

# REVIEW

2016 IN REVIEW



## “Working Together Under Fire”

### IMPACT

A year of success and growth

PAGE 2

### ACHIEVEMENTS

Snapshot of key NIF achievements

PAGE 3-4

### IN FOCUS

Celebrating the incredible work of our Award winners

PAGE 5

### ENGAGEMENT

Connecting the UK to issues in Israel

PAGE 7

### 25 YEARS

Celebrating NIF's contribution to a better Israel

PAGE 9-10



# Celebrating a record-breaking year for NIF

2016 was a record-breaking year for New Israel Fund in the UK. With your help we raised more funds than ever before, enabling us to increase our grant-making to Israel. We also engaged more people than ever with our issues.

2016 was a year of dramatic events in Israel, as well as globally, with many aspects of NIF's work being 'in the eye of the storm'. The video taken by a B'Tselem volunteer of the soldier Elor Azaria shooting a subdued Palestinian terrorist triggered a national debate about morality, the Occupation and the IDF. In November, our support of Jewish and Arab residents of Haifa who were working together to respond to the fires that spread across Israel stood in stark contrast to the racism and false accusations made at the time. And our support for the Jerusalem Pride Parade helped the organisers mark the first anniversary of the murder of Shira Banki by attracting 25,000 people to the Parade. Your growing support helped NIF's work in Israel deliver substantial impact, despite the challenging environment. We are proud to share many of our successes with you in this Review.

Your growing engagement with our activities demonstrates an increasing appetite in the UK for Israel's voices of hope, as well as a desire to help them achieve change. Your growing support helped NIF's work in Israel deliver substantial impact, despite the challenging environment. We are proud to share many of our successes with you in this Review.

This year we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of NIF in the UK. In a period in which Israel and the Zionist movement will be marking many anniversaries, it is our opportunity to thank our supporters and to celebrate our positive contribution. NIF's founders recognised the need for those who care about Israel and believe in its democratic values to join together. It is testament to their foresight that not only does this mission still hold true, but that it now resonates with a substantial and growing community.



CLIVE SHELDON QC  
Chair,  
New Israel Fund UK

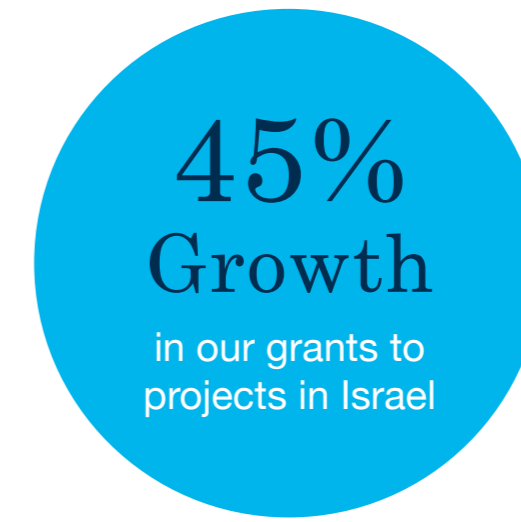


ADAM OGNALL  
Chief Executive,  
New Israel Fund UK



Youth movement leaders making anti-racism posters. Photographer: Yossi Zamir.

# Making an impact in 2016





# Our key achievements in 2016

In 2016, NIF and our partners in Israel delivered on significant achievements across all the issue areas we address. These achievements are the result of the dedication and hard-work of thousands of leaders, activists and communities across Israel. Here is a snapshot of our achievements:



**REFUGEE LEADER GRANTED ASYLUM:** AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF LEGAL APPEALS, MUTASIM ALI BECAME THE FIRST SUDANESE ASYLUM SEEKER TO OBTAIN REFUGEE STATUS IN ISRAEL. ALI WAS AIDED BY **HOTLINE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS**

## SAFEGUARDING HUMAN RIGHTS



**VIDEO SPARKS NATIONAL DEBATE:** A PUBLIC CONVERSATION ABOUT MORALITY AND THE IDF CONSUMED ISRAEL, PROMPTED BY **B'TSELEM'S** VIDEO SHOWING AN ISRAELI SOLDIER SHOOTING A SUBDUED PALESTINIAN TERRORIST



**CRACKING THE GLASS CEILING:** FOLLOWING WORK FROM **MAVOI SATUM** WOMEN ARE NO LONGER EXCLUDED FROM SERVING IN SENIOR POSITIONS OF THE RABBINIC COURTS



**PRICE TAG ATTACKS FINALLY CURBED:** WE SAW A DRAMATIC DROP IN VIOLENCE BY PRO-SETTLEMENT GROUPS AGAINST PALESTINIANS, THE IDF AND HOLY SITES FOLLOWING GREATER LAW ENFORCEMENT. THIS RESULTED FROM CONSISTENT PRESSURE BROUGHT BY THE **NIF-CONVENED TAG MEIR COALITION**

## BUILDING A SHARED SOCIETY



**REJECTING SEGREGATION IN HOSPITALS:** FOLLOWING A RADIO EXPOSE ON ETHNIC SEGREGATION IN MATERNITY WARDS, **ZAZIM** LAUNCHED AN ONLINE AND BILLBOARD CAMPAIGN. THE CAMPAIGN'S IMPACT INCLUDED MEIR HOSPITAL ANNOUNCING IT WOULD END SEGREGATION

## ENSURING FREEDOM OF RELIGION



**SHARED PUBLIC SPACE:** WE SAW SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS TO CREATE THE MEDIA AS A SHARED PUBLIC SPACE. **SIKKUY'S** TARGETED INTERVENTION MORE THAN DOUBLED THE PERCENTAGE OF ARAB VOICES ON NEWS PROGRAMMES

## ADVANCING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE



**CLOSING GAPS:** YEARS OF ADVOCACY, ORGANISED IN PART BY **SIKKUY**, LED TO THE CABINET'S APPROVAL OF A NIS 10-15 BILLION PLAN TO HELP EQUALISE INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION, WELFARE, HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION FOR ISRAELI ARABS

**BETTER HOUSING, BETTER LIVING:** HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF ISRAELIS LIVING IN PUBLIC HOUSING HAVE BETTER PROTECTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVED CONDITIONS THANKS TO THE WORK OF THE **FORUM FOR PUBLIC HOUSING**

## PROMOTING DEMOCRACY



**"WE ARE ISRAEL":** NIF'S CAMPAIGN AGAINST INCITEMENT IN ISRAELI SOCIETY AND CELEBRATION OF DEMOCRACY REACHED OVER 660,000 ISRAELIS



**"FEEL FREE TO CRITICISE":** SHATIL'S FORUM FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PROTEST BRINGS TOGETHER OVER 100 LEADERS TO WORK TOGETHER TO CREATE INNOVATE METHODS AND PUBLIC CAMPAIGNS TO PROMOTE DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS



**JERUSALEM MARCH FOR PRIDE AND TOLERANCE:** A RECORD 25,000 MARCHERS WALKED THE STREETS OF JERUSALEM STANDING UP FOR LGBTQ RIGHTS. IT BROUGHT TOGETHER ISRAELIS ACROSS RELIGIOUS AND COMMUNITY LINES TO REJECT THE VOICES OF RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM



**MAJOR VICTORY FOR HEALTHCARE:** THE ARAB-JEWISH CITIZENS FORUM FOR THE PROMOTION OF HEALTH IN THE GALILEE WAS CITED AS THE REASON FOR THE GOVERNMENT ALLOCATING NIS 930 MILLION TO IMPROVE HEALTH SERVICES IN NORTHERN ISRAEL.



For the past ten years we have used our annual dinner to recognise and award some of the most remarkable people working for human rights in Israel.

These awards form a vital opportunity for our audience to truly appreciate and connect with the work we're doing on the ground. Past winners have included Achinoam Nini (NOA) and Israel Prize Winner Alice Shalvi. This year, in honour of our tenth anniversary, we shifted our focus from honouring individuals to honouring organisations who have been supported by NIF, enabling us to demonstrate the impressive work of our partners and allowing their incredible achievements to take centre stage.

The three award-winning organisations of 2016: ACRI, Mahapach-Taghir, and Zazim are all dedicated to creating a brighter future for every Israeli, regardless of their race, religion, or socio-economic position. Whether through legal action, education, or digital campaigning, they exemplify NIF's commitment to ensuring the fabric of Israeli society is strong and cohesive, and that everyone's voice is heard.



Founded in 1972, The Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) is Israel's oldest and largest human rights organisation.

## Association for Civil Rights in Israel

ACRI's mandate is to ensure Israel's accountability and respect for human rights by addressing violations in Israel and in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. ACRI promotes the universal rights and civil liberties of all persons, regardless of background.

ACRI has built a solid reputation for professionalism and integrity and is widely respected within the legal community, and among decision makers, the media and the public at large. This reputation enhances ACRI's ability to make a real and lasting difference. Alongside its precedent-setting legal work, ACRI's Education Department works to foster a culture of human rights among all sectors of society, including through its work in the Jewish and Arab school systems. It also conducts extensive public outreach initiatives to better equip Israel to benefit from and defend human rights.

Since its inception, ACRI has been consistently successful in bringing precedent-setting litigation to the Supreme Court and has contributed significantly to the protection of human rights in Israel and in the Occupied Territories.

## Mahapach-Taghir



Mahapach-Taghir is a grassroots, feminist, Jewish-Palestinian organisation for social change.

At the heart of Mahapach-Taghir is the Learning Community, where university students tutor and mentor young people in marginalised neighbourhoods whilst promoting the active involvement of adult residents, particularly of women. Since its inception in 1998, 3,000 children have benefitted from Mahapach-Taghir's learning communities, and over 2,000 students have volunteered. More than 200 women have been active in their steering committees and many have returned to academic studies through the organization's Second Opportunity programme.

Mahapach-Taghir's model is unique. It doesn't 'just' work to improve the lives of those living in disadvantaged communities, it consults communities about what it is they want and delivers this. Their model also works to strengthen the democratic values of Israel and provides communities with the tools to 'speak to power'. Mahapach-Taghir is also on the frontline of shared society and better relations between Jews and Arabs. This comes across in all their activities, their shared Jewish and Palestinian training days, and the community's grassroots decision that it should be led by Jewish and Arab co-directors.

## Zazim



Zazim is an online campaigning community for social and political change.

Zazim is a local movement whose activists work together to impact the Israeli public agenda. What brings Zazim activists together is shared values around human rights, social justice, combating racism, ending the occupation, government transparency and independent media. Their primary vehicle is online tools through which they initiate campaigns and actions both online and offline.

Since its establishment in 2015 Zazim has successfully campaigned against de-segregation of Jews and Arabs in maternity wards, fought against administrative detention of Palestinians (which affects 3,700 Palestinians and essentially constitutes imprisonment without trial) and worked towards sufficient and reliable water sources in areas of the West Bank.

Zazim was selected for our first ever New Gen Award. Zazim represents a potential gamechanger for Israelis looking to promote the values of democracy and social justice. It provides a platform and tools for those seeking to advocate for change and to build a movement. Zazim is the Israeli homegrown version of 38 Degrees and Change.org.

# Engaging the UK community

This year we both deepened and widened our engagement with the UK community, nurturing new partnerships and cultivating new paths for connecting with Israel and Israelis. We continued to break records not just in fundraising, but in meaningful engagement, allowing a greater number of people than ever to learn about our crucial work. Here are some highlights from 2016:

1

## Human Rights Awards Dinner

425 guests and a record £375,000 raised

Our 10th annual Human Rights Awards Dinner was a tremendous success. We celebrated the achievements of three exceptional grantees: ACRI (Association of Civil Rights in Israel), Mahapach Taghir, and Zazim all of whom work tirelessly towards creating a brighter future for Israel.

ACRI is Israel's oldest and largest human rights organisation; Mahapach Taghir is a grassroots, feminist, Jewish-Palestinian organization for social change; and Zazim is a local movement whose activists work together to impact the Israeli public agenda.

2

## Food For Thought: International Board

1,000+ people joined with our global leaders

In late June we had the honour of hosting the International Board of New Israel Fund in London for a three-day meeting. We organised 13 separate 'food for thought' dinners where board members such as NIF President Talia Sasson, Nobel-prize nominee Amal Al-Sana Alhajooj and UCLA Professor David Meyers all spoke. 120 people also attended our opening reception. In addition we engaged NIF speakers with audiences at the Reform Movement's Biennial Hagiga, New London Synagogue and at Westminster Synagogue, gaining impressive New Israel Fund coverage in London and beyond.

3

## Security Conference

12 international speakers and over 230 people at our joint NIF/Yachad security conference

In March we held our first-ever conference, hosting 12 international speakers including: Dr. Nimrod Goren of Mitvim, Ex-Palestinian Minister Ashraf Al Ajrami and Brigadier General (Ret.) Israela Oron. The conference addressed issues such as: The Arab Minority in Israel, Israel's International Relations and the role of Jerusalem in securing peace.

The security conference was successful in bringing our strategic vision for long-term security to both new and established supporters of the New Israel Fund. We succeeded in showcasing both our grassroots and think-tank work and demonstrating that we are grappling head-on with the most difficult issues that Israel currently faces.



4

## Educational Events & Programming

Over 4,800 people attended NIF events

Attendance at NIF events rose by over 30% in 2016. The content covered at our events ranged from Israel's fragile democracy, to minority rights and religious freedom. Highlights of this year include film screenings with partner UKJF and events with Jewish Book Week. We were also particularly proud to bring Sudanese refugee and activist Mutasim Ali to Limmud conference. In 2016 we also partnered for the first time with Gefiltefest.

5

## New Gen

Continued growth and engagement

New Gen, NIF's community for young adults /professionals, continued to grow in 2016. We experienced a 10% increase in the reach of our programming. The New Gen community also increased its giving which illustrates deepening engagement and commitment to NIF issues and the authenticity of our message. We launched the second cohort of our New Gen Activism Fellowship providing a group of young leaders with an immersive introduction to activism in Israel through a 10-day trip and working with them on their return to bring this activism back to the UK.

6

## Digital Engagement

23% growth in followers

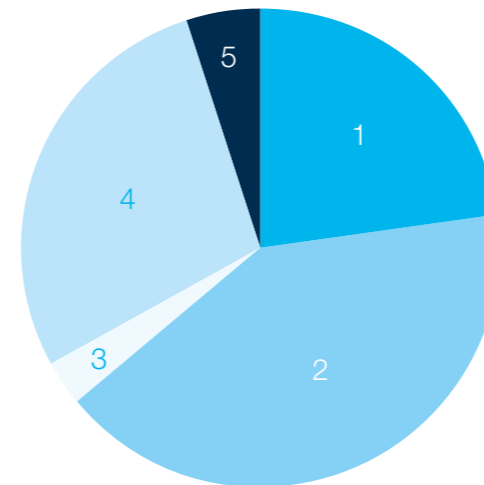
We were pleased with the growth of our digital communications in 2016. Our newsletter list grew by 9% (average open rate of 34%) and a 14% and 31% growths in our Twitter and Facebook followings respectively. Our *Behind the Headlines* podcast series, launched in 2015, reached 2,700 listeners. Highlights from the podcasts included an extended interview with singer-songwriter Achinoam Nini (Noa).

7

## Grants to Israel

Expenditure 2016 by theme (Total £1,526,929)

- 1 Shared Society 23%
- 2 Human Rights and Democracy 41%
- 3 Religious Freedom 3%
- 4 Social and Economic Justice 28%
- 5 Palestinian-Israeli Society 5%



8

## Financial Statement

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2016	Total 2015
Contributions*	639,669	1,330,638	1,973,306	1,576,305
Interest and Currency Changes	30,748	-	30,748	474
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>670,417</b>	<b>1,330,638</b>	<b>2,001,055</b>	<b>1,576,779</b>
Israel Project Grants	195,547	1,331,382	1,526,929	1,066,388
UK Education				
Programme Expenditure	370,527	-	370,527	311,944
Costs of Generating Funds	140,615	-	140,615	117,684
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>706,689</b>	<b>1,331,382</b>	<b>2,038,071</b>	<b>1,496,016</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit for the Year</b>	<b>-36,272</b>	<b>-744</b>	<b>-37,016</b>	<b>80,763</b>

\*Additional contributions in the amount of £28,600 was received by NIF US from UK donors. The full audited reports and accounts for 2016 will be published in late spring. A full list of our grantees is available on our website.



## 1996

In the wake of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, NIF increased its support for initiatives **amplifying moderate Orthodox voices**, such as Yesodot, Kolech and Ne'emanei Torah Va'Avodah. This movement is a key moderating force, challenging discrimination against women, opposing racism, and advancing democratic values.

## 1994



Alice Miller, represented by ACRI and others, successfully petitioned the High Court to be allowed to take the Israeli Air Force pilot exams. The ruling laid the groundwork for **women to serve in combat roles**.

## 1992

**New Israel Fund established in the UK** joining our partners in Israel, the USA and Canada.

NIF in Israel supported the **creation of the Association of Rape Crisis Centers** to serve as the umbrella organization for regional rape crisis centres, helping to combat sexual violence.

# Celebrating 25 Years

We are proud of NIF UK's contribution to democracy and equality in Israel. Since 1992, we have provided grants of over £25 million to more than 500 organisations in Israel and through Shatil – our action arm – have assisted over 5,000 organisations and groups. At the same time our educational work in the UK has reached tens of thousands helping to engage and connect our community with Israeli society.

## 1997



NIF became the **first funder of the Jerusalem Open House** for Pride and Tolerance, the city's first and only community centre for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, serving the city's Israeli and Palestinian communities.

## 1998

**Hotline for Migrant Workers** (now Hotline for Refugees and Migrants) was founded, with NIF as its first funder. The organisation has become Israel's leading organization protecting the rights of refugees, migrant workers and victims of human trafficking.

## 1999

The High Court of Justice unanimously decided to **ban the use of torture** in most circumstances following years of advocacy by NIF grantees.

## 2002



NIF launches **New Generations in the UK** a community for 20 to 30 year olds committed to social justice in Israel holding, events and trips to Israel. Since its inception New Gen has reached thousands of young British Jews.

## 2003



**Kick It Out Israel (KIO)**, NIF's programme to end racism and violence in the football stadium, was launched.

After Israel officially recognized 11 Bedouin villages in the Abu Basma region, NIF and JDC partnered to ensure representation and services for local residents. Although this community continues to suffer from discrimination and extreme poverty, this was a milestone in the struggle over land allocation and **basic services for Bedouin citizens**.

## 2011



NIF was the only international Jewish community organization to fund the **social justice protest movement** that rocked Israel and brought 500,000 Israelis into the streets to call for social and economic justice.

## 2010

NIF UK launched the **William Frankel Social Justice Fellowship**, named in honour of our late Honorary President. The Fellowship provided an opportunity for young British Jews to work for social change in Israel.

NIF grantee Tebeka won **compensation for Ethiopian immigrant families** whose children were removed from a municipal kindergarten because their number exceeded a quota.

## 2007

NIF holds its **inaugural Human Rights Awards Dinner** in the UK.

In Israel, the outcry over the segregation of men and women on some public buses added new urgency to NIF's ongoing battle against separation and exclusion of women in public spaces. In 2011, the High Court finally **banned enforced gender segregation on public transit**.

## 2006

In the **aftermath of the second Lebanon War**, Shatil, NIF's action arm, supported social change groups working to rebuild the North and call attention to the longstanding social and economic inequities suffered by Israel's periphery.

## 2005



For the first time, the High Court ruled that a section of the **Separation Barrier must be re-routed** to reduce the impact on the lives of Palestinian residents, paving the way for subsequent petitions by NIF grantees ACRI, B'Tselem, Bimkom and others.

## 2004

A nine-year legal battle ended in a landmark decision **prohibiting discrimination against Arab citizens** in the allocation of state lands. The Ka'adan-Katzir case, argued by lawyers from the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), was the first time that Arab citizens' equal right to state land was articulated by the court.

## 2012



In a historic move for religious freedom, the court ruled that the government must stop discriminating against **Reform and Conservative rabbis** and pay them as it does Orthodox rabbis. The ruling followed a petition by NIF grantee IRAC..

## 2013

Shatil and the NIF-supported Coalition against Racism founded ReLevant, a Russian-language current affairs website promoting democratic values. **Over 20% of Russian speakers** in Israel have visited the site, which covers such issues as the peace process, racism, economic rights, LGBT rights, feminism and minority rights.

## 2014

NIF launched **New Initiatives for Democracy (NIFD)**, a series of major investments to strengthen and expand the progressive movement in Israel. Our integrated strategies, designed to build movement infrastructure and enlarge the pro-democracy camp, position NIF for greater impact on the trajectory of Israeli society.

## 2015



NIF launched an **Emergency Funding Pool for Shared Society** to provide support for grassroots projects being created by Israeli citizens in response to growing tensions and violence.

## 2016



NIF celebrated the **10th Anniversary of our flagship Human Rights Awards**. The Dinner raised a record amount of £375,000 and Awards were presented to ACRI, Mahapach-Taghir and Zazim.

## 2017

As we mark our 25th anniversary, we celebrate a major success for our work on tackling poverty with the announcement of a **one billion shekel investment in public housing**, following the intense efforts of the NIF-backed Public Housing Forum.

## “New Israel Fund is the leading organisation advancing democracy and equality in Israel.”

### ABOUT US

New Israel Fund is the leading organisation advancing democracy and equality in Israel. We are a partnership of Israelis and supporters of Israel worldwide, dedicated to a vision of Israel as both the Jewish homeland and a shared society at peace with itself and its neighbours. NIF supports leaders and activists working for civil and human rights for all.

As the founder and funder of most of Israel’s progressive civil society, we have provided over

\$300 million (incl £25 million from the UK) to more than 900 organisations since our inception. NIF’s focus today is on five key issue areas: Shared Society & Combating Racism, Human Rights & Democracy, Social & Economic Justice, Palestinian-Israeli Society, Religious Freedom. Our action arm Shatil provides Israel’s social change community with hands-on assistance.

In addition, NIF/Shatil builds coalitions and spearheads national campaigns.

### UK BOARD MEMBERS

Clive Sheldon QC, Chair  
Lord Beecham, Vice Chair  
David Bernstein  
Lance Blackstone  
Julie Blane  
Paul Burger  
Sir Trevor Chinn CVO  
John Cohen  
Jane Grabiner  
Sam Grodzinski QC  
Martin Paisner CBE  
Sarah Peters  
Eli Silber  
Juliet Stevens  
Noam Tamir  
Miles Webber

Here’s how you can get involved now:

DONATE  
NOW

ENGAGE WITH THE  
ISSUES AT OUR  
EVENTS

JOIN OR CREATE  
A GIVING  
CIRCLE

VISIT OUR  
PROJECTS  
IN ISRAEL

HOST AN EVENT  
OR TAKE ON A  
CHALLENGE

CONNECT WITH  
US ON FACEBOOK  
AND TWITTER

Unit 2, Bedford Mews,  
London, N2 9DF

Tel: +44 (0)20 7724 2266  
info@uknif.org

www.newisraelfund.org.uk  
@newisraelfunduk