

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON ISRAEL / UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership in UNESCO:** since 16 September 1949
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** not currently (previous term: 1962-1970)
3. **Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.:**
 - Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme. (term expires in 2019)
 - Intergovernmental Council of the “Management of Social Transformations” Programme (term expires in 2017)
 - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
4. **The Director-General’s visits to Israel: 2**
 - 30 September 2016: funeral and burial of Mr Shimon Peres, ninth President of Israel, in Jerusalem’s Mount Herzl.
 - 29-30 May 2011: official visit on the occasion of the “International Women Leaders Conference on Science, Technology and Innovation: Education and Training for Women and Girls” (Haifa, 29 May - 3 June 2011)
5. **The former Director-General’s visits to Israel: 1**
 - 4-7 February 2008: official visit, signature of a Memorandum of Understanding
6. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:**
 - Permanent Delegate: H. E. Mr Carmel Shama Hacoheh (Since 7 September 2014)
 - Staff: Mr Joseph Moustaki, Minister-Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Delegate; Mr Hagai Yosef Glebocki, Adviser
 - Previous Permanent Delegates: H.E. Mr Nimrod Barkan (February 2010- August 2014); H.E. Mr David Kornbluth (September 2005 - August 2009), H.E. Mr Jacques Revah (August 2003 - August 2005)
7. **UNESCO Office:** none
8. **Israel National Commission for UNESCO:**
 - Date of establishment: September 1949
 - President: Mr Naftali Bennett, Minister of Education (since May 2015)
 - Secretary-General: Dr Dalit Atrakchi (since March 2013)
9. **Israeli personalities linked to UNESCO’s activities:**
 - Mr Ivry Gitlis, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador
 - Mr Dani Karavan (sculptor), UNESCO Artist for Peace
 - Prof. Ada Yonath, member of the UNESCO High Panel on Science and Technology for Development, member of the United Nations Secretary-General’s Scientific Advisory Board
10. **UNESCO Chairs: 12**
 - UNESCO Chair on Technology, Internationalization and Education (2016), Tel Aviv University
 - UNESCO Chair in Sustainable Engineering in Developing Communities (2012), Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa
 - UNESCO Chair for Sustainability (2012), Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya
 - UNESCO Chair in Cultural Diversity (2011), University of Haifa

- UNESCO Chair on the Heritage of the Modern Movement (2007), Tel Aviv University
 - UNESCO Chair in Urban Design and Conservation Studies (2004), The Bezalel, Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem
 - UNESCO Chair in Humanistic Education (2004), Institute for Educational Thought, Kibbutzim College of Education, Tel Aviv
 - UNESCO Chair in Multicultural Education in Teacher Training (2004), Beit Berl College
 - UNESCO Chair in Bioethics (2001), University of Haifa
 - UNESCO Chair in Education for Human Values, Tolerance and Peace (2000), Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan
 - UNESCO Chair in Interfaith Studies (1999), Elijah School for the Study of the Wisdom of the World Religions, Jerusalem
 - UNESCO Chair in Plant-Water Relationships in Desert Sand Dunes (1994), Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva
- 11. Associated Schools:** 25 (6 primary, 1 primary and secondary, 14 secondary, and 4 teacher-training institutions). Israel joined the ASPnet in 1957.
- 12. Category 2 Institutes and Centres:** 1
- International Training and Education Centre in Proteomics, Functional Genomics and Bioinformatics (BIOmics), at the Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot.
- 13. UNESCO Clubs:** none
- 14. Biosphere Reserves:** 2
- Ramat Menashe (2011)
 - Mount Carmel (1996)
- 15. World Heritage Sites:** 9 cultural sites
- Necropolis of Bet She'arim: A Landmark of Jewish Renewal (2015)
 - Caves of Maresha and Bet-Guvrin in the Judean Lowlands as a Microcosm of the Land of the Caves (2014)
 - Sites of Human Evolution at Mount Carmel: The Nahal Me'arot / Wadi el-Mughara Caves (2012)
 - Bahá'í Holy Places in Haifa and the Western Galilee (2008)
 - Biblical Tels - Megiddo, Hazor, Beer Sheba (2005)
 - Incense Route - Desert Cities in the Negev (2005)
 - White City of Tel-Aviv - the Modern Movement (2003)
 - Masada (2001)
 - Old City of Acre (2001)
- 16. Tentative List:** 18 properties
- Liftah (Mey Naftoah) – Traditional mountain village (2015)
 - Ein Karem, a village and its cultural landscape (2015)
 - The Great Rift Valley - migratory routes - The Hula (2004)
 - Makhteshim Country (2001)
 - Triple-arch Gate at Dan & Sources of the Jordan (2000)
 - Early Synagogues in the Galilee (2000)
 - The Galilee Journeys of Jesus & the Apostles (2000)
 - Sea of Galilee & its Ancient Sites (2000)
 - Horvat Minnim (2000)
 - Arbel (arbel, nebe shueb, horns of hittim) (2000)
 - Degania & Nahalal (2000)

- Bet She'an (2000)
- Caesarea (2000)
- White Mosque in Ramle (2000)
- Jerusalem* (2000)
- Mount Karkom (2000)
- Timna (2000)
- The Crusader Fortresses (2000)

17. Intangible Heritage Lists: no elements

18. Memory of the World Register: 4 inscriptions

- Aleppo Codex (2015)
- Isaac Newton's Theological Papers (2015)
- Pages of Testimony Collection, Yad Vashem Jerusalem, 1954-2004 (2013)
- Rothschild Miscellany (2013)

19. Creative Cities Network: 1

- Tel Aviv- Yafo, UNESCO City of Media Arts (2014)

20. Legal instruments: 18 ratified and 22 non-ratified

- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage: non-ratified. Abstention during the vote.
- Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: non-ratified.
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: non-ratified. Position: Israel voted against the draft Convention during the 33rd session of the General Conference.
- International Convention against Doping in Sport: accession (26 January 2012)

21. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2016-2017: none (none proposed for 2018-2019 as well)

22. Participation Programme:

- 2012-2013: no project requests
- 2010-2011: 1 project approved for US\$ 25,000 ("Workshops of Israel, Canada and Germany National Coordinators")
- 2008-2009: 4 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 40,000

23. Fellowships:

- 7 fellowships awarded for a total amount of US\$ 81,577.
- 50 Fellowships awarded in 2014 under the UNESCO/Israel (MASHAV) Co-Sponsored Fellowships Programme. Since the programme has initiated in 1996, a total of 595 fellowships awarded with an estimated value of US\$5,355,000 where UNESCO seed money under Regular Programme amounts to US\$1,487,500.

24. NGOs in Official Partnership with UNESCO: 2

NGOs with Consultative status:

- World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS)
- Appleseeds Academy

25. Payment of assessed membership fees for 2016-2017:

- Assessment rate for 2017: 0.430%
- Contributions assessed for 2016-2017: US\$ 2,807,900
- Israel owes 100% of its contributions since 19 September 2011

- Total unpaid due: US\$ 8,529,080

26. Voluntary contributions (expressed in US Dollars):

Year	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Total	-	-	-	-	6,702	411,948	63,745	147,795

27. Representation within the Secretariat: normally represented

- 3 professional staff in geographical posts (min. 3, max. 5)