

Introduction to Israel Studies

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For each class, there is a **essential** (“**texts to be analyzed in class**”) and **additional** reading. For each class, **the students are obliged to read the essential texts**, consisting mostly of primary sources in English (historical speeches, excerpts from key documents and proclamations, articles of important Israeli thinkers etc.). The additional reading is recommended for those with deeper interest in the topic or those, who missed the particular lecture

Requirements:

Active participation in the classes and the discussions, based on reading of the compulsory texts.
Completion of a written assignment. Oral exam.

Written assignment:

1. Select a topic of your choice that is related to contemporary Israel: cultural life, political life, ethnic tensions, religious vs. secular, economic and social situation, Bedouins, settlements, Art...
2. On the first lecture, suggestions of Israeli media in English will be given.
3. Follow these media (and others you may find) and write a **three page analytical essay in English** on what is the situation like in your selected field, what are new trends and events, what are the future prospects, what threats or challenges you see etc.

First seminar - Introduction

Course introduction, Israel as a field of study. Sources of Information and how to read them (example of various discourses by means of analyzing the Wikipedia entries in seminar), Explanation of course requirements. Terminology. Proper pronunciation of Hebrew and Arabic names. (discussion with the students on motivations to enlist Israel study course)

Meet the State of Israel - Political and constitutional system. Jewish? Democratic? Basic division of Israeli society. Social and demographic paradoxes. Basic overview of Israeli and Palestinian Topography (cities, mountains, key historical places, explanation of specific geographical terms). Geographical paradoxes of “Biblical” vs. “Modern” Israel.

Texts to be analyzed in class:

- Wikipedia entry “Israel” (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israel>) *Try to grasp, how are the difficult topics explained in that entry and what points must have been the most contested. If the student is experienced with how Wikipedia works, it is highly recommended for him to view over the history of changes in this particular entry. Try to compare the entry in different languages as well (Czech vs. English vs. German vs. French vs. Hebrew vs. Arabic)*
- “Israel” entry in the CIA World Factbook for basic statistical overview (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/is.html>). *Along with the basic data about*

Israel, look into the section “transnational issues”, which are chosen and how are those explained.

- For terminology: Jewish Virtual Library: <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/gloss.html>
- For various meanings of the term “anti-Zionism” in Czech see entry “Antisionismus” in *Encyklopedie dějin antisemitismu* available at: https://ff.zcu.cz/khv/ihistud/texty/Encyklopedie_dejin_antisemitismu_tisk_na_CD.pdf

Second seminar - Birth of Zionism and the State-on-the-go

How to define Zionism?, Roots of Zionism, Forerunners of Zionism, Zionism and its Competitors, Early Settlements in Palestine. The Yishuv – Colonists or Refugees? – social situation, language, struggle for distinctive cultural identity.

Texts to be analyzed in class:

- Pinsker, L.: “Auto-Emancipation: An Appeal to His People by a Russian Jew” in Arthur Hertzberg, *The Zionist Idea: A Historical Analysis and Reader*. Philadelphia: The Jewish Publication Society of America 1997, pages: 178-198.
- Nordau, M.: “Zionism” in Arthur Hertzberg, *The Zionist Idea: A Historical Analysis and Reader*. Philadelphia: The Jewish Publication Society of America 1997, pages: 242-245
- Herzl, T.: *The Jewish State*. Note there are multiple editions available. Free e-book is available online: <https://archive.org/stream/thejewishstate25282gut/pg25282.txt> (be careful that the e-book is based on a version published in the US in 1940s with Louis Lipsky’s introduction and as such, the introduction represents discourse of 1940s, so feel free to skip it). Probably the most accurate translation of *The Jewish State* to English seems to be Henk Overberg’s from 1997. (Rowman & Littlefield: Maryland 1997). For an authoritative Czech version see: Herzl, T.: *Židovský stát - Pokus o moderní řešení židovské otázky*. Academia, Prague 2009.

Suggested viewing (movies):

- Amos Gitai: Berlin–Jerusalem, 1989
- Hear the Israeli national anthem “Ha-Tikva”. There are multiple recordings around the internet. One of them is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1DPqNHkm1bM> (from 0:47)

Reading:

- Shapira, A.: *Israel - A History*, Brandeis University Press, Waltham 2012, chapter 1 to 4
- Lacquer, W.: *A History of Zionism*. New York: MJF Books, 1996, chapter 2: “The Forerunners” pp. 40-83
- Shafir, G.: “Zionism and Colonialism: A Comparative Approach,” in Pappé, I. ed.: *The Israel/Palestine Question: Rewriting Histories*. London 1999, pp. 81-96
- Hazony, Y.: *The Jewish State – The Struggle for Israel’s Soul*, esp. chapter 5.

Third seminar - The Shadow of Catastrophe

“From the Holocaust to Rebirth?” – Wartime years, Rescue Attempts, Situation of the Jewish Refugees in Europe, Israeli *sabra* vis-à-vis the Holocaust in the post-war era.

Texts to be analyzed in class:

- Tarant, Z.: “Why do We Call the Destruction of European Jewry 'The Holocaust'?” In: Zoufalá, Marcela /ed./: *Jewish Studies in the 21st Century: Prague – Europe – World*. Jüdische Kultur: Studien zur Geistesgeschichte, Religion und Literatur. Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz 2014, pp. 183-194
- Friling, Tuvia, “The New Historians and the Failure of Rescue Operations during the Holocaust,” *Israel Studies* 8:3 (Fall 2003), pp. 25-64
- Bauer, Y.: *Rethinking the Holocaust*. Yale University Press 2001, chapters 6, 7, 10 and 11.
- *The White Paper (May 17 1939)*
- Wiesel, E.: *All Rivers Run to the Sea (The Memoirs #1)*. Alfred A. Knopf: New York 1995 (selected excerpt on how Wiesel felt in Israel in the 1950s, from chapters “Travelling” and “Jerusalem”)

Additional reading:

- For the most comprehensive account on Yishuv and the Holocaust see: Porat, D.: *Entangled Leadership, the Yishuv and the Holocaust 1942-1945*, Tel Aviv: Am Oved 1986
- Alternative reading for Czech speaking students on the early responses to the Shoah: Tarant, Z.: *Diaspora paměti - židovská paměť a reflexe holocaustu v Izraeli a Spojených státech*. Západočeská Univerzita v Plzni, Plzeň 2013 (chapters 2 and 3).
- Segev, T.: The Seventh Million – The Israelis and the Holocaust, early chapters on Yishuv’s responses to the Holocaust. (*Tom Segev’s book is full of controversial claims. Why do you think? Compare with Tuvia Friling’s criticism of Segev in his article above*)

Explore for yourself:

- There is a free-to-access archive of historical Jewish press, run by Tel Aviv university. Have a look to the historical issues of *The Palestine Post* and try to search for articles containing words like “Holocaust”, “Oswiecim”, “Warsaw” in the time period 1938-1948. The student is welcome to explore the archive for other topics as well. The archive is available here: <http://jpress.org.il/Default/Skins/TAUHe/Client.asp?Skin=TAUHe&enter=true&sPublication=PLS&Publication=PLS&Hs=advanced&AW=1403387835950&AppName=2uh>

Fourth Seminar – The Crossroads of Refugees

The “War of Independence” and its aftermath. Palestine as a crossroads of refugees, Jewish and Arab, incoming and departing.

Texts to be discussed in class:

- One of the earliest accounts of the Palestinian Arab national movement: Antonius, G.: “The Arab Awakening” in Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, p. 46-48
- Entries from Ben Gurion’s Diary on the War of Independence in Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, pages 74-83
- *League of Arab States – Charter*. in Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, p. 56. Also available online from multiple sources, for example: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b3ab18.html>
- *Peel Commission Report*. Available at: <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/peel1.html>
- *United Nations Resolution 181* from November 29, 1947 in Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, p. 60. Also available online at: <http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/0/7f0af2bd897689b785256c330061d253?OpenDocument>
- *Israeli Declaration of Independence*. (Two slightly different English translations will be given to the student - one contemporary from Knesset websites and one historical from *The Palestine Post*, May 16th 1948).
- *United Nations Resolution 194* from 11 December 1948, Available online at: <http://domino.un.org/unispal.nsf/0/c758572b78d1cd0085256bcf0077e51a?OpenDocument>

Essential reading:

- Morris, B.: *Righteous Victims: A History of the Zionist-Arab Conflict*. New York: Random House, chapter 5 (p. 161-259)
- Bauer, Y.: *Rethinking the Holocaust*. Yale University Press 2001, chapter 11. “From the Holocaust to the State of Israel”.
- Rekhess, Elie: “Initial Israeli Policy Guidelines toward the Arab Minority, 1948-1949,” in Silberstein, L. (ed.), *New Perspectives in Israeli History*. New York: NYU Press, pages 103-123.

Additional reading:

- Morris, B.: *The Birth of the Palestinian Refugee Problem, 1947-1949*. Cambridge University Press 1987.

Fifth seminar - Challenges of Jewish Statehood

The Challenges of Peace – Jews as rulers? Political, economical, demographical, social and other non-military challenges for the young state. Debates on Interaction of Religion and Politics in Israel.

Texts to be analyzed in class:

- *The Law of Return* (July 5, 1950) with later amendments. Available online at *Jewish Virtual Library*: https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Politics/Other_Law_Law_of_Return.html
- “The Origins and Development of the Status Quo” in Ravitzky, A.: *Religious and Secular Jews in Israel: A Kulturkampf?*, Israel Democracy Institute 2000, pages 41-48.
- “Status Quo Agreement from June 19, 1947” in: Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, p. 58-59
- “Giora Rosephthal - Absorption of Immigrants” in: Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, p. 103-105
- *Jerusalem Post's* report on the Knesset March on 8th of January 1952 (not freely accessible, a copy will be provided to the student). Students of Hebrew will get a copy of *Herut* from 7th January 1952. Czech students can use alternative source in: Tarant, Z.: *Diaspora paměti - židovská paměť a reflexe holocaustu v Izraeli a Spojených státech*. Západočeská Univerzita v Plzni, Plzeň 2013 (pages 118-121)
- Martyrs' and Heroes Remembrance (Yad Vashem) Law 5713-1953. Available online at: http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/about/pdf/YV_law.pdf

Suggested viewing:

- Salah Shabbati (Efraim Kishon 1964).

Essential reading:

- Segev, T.: *1949 – The First Israelis*. New York: Henry & Holst, 1998

Sixth seminar - Israel's Bar Mitzvah?

1960s, Eichmann Trial, Six-Day War, its causes and aftermath.

Texts to be analyzed in the class:

- Hazony, Y.: *The Jewish State – The Struggle for Israel's Soul*, esp. chapter 5.

Newspaper articles from: *The Jerusalem Post*, 20th April 1961. For Hebrew speaking students: *Ma'ariv*, 19th April 1961. Also front-page of *Jerusalem post*, 13th April 1961.

- Correspondence between Hannah Arendt and Gershom Scholem on “Eichmann in Jerusalem”: Gershom Scholem: *A Life in Letters 1914-1982*. Londýn, Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press 2002.
- Selected articles from *The Jerusalem Post* showing 1. the fear of another holocaust in 1967, 2. showing the front pages from each of the six days, 3. some immediate responses to the conquer of Western Wall.

- Entries from Yitzchak Rabin's diary on the June crisis 1967 that made Israelis to start the Six Day War in Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, pages 212-214
- Fackenheim, Emil L.: *God's Presence in History: Jewish Affirmations and Philosophical Reflections*, Harper Torchbooks, New York University: USA 1970, pages. 84-87.
- United Nations Security Council - Resolution 242. Available online at: <http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/0/7D35E1F729DF491C85256EE700686136>

Essential reading:

- Morris, B.: *Righteous Victims: A History of the Zionist-Arab Conflict*. New York: Random House, esp. chapter 7 (p. 302-347)
- Segev, T.: *1967 – Israel, the War, and the Year that Transformed the Middle East*. Metropolitan Books: New York 2005
- Troen, Ilan S.: *Imagining Zion - Dreams, Desings and Realities in a Century of Jewish Settlement*. Yale University Press 2003, chapter 12.

Popular music:

- "Jerusalem of Gold / Jerušalajim šel zahav" by Naomi Šemer (1967). Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CbYpe_hRzwQ
- Song - Ha-balada le-choveš (Yehoram Gaon 1968), available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mdO0f3VcGfw>

Additional reading for the Eichmann Trial:

- The latest and most comprehensive account of the Eichmann trial: Liptstadt, D.: *The Eichmann Trial*. Schocken 2011.
- Czech-speaking students see the reconstruction of the Eichmann Trial atmosphere and early discussions on the trial in: Tarant, Z.: *Diaspora paměti - židovská paměť a reflexe holocaustu v Izraeli a Spojených státech*. Západočeská Univerzita v Plzni, Plzeň 2013 (chapter 7, pages 118-192).
- Gideon Hausner's memoirs on the trial: Hausner, G.: *Justice in Jerusalem*. Harper & Row: New York 1966.
- Excerpt from parliamentary discussion over the *Nazis and Nazi Collaborators (Punishment) Law in Six Million Accusers*, p. 233-235.

Seventh seminar - From *Internatsionala* to *America ktana*

Americanization, cultural and political changes of the Israeli society. The Yom Kippur War and its political, social and economical impacts. Examples from politics, literature, movies. Decline of Labor Left. Transformation of ties and relationships with American Jewry. Egypt-Israel peace treaty.

Texts to be analyzed in-class:

- Bartov, H.: "The Eve of Yom Kippur War" in: Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, pages: 258-264
- Selected newspaper articles from *The Jerusalem Post*, 6th October 1973 - 22 October 1973.
- UN resolution 338 from October 22, 1973, available at: <http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/0/7FB7C26FCBE80A31852560C50065F878>

- Weizman, E.: “The War of Attrition” in: Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, pages: 247-250
- Rebhun, U., Waxman, Chaim I.: The "Americanization" of Israel: A Demographic, Cultural and Political Evaluation. *Israel Studies* 5/1 (2000), pages: 65-91. Available online at: https://muse.jhu.edu/journals/israel_studies/v005/5.1rebhun.pdf
- “Camp David Accords (September 17, 1978)” and “Peace Treaty between Israel and Egypt (March 26, 1979)” In: Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, pages: 376-385.

Essential reading:

Shapira, A.: *Israel - A History* Shapira, A.: *Israel - A History*, Brandeis University Press, Waltham 2012, chapter 13 - 16.

Hear the following songs as well:

- Song - *Lu Yehi* (Naomi Shemer, 1973), available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ruced6v20> (the song was dedicated to fallen IDF soldiers, but compare it with famous “Let it be” by Beatles).
- Song - *Šir la-šalom* (Lahakat ha-nachal, 1968), available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sz8O0OcAA3c> (this song is originally recorded by a military band, but it is an antiwar song, inspired by *Hair* and later important after Yitzhak Rabin’s assassination)
- Yehezkel (Arik Einstein 1966), Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qPUPKOfMBdE>

Suggested viewing (films):

- Kipur (Amos Gitai, 2000) (Movie on military medics, warning - disturbing content)
- Sweet mud (Dror Shaul, 1974) (Reflections of kibbutz)

Eighth seminar - “From the Battlefield Directly to Anti-War protest”

Anti-War movements in the aftermath of the Camp David Accords and the 1st Lebanon war. Challenges of asymmetric warfare, soldiers’s dilemmas, new generation of peace movements, “post-Zionism”, its historical roots and its critiques.

Texts to be analyzed in class:

- Weizman, E.: “The Protest Movements in the Aftermath of the Yom Kippur War” In: Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, pages: 247-250
- “Peace Now - Platform (Pamphlet from 1980)” In: Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, pages: 312-314 (*note: Peace Now is an anti-War initiative established by former IDF soldiers during Egypt-Israel negotiations in 1978*).
- Sharon, A.: “The War in Lebanon, Summer 1982: Memoir” in: Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, pages: 399-402
- *Kahan Commission of Inquiry - Report (February 8, 1983)*. Available at: <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsourc/History/kahan.html>

Suggested reading:

- Morris, B.: *Righteous Victims: A History of the Zionist-Arab Conflict*. New York: Random House, chapter 11 (p. 494-560)
- Segev, T.: *Elvis in Jerusalem: Post-Zionism and the Americanization of Israel*. Henry Holt: New York 2002 (Post-Zionist account on the roots and meaning of “post-Zionism”).
- Hazony, Y.: *The Jewish State – The Struggle for Israel’s Soul*, Introduction (author is a right-wing historian and a fierce critic of the so-called post-Zionism. What are his main objections? On what basis does he built his criticism?)

Suggested viewing (films):

- For Lebanese perspective on the beginning of the Lebanese civil War in 1976 see: *West Beirut* (Ziad Doureiri 1999), Available online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1YWcqVZJpIU>
- Israeli attempt to reconstruct soldier’s perspective of 1982 involvement in Lebanon: *Lebanon* (Samuel Maoz, 2009). (*the movie does excellent job in showing the soldier’s dilemmas in a situation of asymmetric warfare*).
- For a now classic account of the Israeli soldiers memories on 1982 events in West Beirut see: *Waltz with Bashir* (Ari Folman 2008)

Ninth seminar – Breath of Hope Between Intifadas

First Intifada. 1993 Oslo accords. West Bank Settlements and the Wider Social Context of their Continuing Growth. Second Intifada.

Texts to be analyzed in class:

- *Hamas Charter*. Available at: <http://www.palestine-studies.org/files/pdf/jps/1734.pdf>
- Rabin, Y.: “Speech to the Knesset on the 1992 Elections, July 13, 1992 In: Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, pages: 446-449.
- “Oslo Accords between Israel and Palestine Liberation Organization” Available at: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/isrplo.asp
- Newspaper clippings on Yitzhak Rabin’s assassination from *Ha-Arec* and *The Palestine Post*
- “Peace treaty between Jordan and Israel”, Available at: <http://www.mfa.gov.il/mfa/foreignpolicy/peace/guide/pages/israel-jordan%20peace%20treaty.aspx>
- “Oslo II Accords between Israel and Palestine Liberation Organization” Available at: <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Peace/interim.html>
- *Sharm el-Sheikh Fact-Finding Committee Report*. Available at: <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Peace/Mitchellrep.html>

Suggested reading:

- Morris, B.: *Righteous Victims: A History of the Zionist-Arab Conflict*. New York: Random House, chapter 12 (p. 561-611)
- Shapira, A.: *Israel - A History* Shapira, A.: *Israel - A History*, Brandeis University Press, Waltham 2012, pages 422-467 (note: Shapira finished her book on the eve of second intifada)
- Ziad Abu-Amr: “ Hamas: A Historical and Political Background”, *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Vol. 22:4, (Summer 1993), pp. 5-19

Suggested viewing:

Divine Intervention (Elia Suleiman 2003)

Beaufort (Josef Cedar 2007)

Lemon Tree (Eran Riklis 2008)

Music:

- Kan noladeti ("I was born here", Uzi Hitman 1991), Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXrbSgsk9Kw> (lyrics: <http://hebrewsongs.com/?song=kan>)
- Song - *Šir la-šalom* (Lahakat ha-nachal, 1968), available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sz8O0OcAA3c> (this song is originally recorded by a military band in 1968, but it is an antiwar song, inspired by *Hair* and later important after Yitzhak Rabin's assassination)

Tenth seminar – "We" and "Them"

Internal diversity of Israel. The Influence of Migration Waves on the Face of Israeli Society. Social, cultural and political impact of the migration waves. Arab citizens of the Jewish state. Israeli citizens of Arab nationality, distinctiveness of their social, political situation.

Texts to be analyzed in class:

- Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, Appendixes: five (p. 571-572), seven (p. 575-576), eight (p. 577), nine (p. 578), ten (p. 579).
- Rekhess, E.: "The Arabs in Israel: Statistical and Demographic Data, 2009"
- *The Future Vision of the Palestinian Arabs in Israel*, The National Committee for the Heads of the Arab Local Authorities in Israel (2006). Available at: http://www.mossawacenter.org/my_documents/publication1/Future_Vision_ENG.pdf
- Feldman, M.: "Ethiopian Migration - A Memoir" In: Reinharz, J.: *Israel in the Middle East*, Waltham: Brandeis University Press 2008, pages: 421-422.

Essential reading:

- *Dominitz, Yehuda*: "Immigration and Absorption of Jews from Arab Countries" In: Shulewitz, Malka Hillel (Ed.) *The Forgotten Millions*, Cassel, London 1999, p.: 142-155.
- Morag-Talmon, Pnina: "The Integration Processes of Eastern Jews into Israeli Society 1948-1988." In: Shulewitz, Malka Hillel (Ed.) *The Forgotten Millions*, Cassel, London 1999, p.: 156-185.
- Susser, B., Cohen, A.: "From Accommodation to Decision: Transformation in Israel's Religion Political Life", *Journal of Church and State*, Vol. 38 (1996), pp. 817-839
- Dowty, A.: "Is Israel Democratic? Substance and Semantics in the 'Ethnic Democracy' Debate" *Israel Studies*, vol. 4, no. 2, 1999, pp. 1-15.
- Rekhess, Elie. "The Evolvement of an Arab-Palestinian National Minority in Israel," *Israel Studies*, Vol. 12, No. 3 (Fall 2007), pp. 1-28.
- Rouhana, Nadim. "Accentuated Identities in Protracted Conflict: The Collective Identity of Palestinian Citizens in Israel." *Asian and African Studies*, vol. 27 (1993), pp. 97-127.

Additional reading:

- Arab and Palestinians in Israeli Textbooks in the School Year 1999-2000 (Center for Monitoring the Impact of Peace, September 2000).
- Wiesel, E.: *The Jews of Silence*. Signet Book: New York 1967
- Pinkus, B.: "Israeli Activity on Behalf of Soviet Jewry." In: *Organizing Rescue: National Jewish Solidarity in the Modern Period*. Edited by Selwyn Ilan Troen and Benjamin Pinkus. London: Frank Cass 1992.

Music:

- "The Sticker Song," (Asaf Livni, Ha-Dag Nachaš 2004). Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GrJTsSmJj2U>
- "Kan Noladeti (Dam 2002). Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zIo6lyP9tTE>
- Example of Mizrahi music: "Telech ka-para alai" (Sarit Hadad 2001): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-RuzvpoFw54>

Suggested viewing:

- Ha-Chajim al-pi Agfa (Asi Dajan 1992)
- Ushpizin (Giddi Dar 2004)
- The Syrian Bride (Eran Riklis 2004)

Eleventh seminar - A Unilateral Peace or Multilateral War?

Gaza Disengagement. 2nd Lebanon War, Operation Cast Lead. Contemporary situation.

Texts to be analyzed in class:

- Gilead Sher, "The Partition Plan," *The Jerusalem Report*, June 2, 2014.
- Emily B. Laundau, "Good, bad, or no deal: Where Iran nuclear talks leave Israel, Ha'aretz, May 12, 2014.
- Dekel, U.: "The Incidents in the Northern Theater (Syria and Lebanon): A Change in the Rules of the Game?" *The Institute for National Security Studies* Available at: <http://www.inss.org.il/index.aspx?id=4538&articleid=6781>

Try to find for yourself more articles from Israeli and Jewish media and think-tanks about current Israeli domestic and foreign challenges.

Essential reading:

- Lavie, Ephraim, "Between Settlement and Crisis: The Next Round of the Palestinian Issue," *Strategic Assessment*, Volume 12:4 (February 2010).
- Udi Dekel, Shlomo Brom, and Yoram Schweizer, "Israel's Current Strategic Security Challenges," in Shlomo Brom and Anat Kurz (eds.) *Strategic Survey for Israel, 2013-2014* (Tel Aviv, Institute for National Security Studies, 2014), pp. 123-137
- Malka, Amos, "Israel and Asymmetrical Deterrence," *Comparative Strategy*, Vol. 27:1 (January/February 2008), pp. 1-19.
- Kober, Avi, "The Israeli Defense Forces in the Second Lebanon War: Why the Poor Performance?," *Journal of Strategic studies*, Vol. 31:1 (February 2008), pp. 3-40.

Suggested viewing (films):

- Beufort (Joseph Cedar 2007) (*the film reconstructs disengagement of Israeli soldiers from Lebanon from individual soldier's perspective*)
- Disengagement (Amos Gitai 2007) (*you can skip the first half of the film and focus on the second part, where Gitai does an excellent job in reconstructing the tense atmosphere of Gaza settlement removal from the perspective of the riot policemen*).

Twelfth seminar - Small nations in a distant lands - Czech-Israeli relationships 1918-2000s

Czechs and Israelis. Masaryk's relationship to Zionism and his visit to Palestine in 1927, Responses to Munich Conference and its role in Contemporary Israeli political discourse, Czech Arms Deal, Czechoslovak Communist anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism, Notable Czech Migrants to Israel, Václav Havel and Renewal of Diplomatic Relations in the 1990s. Discussion about the contemporary Czech foreign policy vis-à-vis Israel.

Analyzed texts:

- Max Brod's account of Masaryk's visit to Palestine in 1927 in: Rychnovsky, E.: "Masaryk and the Jews" B. Bollak 1941
- Newspaper clippings on Birth of Czechoslovakia, Munich agreement, Czech Arms Deal and Communist Anti-Zionism from English language Jewish press
- Puder, J.: "Czech-Israeli Relations: An Enduring Friendship" Available at: <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2012/joseph-puder/czech-israeli-relations-an-enduring-friendship/>

Essential reading:

- Yegar, M.: *Czechoslovakia, zionism and Israel – Shifts and Turns in complex relations*. Jerusalem: Zionist Library 1997.
- Bialer, U.: "The Czech-Israeli arms deal revisited" *Journal of Strategic Studies*, Volume 8, Issue 3, 1985
- Tydlitátová, V.: "Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk and the Hilsner Affair in the Interpretation of Electronic antisemitism" In: Tarant, Z.; Tydlitátová, V.: *History of Hatred – Hatred of History: Encounters Between Antisemitism and Historical Memory*. Pilsen: University of West Bohemia in Pilsen 2013, p.: 28-65

Songs:

- Arik Einstein "Prag" (1968), available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKt0ixf-N88>. Lyrics in English available at: <http://hebrewsongs.com/?song=prague> (*What event does this song refer to?*)
- Bedřich Smetana "Moldau", available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IoSVGd6EPL> (*Try to guess, why is this symphony from the times of Czech national revival suggested here*)