NGO Monitor continued to be an active voice at the UN calling out its antisemitism and bias against Israel.

NGO Monitor was present at the March, June, and September sessions of the UNHRC, where our experts spoke out against the UN's proposed BDS blacklist of companies, the rise of global antisemitism, and the recruitment and use of Palestinian children as child soldiers, among other issues. We countered the claims of the anti-Israel NGOs and provided diplomats with detailed information. In total, NGO Monitor spoke 15 times at the Council in 2019.

In addition to participating in the UNHRC debates, NGO Monitor hosted two official side-events at the UN headquarters in Geneva. In March, our event focused on the nature of the violent riots of the Gaza border with Israel, with speakers including our legal adviser and UN expert, Anne Herzberg; Lt. Col. Richard Kemp; Foundation for the Defense of Democracy's (FDD) David May; My Truth's Lital Shemesh and Ellie Bogdan; UN Watch's Dina Rovner; and NGO Monitor's Becca Wertman. We also hosted a UN side-event on business and human rights featuring UK Lawyers for Israel's Natasha Hausdorff, FDD's David May, and NGO Monitor's Anne Herzberg.

NGO Monitor was also proud to be among the 24 organizations involved in March's "Enough is Enough" protest of the Council's anti-Israel bias.

Our research and submissions led to unprecedented impact at the UN. In August, NGO Monitor presented our submission on the Palestinian Authority's (PA) promotion of antisemitism and incitement to violence to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD). Following this, CERD posed tough questions to the Palestinian delegation based on our research. In September, CERD published a report that included the issue of the PA's promotion of antisemitism and incitement. NGO Monitor also provided a submission and presented at the CERD review of Israel in December.

In November, NGO Monitor's Legal Advisor, Anne Herzberg, for the second year attended the UN's Global Forum on Business and Human Rights.

### Communications



113,000
Google Mentions



**73,000 Monthly Website Visits** 



14,000 Twitter Followers



11,000 Facebook Likes



5,000
News Article Mentions

NGO Monitor continues to focus on increasing our media presence and impact to ensure that our research reaches the eyes and ears of decision makers around the world. This year, our analyses appeared in media outlets in over 50 countries and were published in leading newspapers, TV networks, and radio newscasts around the globe. NGO Monitor also significantly enhanced our social media presence, increasing our number of followers on both Facebook and Twitter and launching our new Instagram page. These efforts have led to NGO Monitor experts being quoted in a wide range of media, allowing our issues to be at the forefront of public debate.

In Israel, NGO Monitor was featured on TV networks such as Channel 12, Channel 13, Channel 20, IBA News, and i24 News. We were also featured in all leading Israeli newspapers and news websites including *Israel Hayom*, *Haaretz*, *The Jerusalem Post*, NRG, The Times of Israel, and Ynet.

NGO Monitor research was also published in some of the most widely read news outlets in the world including Reuters, AFP, Associated Press, *The Washington Post*, Fox News, The Forward, *BILD*, *Daily Mail*, and more. With hundreds of appearances in newspapers around the globe, NGO Monitor has become the go-to source for journalists on issues related to BDS and anti-Israel NGOs.

Our social media reach expanded exponentially in 2019, with infographics, lively posts, and videos. We reached over 13,500 followers on Twitter and over 11,000 followers on Facebook, and opened a new Instagram account. Our short, informative videos reached over 50,000 people.

In addition, NGO Monitor's podcast series, "Human Rights and Hot Coffee," has gained hundreds of listeners and thousands of hits over the past year. This year, we discussed topics such as Area C of the West Bank, NGO officials arrested for murder, and Benny Gantz as the newest lawfare target. Our episodes are hosted by NGO Monitor Director of Research Yona Schiffmiller, who regularly conducts interesting discussions with experts on a variety of topics. The podcast can be found on itunes, Apple Podcast, Spotify, Stitcher, and Player FM.

▼ NGO Monitor Senior Researcher Shaun Sacks is interviewed on Israel's Channel 20



## Academic Achievements

In November 2019, Anne Herzberg presented a paper on human rights bodies seeking to regulate military courts at the 14th Annual Hebrew University Minerva Center on Human Rights/ICRC Conference on International Humanitarian Law.

On November 23, 2019, Anne Herzberg presented a paper on Corporate Due Diligence in Situations of Armed Conflict at the Interdisciplinary Research Workshop on Business and Human Rights at the University of Geneva.

In November 2019, Prof. Gerald Steinberg opened the workshop on "Hard and Soft Power in the Middle East" at the Halifax Security Forum.

In March 2019, Prof. Gerald Steinberg presented a paper on "Applying the IHRA Definition to NGO Antisemitism: The Case of HRW" at Indiana University's conference "Contending with Antisemitism in a Rapidly Changing Political Climate."

Prof. Gerald Steinberg and Anne Herzberg also published a chapter in *Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism: The Dynamics of Delegitimization*.





## Management



#### Professor Gerald Steinberg, President and Founder

A senior faculty member at Bar Ilan University, Prof. Steinberg provides direction and strategy for NGO Monitor. In 2019, he published a number of academic articles, as well as op-eds and letters to the editor in Tablet, Times of Israel, *Jerusalem Post*, and numerous other newspapers. Prof.

Steinberg also conducted extensive interviews on NGO and human rights related issues with television, radio, and print media outlets. He furthermore spoke at a variety of high-level government sessions and academic conferences worldwide. Prof. Steinberg is co-author of *Best Practices for Human Rights and Humanitarian NGO Fact-Finding*.



#### Dov Yarden, CEO

Dov Yarden was appointed NGO Monitor's CEO in March 2008 to oversee the management and day to day operations of the organization. He is also responsible for financial planning, personnel, and donor relations. Prior to joining NGO Monitor, Dov was a hi-tech entrepreneur. He was one of the

founders of Unicorn Solutions, and managed their global Information Technologies and Administration until the company was bought by IBM in 2006.



#### Olga Deutsch, Vice President

Olga Deutsch is an expert on EU funding to NGOs, German funding to NGOs, and BDS in Europe through the lens of NGOs. Before making Aliyah in 2009, she served as the chairperson of the European Union of Jewish Students, an umbrella organization for 34 national unions. She is

fluent in English, Hebrew, Serbian, and German.



#### Naftali Balanson, Chief of Staff

Naftali has been part of NGO Monitor for over ten years and oversees all of NGO Monitor's publications and other output; helps develop strategic goals and objectives; and works closely with researchers, communications, and website staff. He has written extensively about BDS campaigns,

NGO funding and transparency, and the relationship between governments and NGOs. His articles and op-eds have appeared in many publications including the *Jerusalem Post*, The Forward, *The Jewish Chronicle*, and Ynet. He has an MA in English Literature from Columbia University.



#### Anne Herzberg, Legal Advisor

Anne Herzberg is the author of NGO Monitor's "NGO Lawfare: Exploitation of Courts in the Arab-Israeli Conflict" and the "International Law, Human Rights and NGOs Series," as well as co-author of *Best Practices for Human Rights and Humanitarian NGO Fact-Finding* and other academic

publications. She is one of the leading experts on NGO "lawfare" cases against Israeli officials and companies doing business with Israel. She is regularly invited to speak at international conferences, and her op-eds have appeared in *Ha'aretz*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and the *Jerusalem Post*.



#### Yong Schiffmiller, Director of Research

Yona received his BA in Political Science and International Relations and his MA in International Relations from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Yona's articles and op-eds have appeared in The Hill, *Israel Hayom*, The Forward, and The Tower.



#### Itai Reuveni, Director of Communications

Itai Reuveni earned a BA in Political Science and Iranian Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he also obtained an MA in Political Science and International Affairs. Itai was active in the Muslim-Jewish Conference (Sarajevo, 2013; Vienna, 2014), where over 100 Jews and

Muslims from 34 different countries meet to discuss interfaith issues, antisemitism, and Islamophobia. He also participated in various NATO young professional initiatives, including "Balkan SAYS – Security Architecture Youth Seminar 2016." His articles and opeds have appeared in NRG, *Israel Hayom*, JTA, and Channel 20, among others.



### **Boards**

#### **Board of Directors**



#### **Professor Avraham Bell**

Prof. Bell is a professor of law at the law schools of Bar Ilan University and University of San Diego. His research interests include international law (particularly the laws of war), property law (including intellectual property), and economic analysis of law. He studied at the University of Chicago

and Harvard University. Prof. Bell co-authored, with Professor Steinberg, a study on NGO reporting during the Lebanon War, funded by the Israel Science Foundation. He currently serves on the boards of the San Diego chapter of Stand With Us and the Israeli chapter of CAMERA (Presspectiva).



#### Mr. Joel Golovensky, Chair

Mr. Golovensky was born in New York City and was raised in New Rochelle, NY. He received a BA from the University of Pennsylvania (Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa), a JD from the Harvard Law School, and an LLM from the New York University School of Law. Mr. Golovensky prac-

ticed law in New York for 20 years and was a managing partner of a Manhattan law firm before moving to Israel with his wife (Vera) and two daughters (Yael and Michal) in 1987. In New York, he was active in Jewish life, serving as Vice President and President-Elect of the Board of Jewish Education for the New York Metropolitan Area. In Israel, Mr. Golovensky practiced law and was active as a lay leader in the Jewish Agency for Israel, serving on the Executive of the Joint Authority for Jewish Zionist Education and on the Board of Governors Education Committee. At the end of 2004, he founded the Institute for Zionist Strategies (IZS). He has also written a bi-weekly column for *Haaretz*, articles for *Maariv*, *Jerusalem Post*, and *Jerusalem Report*, and was a pioneer mediator, serving on a panel of the Supreme Court. From September 1999-September 2002, Mr. Golovensky served as Director of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee's Russian Department in Moscow. Mr. Golovensky continues to practice international law.



#### **Mr. Edward Cohen**

Mr. Edward Cohen is qualified as a chartered accountant in the UK. Mr. Cohen was previously a member of the London Stock Exchange and a partner at a stockbroking firm in London. He was also a member of Lloyds London. Upon moving to Israel in 1983. Mr. Cohen was involved in ven-

ture capital, and is the previous chairman of the Israel Free Loan Association (www. freeloan.org.il).



#### Charles (Chuck) Freedman

Charles (Chuck) Freedman is currently Scholar in Residence and Adjunct Research Professor in the Department of Economics at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. He worked at the Bank of Canada from 1974 to 2003, serving as Deputy Governor from 1988 to 2003. Prior to joining the

Bank of Canada in 1974, Freedman was a faculty member at the University of Minnesota. Since his retirement, Freedman has served as a consultant for a number of central banks, focusing on both monetary policy questions and issues surrounding the organization and structure of central banks. He has also produced studies on real interest rates for Canadian financial institutions. Freedman is a director of boards in Canada and Israel. Freedman studied at the University of Toronto, Oxford University, and MIT, from which he received a PhD in Economics. He has published widely in economic journals and volumes of conference proceedings.



#### **Mark Goldfarb**

Mark Goldfarb made Aliyah from New York in 1996 and lives in Jerusalem. He is a graduate of CUNY Queens College. Mark is the CEO of Six Degrees Space Ltd, a Jerusalem based technology startup (www.sixdof. space) and CEO of Habira Group Capital Ltd, an Israeli real estate advi-

sory and investment firm. In parallel with his professional work, Mark has voluntarily been involved in senior positions at several not for profits, with a focus on education.

#### **Amuta Members**



**Adv. Trevor Asserson** is the Founder and Senior Partner at Asserson Law Offices, a law firm in Tel Aviv that focuses purely on English law and is Israel's largest foreign law firm. He has been recognized for many years in the leading UK legal directories for his litigation skills where he has been described as a "brilliant litigator" who "has all the qualities needed

and is commercially savvy." He has also been shortlisted as "Litigator of the Year."



**Ms. Judy Lash Balint** made aliya from Seattle, WA in 1998. She earned a Masters in Social Work from the University of Washington where she was active in a variety of campus Jewish groups. She served as a Vice President of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews for more than 9 years and founded Seattle Action for Soviet Jewry in 1975. Prior to moving to

Israel she was director of the Coalition for Jewish Concerns-Amcha, headed by Rabbi Avi Weiss. Since 2008, she has been a staff member of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs where she serves as Book Review Editor of the Jewish Political Studies Review and coordinates the intern program. She is the author of two volumes of Jerusalem Diaries: In Tense Times, as well as dozens of articles published in newspapers and magazines worldwide. In an August 2001 article in *The Jerusalem Report*, "Not Help, But Interference," she exposed the extent of financial involvement of European NGOs in the Israel-Arab conflict. She currently writes on a freelance basis for JNS.org.



**Ms. Penina Goldstein** previously worked as an attorney at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the State Revenue Administration at the Ministry of Finance, and as an editor at the Institute of the World Jewish Congress. Today, she lives in Jerusalem and works as a freelance translator, working on legal and other materials for various government entities as well as

a variety of private firms.



**Ms. Frieda Feldman Horwitz**, a native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, made Aliyah from Boston in 1983. She holds degrees from Barnard College and MIT in political science. Having done graduate work in International Relations and Middle East Studies at Columbia University and Hebrew University, she is a graduate of the Hornstein MA Program at

Brandeis. She was the national associate director of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews and editor of their newsletter before making Aliyah. Ms. Horwitz then worked at the Pincus Fund and the Melton Center at Hebrew University before becoming the executive director of the Program for Innovative Teaching Fund for 16 years. She was also the assistant director of Moetzet Yachad for eight years and created and then directed the coalition Project in the Kiryat Menachem neighborhood in Jerusalem.

Recently, she directed a video project for the Brenner Foundation and was the assistant project director for the Garden of Ideas project. She continues to work as an editor and writer, and currently serves on the boards of several non-profit agencies.



**Rabbi Dov Lipman** served as a member of the 19th Knesset with the Yesh Atid party; has rabbinic ordination from Ner Israel Rabbinical College and a Masters degree in education from Johns Hopkins University. Rabbi Lipman is the author of six books about Judaism and Israel, is a political commentator for ILTV and i24 News, a columnist for *Jerusalem* 

Post and Times of Israel, and is involved in Israel advocacy programs around the world.



**Prof. Maureen Appel Molot** is a Professor Emeritus and former director of The Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA), at Carleton University in Ottawa Canada. Maureen retired from Carleton at the end of June 2007. She has a BA and MA from McGill University and a PhD from the University of California at Berkeley. Maureen's research

focused on a number of areas, including the auto industry in North America, Canada-US economic relations, the North American Free Trade Agreement, and Canadian foreign economic policy. In addition, Maureen has been fortunate to have held a number of positions in the voluntary sector, among them President of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir, Chair and a 13-year board member of the Community Foundation of Ottawa, and a member of the board of Community Foundations of Canada.



**Ms. Linda Olmert** (Audit Committee) was born and raised in Toronto, Canada, and moved to Israel in 1975. Ms. Olmert served as the Director of NPO "Eretz Nehederet" ("A Wonderful Land"), and is currently a senior real estate developer. Ms. Olmert previously spent 12 years at the Diaspora Museum Tel Aviv where she helped develop "Game Education" and

was the Director of Media Relations and Resource Development at Palestinian Media Watch. She founded the Organization for Children of Holocaust Survivors in Israel; is an Executive Steering Committee member and Board of Directors member Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum, Jerusalem Israel; and is Vice President and Board of Directors member Fellowship of Israel and Black America (FIBA).



**Adv. Arnold Roth** (Audit Committee) was born in Melbourne, Australia and practiced law there as a solicitor for 12 years before bringing his family to Jerusalem in 1988. He is a member of the Israel Bar, practicing as a technology commercialization specialist. He and his wife Frimet, a former New Yorker, founded the Malki Foundation in 2001 as a memorial

to the life of their daughter Malki, murdered that year in a Hamas terror attack. Arnold has been the non-executive chairman of the Foundation since its inception. The Roths blog, speak, and write frequently and widely on matters relating to terrorism. Arnold has been an invited speaker at the European Parliament, the United Nations, and US Congress.



**Dr. Amira Schiff** is a faculty member of the program on Conflict Management and Negotiation at Bar-Ilan University. She holds a PhD in Political Science specializing in international conflict resolution, particularly peace processes in ethno-national conflicts. Dr. Schiff has published articles in leading academic journals.



**Alan Tennenberg**, MD, MPH; Chief Medical Officer, Johnson & Johnson Global Public Health. Trained as an infectious diseases physician, Alan has over 20 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, clinical medicine, public health, and academia. As Chief Medical Officer of Johnson & Johnson Global Public Health, he is responsible for building

strategic relationships with key stakeholders and partners in government, academia, multi-lateral institutions, and NGOs around the world. Alan also trained in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases at the New York Hospital-Cornell University Medical College, holds an MD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, and a Master of Public Health degree from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

#### **International Advisory Board**



**Elliott Abrams** is a Senior Fellow for Middle Eastern Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. He previously served as Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights in the Reagan Administration; was Special Assistant to the President for Democracy, Human Rights, and International Organizations; and was then Deputy National Security Advisor in the

George W. Bush Administration.



**Amb. Vivian Bercovici** served as Canada's Ambassador to Israel from January 2014 to June 2016. Prior to serving in this role, Vivian practiced law in Toronto for 24 years, focusing on financial services, First Nations negotiations, and defamation law.



**Hon. Michael Danby** (MP) is a senior member of the Australian Labor Party. Currently the Parliamentary Secretary to the Opposition Leader, Michael Danby was previously Parliamentary Secretary for the Arts, Chairperson of the Australian Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade, as well as the Joint Standing Committee

on Migration. Mr. Danby is also a member of the Steering Committee of an international network called the World Movement for Democracy.



**Professor Alan Dershowitz** is the Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. He has been called "Israel's single most visible defender – the Jewish state's lead attorney in the court of public opinion."



**Sen. Linda Frum** was appointed by Prime Minister Stephen Harper to the Senate to represent the Province of Ontario in 2009. She currently sits as a member of the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology; Rules, Procedures, and the Rights of Parliament; and Conflict of Interest for Senators. She was chair of the Women's Divi-

sion of the United Jewish Appeal and a past board member of the Canada Israel Committee. She is also a recipient of the Golda Meir Leadership Award from the State of Israel bonds and of the Rothschild Humanitarian Award from Shaare Zedek Hospital.



**Tom Gross** is an internationally acclaimed British-born journalist, political and media commentator, and human rights campaigner, specializing in the Middle East.



**Col. Richard Kemp** served as Commander of the Order of the British Empire for 29 years, and handled all major global terrorist attacks, including those against British interests.



**Douglas Murray** is an award winning author and journalist. He is the associate director of the Henry Jackson Society and associate editor of the Spectator magazine (UK). His latest book is "The Strange Death of Europe" (Bloomsbury).



**Hon. Fiamma Nirenstein** is an award-winning journalist and author and a former member of the Italian Parliament's Chamber of Deputies (2008-2013), where she served as Vice President of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies.



**Professor Judea Pearl** is a professor of computer science and director of the Cognitive Systems Laboratory at UCLA. He is known internationally for his contributions to artificial intelligence, human reasoning and philosophy of science.



**Justice Elyakim Rubinstein** was appointed Justice of the Supreme Court in 2004. In 2015, he was appointed as Deputy President of the Supreme Court, a position he held until 2017.



**Judge Abraham Sofaer** has been a George P. Shultz Distinguished Scholar and Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution (Stanford University) since 1994. He has been a prosecutor, legal educator, judge, government official, and attorney in private practice.



**Dr. Einat Wilf** is a leading intellectual and original thinker on matters of foreign policy, economics, education, and Israel and the Jewish people. She is considered one of Israel's most articulate representatives on the international stage, with her opinion articles regularly published in international publications and frequent interviews for television and radio pro-

grams around the world. A member of the Israeli Parliament from 2010-2013 on behalf of the Labor and Independence parties, media reports revealed she was considered a leading candidate for Israel's Ambassador at the UN. She was also described by Le Figaro magazine as a future Prime Minister of Israel.



**Professor Ruth R. Wisse** is Professor Emerita of Martin Peretz Professor of Yiddish Literature and Professor of Comparative Literature at Harvard University. Currently, she is the distinguished Senior Fellow of the Tikvah Fund.



**R. James Woolsey** is former Director of Central Intelligence (1993-1995). Mr. Woolsey serves on a range of government, corporate, and non-profit advisory boards and chairs several, including that of the Washington firm, Executive Action LLC.

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