



MK (ISR) Avi Dichter

BASIC LAW:

Israel

As The Nation-State of the Jewish People

1989/20/ד

1. Basic Principles

- (a) The State of Israel is the national home of the Jewish people, in which they realize their aspiration for self-determination in accordance with their cultural and historical heritage.
- (b) The right of national self-determination in the State of Israel is uniquely that of the Jewish people.
- (c) This Basic Law, and all other laws, shall be interpreted in conformity with this provision.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Basic Law is to safeguard Israel's status as the nation-state of the Jewish people, by order to anchoring in a Basic Law the values of the State of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state, in the spirit of the principles of its Declaration of Independence.

3. State Symbols

- (a) The state's national anthem is Hatikvah.
- (b) The state's flag is white, with two blue stripes along its top and bottom margins, and a blue Star of David at its center.
- (c) The state's emblem is a seven-branched menorah, with olive branches on both sides, and the word "Israel" beneath it.

4. State Capital

Jerusalem is Israel's capital.

5. Language

- (a) Hebrew is the state's language.
- (b) The Arabic language has special status in the State. Those who speak Arabic shall be offered access to State services in their own language, as will be determined by the law.

6. Return

Every Jew has the right to immigrate to Israel and to obtain citizenship in accordance with the provisions of law.

7. Ingathering of the Exiles

The State will act to ingather the exiles of Israel.

8. The Connection to the Jewish People in the Diaspora

- (a) The State will act to strengthen the connection between Israel and the Jewish communities of the Diaspora.
- (b) The State shall act to preserve the cultural and historical heritage of the Jewish people among the Jews in the Diaspora.
- (c) The State will extend a helping hand to members of the Jewish people who are in distress or in captivity on account of their being Jews.



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9. Preservation of Culture, Heritage and Identity

(a) All residents of Israel, regardless of their religion or nationality, are entitled to the right to strive for the preservation of their culture, heritage, language, and identity.

(b) The State may permit a community, including members of a same religion or members of a common nationality, to maintain a separate communal settlement.

10. Official Calendar

The Hebrew Calendar is the official state calendar.

11. Independence Day and Memorial days

(a) Independence Day is the national holiday of the State.

(b) The Day of Remembrance for the Fallen Soldiers of Israel and Holocaust Memorial Day are official state memorial days.

12. Days of Rest

The designated days of rest in the State of Israel are the Sabbath and the Jewish Holidays. Workers shall not be employed and they shall not work on these days of rest, except under conditions determined by law. Individuals belonging to ethnic groups that are recognized by law are entitled to refrain from work on their holidays.

13. Jewish Civil Law

Should the court encounter a dispute that cannot be resolved by an existing statute, judicial precedent, or by strict legal analogy, it shall render its decision in accordance with the principles of freedom, justice, equality, and peace derived from Jewish heritage.

14. Preservation of Holy Sites

The holy sites shall be protected from desecration and any other type of harm or damage, and from anything that would interfere with the freedom of access of religious groups to places holy to them or to their sensitivities regarding said holy sites.

15. Immutability

This Basic Law shall not be amended, except by another Basic Law, passed a required majority of the Knesset.