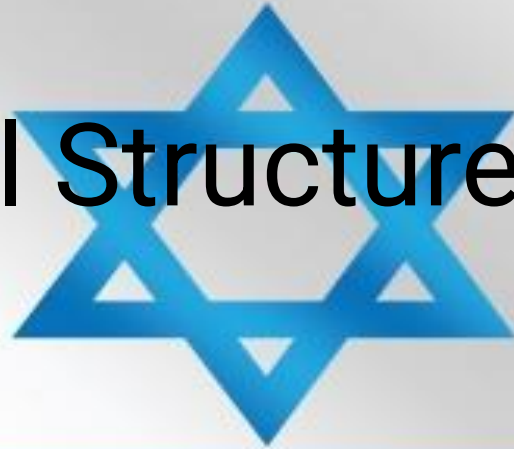


# The Political Structure of Israel



# Israel Country Profile

Population: 9,495,120 (as of 2025)

Demographic Information:

- 82.8 years life expectancy
- 2.9 infant mortality rate
- 84.85 life expectancy at birth for females
- 80.7% Life expectancy at birth for males

The capital of israel is Jerusalem



# Israel Country Profile

## Major Cities in Israel are

- Jerusalem with a population of 971,800
- Tel Aviv with a population of 432,892
- Haifa with a population of 285,316
- Rishon LeZiyyon with a population of 258,535
- Petah Tikva with a population of 253,529

## Major industries in Israel are

- High technology, the industries growing at an average of about 8% a year
- Manufacturing, the industry has a very large production capacity
- Diamond industry, israel is one of the leading countries for diamond cutting and polishing
- Tourism, attracting over 3 million visitors in 2017 israel's tourism increases by around 6% each year

# The Power Structure

Israel is a Parliamentary Democracy, meaning that the executive branch of government is held accountable by the legislative branch (parliament called Knesset) which is subject to the electorate.

The current leader of the country is Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who came to power through the Knesset party leader or president selecting him as Prime Minister.

Prime Ministers are selected by the president of the Knesset every 4 years, along with the Knesset members (unless the Prime Minister calls for an election sooner). The president however, is subject to a 5 year term. Knesset votes are for party list rather than candidate.

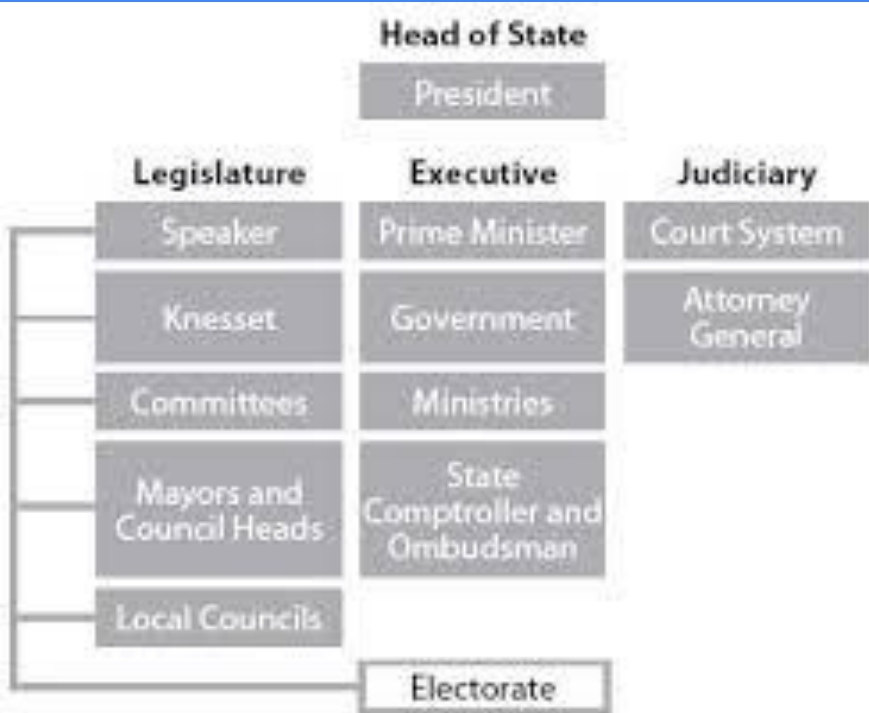
# The Power Structure

The opposition groups in Israel are consisted of party lists that don't hold the majority in the Knesset, or are not part of the executive government.

The freedoms of Israeli Citizens include :

- traditional political liberties: freedom of expression, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, the right to political participation, and the right to free exercise of religion.
- Social and economic rights: allocation of funds providing basic necessities -- such as food, healthcare, housing, and education -- to all.
- Minority rights: firstly, the protection of minorities against violation of individual human rights and against discrimination, and secondly include the protection of collective rights granted to minority groups as communities, in order to assist them in preserving their identity, culture, and heritage.
- Right to due process: guarantees fair trials and the protection of one's privacy from inappropriate government interference.

# The Power Structure



Citizens have a say in the government of Israel through the Knesset and their local councils

Similar to the American Congress,  
the people vote directly for Knesset  
members.

# Domestic Policy

According to an article by the European Institute of the Mediterranean, the political structure of Israel has been historically fragmented into many minor parties. The article titled “Israel: Domestic Politics and the Israel-Palestine Arena”, talks briefly about how under prime minister Netanyahu, the right wing party has taken much control. As part of the agenda to take control, the Likud party has passed legislation that raises the threshold for lower elections to over 3%. This means in order for smaller parties to gain control, they need more recognition in the first place.(David Newman)

# Foreign Relations

Lots of Israeli conflict comes through the arab nations bordering Israel, and the arabs who live within. Palestinian people within the land of Israel have had many conflicts that reflect poorly on the stability of the nation. As a nation-state, Israel tends to respond to most conflict through military action, as each Israeli has a required military service once they reach adulthood.





# US Relations with Israel

NBC claims in an article titled 'Disagreements on Iran, Gaza straining Trump-Netanyahu relationship', that the tension between US and Israel is growing. Generally having good relations with the 2 countries with the US providing aid to Israel for decades, new relations surrounding the US president Trump have worsened the situation. Trump has increased the military presence, encouraging the Israeli military to "finish the job' against Hamas in Gaza". The reason for the 2 leaders in Netanyahu and Trump butting heads is their difference in military strategy. (Carol E. Lee, Courtney Kube, Andrea Mitchell and Dan De Luce)

# Relations with Different Countries

The USA is the biggest trade partner of Israel, making up for \$18,623 million dollars worth of their exports.

Black=Enemy

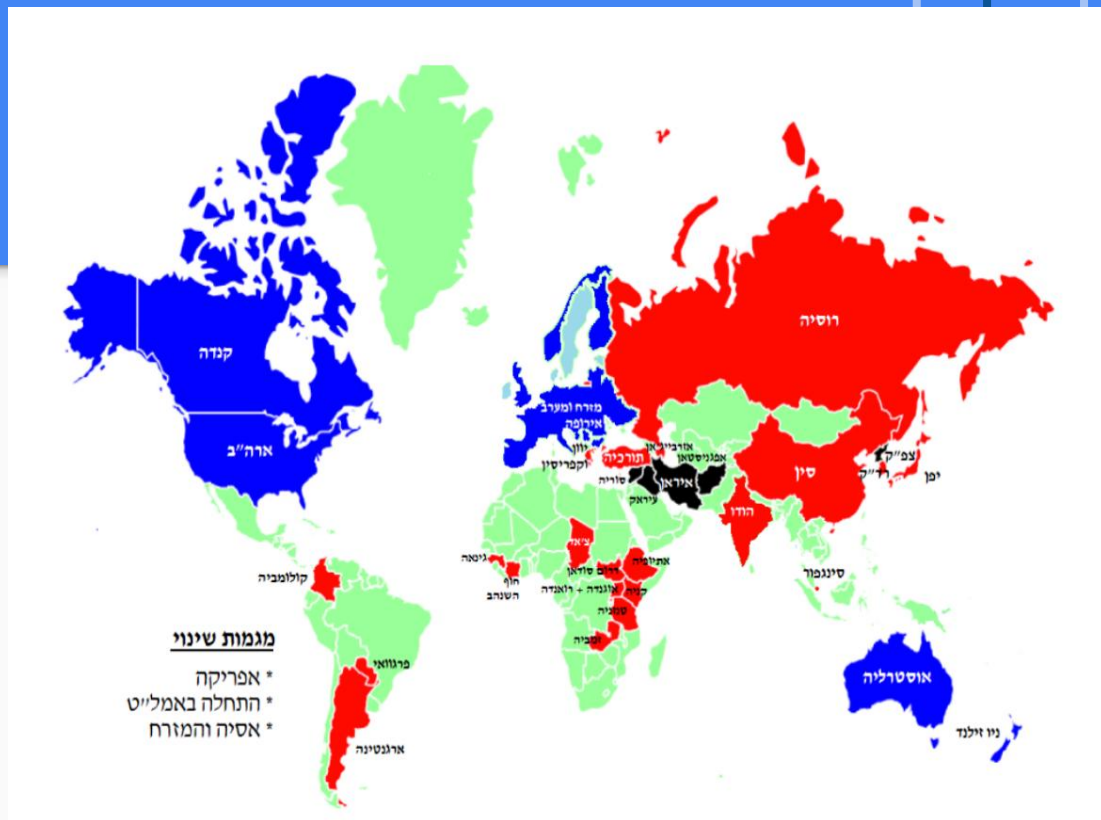
Blue=Good Relations

Green=Neutral

Red=Future ally in Netanyahu's plan

Light Blue=Critical attitude towards Israel

(According to article written in Times of Israel- Raphael Ahren)



# Israel's Role in the UN

Israel has a “ministry of foreign affairs”. This department deals with foreign relations of Israel and represents the Israeli Government.

According to the department, Israel has made 1,098 treaties with other nations in its time as a country belonging to the UN (11 May 1949). Only one year following its establishment as a nation-state (May 14, 1948).

# Bibliography

- Ahren, Raphael. "In Netanyahu's new illustrated world, Israel has just five enemies." *The Times of Israel*, 27 July 2016, [www.timesofisrael.com/in-netanyahus-new-illustrated-world-israel-has-just-five-enemies/](http://www.timesofisrael.com/in-netanyahus-new-illustrated-world-israel-has-just-five-enemies/). Accessed 15 May 2025.
- "Constitution for Israel." *Knesset*, [knesset.gov.il/constitution/ConstMHumanRights.htm](http://knesset.gov.il/constitution/ConstMHumanRights.htm). Accessed 15 May 2025.
- "Elections in Israel 2015." *Youtube*, uploaded by Israel's Foreign Affairs Min., 11 Mar. 2015, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzpWIXg3HtM&t=1s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzpWIXg3HtM&t=1s). Accessed 15 May 2025.
- "The Electoral System in Israel." *Gov*, [www.gov.il/apps/elections/elections-knesset-15/heb/lexicon/esystem.html](http://www.gov.il/apps/elections/elections-knesset-15/heb/lexicon/esystem.html). Accessed 15 May 2025.
- Gold, Amb Dore. *Landscape. Jerusalem Day: Correcting a Historical Justice*, Jerusalem Center for Security and Foreign Affairs (JCFA), 29 May 2022, [jcfa.org/jerusalem-day-correcting-a-historical-injustice/](http://jcfa.org/jerusalem-day-correcting-a-historical-injustice/). Accessed 30 Apr. 2025.
- "Israel Demographics." *Worldometer*, [www.worldometers.info/demographics/israel-demographics/](http://www.worldometers.info/demographics/israel-demographics/). Accessed 15 May 2025.
- "Israel May Seize All Gaza in Expanded Operation, Officials Say." *Reuters*, uploaded by Maayan Lubell, May 2025, [www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-cabinet-approves-expansion-gaza-offensive-broadcaster-kan-reports-2025-05-05/](http://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-cabinet-approves-expansion-gaza-offensive-broadcaster-kan-reports-2025-05-05/). Accessed 15 May 2025.

# Bibliography

"Israel Monthly Trade Data." *World Integrated Trade Solution*, WITS, [wits.worldbank.org/CountrySnapshot/en/ISR](https://wits.worldbank.org/CountrySnapshot/en/ISR). Accessed 15 May 2025.

Lee, Carol E., and Courtney Kube. "Disagreements on Iran, Gaza straining Trump-Netanyahu relationship." Edited by Andrea Mitchell and Dan De Luce. *NBC News*, May 2025, [www.nbcnews.com/politics/national-security/disagreements-iran-gaza-straining-trump-netanyahu-relationship-rcna205985](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/national-security/disagreements-iran-gaza-straining-trump-netanyahu-relationship-rcna205985). Accessed 15 May 2025.

Mandraud, Isabelle. "Israel's Opposition Is Powerless against Netanyahu and His Far-right Allies." *Le Monde*, 12 Mar. 2025, [www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2025/03/12/israel-s-opposition-is-powerless-against-netanyahu-and-his-far-right-allies\\_6739073\\_4.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2025/03/12/israel-s-opposition-is-powerless-against-netanyahu-and-his-far-right-allies_6739073_4.html). Accessed 15 May 2025.

Ochsenwald, William L., Stone, Russell A., Sicherman, Harvey, Elath, Eliahu. "Israel." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 15 May. 2025, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Israel>. Accessed 15 May 2025.

Owuor, Sophy. "The Biggest Industries in Israel." *World Atlas*, Apr. 2019, [www.worldatlas.com/articles/the-biggest-industries-in-israel.html](https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/the-biggest-industries-in-israel.html). Accessed 15 May 2025.

*U.S Department of State*. Oct. 2007, 2001-2009.[state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3581.htm](https://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3581.htm). Accessed 15 May 2025.