

# The Diplomatic Club

October 2018 | Since 1998



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10 Carlibah St., Tel-Aviv  
P.O. Box 20344, Tel Aviv 61200, Israel

708 Third Avenue, 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10017, U.S.A.

Club Diplomatique de Geneva  
P.O. Box 228, Geneva, Switzerland

**Publisher** The Diplomatic Club Ltd.

**Editor-in-Chief** Julia Verdel

**Editor** Eveline Erfolg  
Gabriel M. Avner

**Writers** Anthony J. Dennis  
Patricia e Hemricourt, Israel  
Ira Moskowitz, Israel  
Bernard Marks, Israel  
Christopher Barder, UK  
Ilan Berman, USA

**Reporters** Eveline Erfolg  
Neill Sandler  
Gabriel M. Avner

**Advertising** Tel: 972-3-56.220.61/2  
info@diplomacy-club.com

**Layout** Tsimkovsky Dmitry

**Accounting** Gabriel Elnathan

**Legal Support** Mati Simchowitz  
Law Office

**Cover** Photography and design  
Tsimkovsky Dmitry

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Tel: 972-3-562.20.61/2  
Fax: 972-3-562.02.12  
info@diplomacy-club.com  
www.diplomacy-club.com



## *Dear friends,*

Last August the Diplomatic Club celebrated its 20.

As I look back, it is like a 20 years old person, we have been over the same stages: difficulties of birth and painful exchanges of teeth, broken voice, bar mitzvah – Jewish tradition, when a child become a man.

We began as independent organization and we have succeeded in saving our independence. More than that we have strongly kept the policy of objective information.

Exactly here, in Israel, at the crossing of all religions, was born the idea to apply to people, that the main task of diplomats is providing links between countries and peoples. Open mind and "togethering" - this is the philosophy of the Diplomatic Club

We are very happy that our concept becomes a very popular.

Now we can say that we have studied a lot, and have done a lot and we definitely are adult enough not to repeat past mistakes.

Since 1998 the Diplomatic Club management has been working on receiving credit for the diplomatic community.

I am happy to inform you that on April 2018 an agreement was signed between the Diplomatic Club and American Express Company regarding the credit

for the Diplomatic Community and issuing Diplomatic Credit Cards:

Gold Corporate and Gold individual with a minimum credit of 25000 NIS each.

Consequently we are undergoing intricate negotiations with the Israeli banks concerning the privileges for opening and keeping accounts for the Diplomatic Community.

Credit cards are sponsored by commercial enterprises for obvious reasons – members of a club form a readily identifiable market for their products and services. For Club members, the card is an acceptable form of identity which makes it easy to receive discounts, benefits and specially targeted offers. Hence most airlines, theaters and prestigious department stores facilitate similar Club services that the Diplomatic Club management has organized.

**Sincerely Yours,**

Julia Verdel

General Manager

The Diplomatic Club - Israel

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A portrait of a man in a dark suit, light blue shirt, and dark blue tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is slightly blurred, showing a window with white curtains and a wooden wall.

**INTERVIEW  
WITH  
AMBASSADOR  
OF ARGENTINA  
TO ISRAEL**

# First of all the Diplomatic Club Magazine highly appreciate HE Ambassador Mariano Caucino for his willingness to be interviewed.

**It is our first interview with Ambassador of Argentina during last 20 years. We think that this interview will bring a mutual understanding of the Argentina's position and, of course his personal aspiration to developing the relations between nations.**

## General

**DC:** *Next year will mark 70 years of Diplomatic Relations between Israel and Argentina. Throughout the history of the Jewish State, Argentina-Israel relations have been marred by numerous trials. Diplomatic ties were initially established on May 31, 1949, by the President of Argentina, Juan Perón, and the President of Israel, Chaim Weizmann. After that, with the appointment of Pablo Manguel, the head of the Organización Israelita Argentina (OIA), as Argentina's ambassador to Israel, Argentina became the first Latin American country with an ambassador in the newly-created Jewish State. It was very optimistic period, isn't it?*

Yes. It was a very optimistic period, one in which the Government led by General Juan Perón did all what was in its reach to help the nascent Jewish State. His wife, the legendary Evita, was also very

sympathetic to the Jewish State cause – she had begun her artistic career working in a radio owned by Jaime Yankelevich, the founder of a dynasty of media businessmen which later on created a lot of Argentine TV shows that came to be very popular in Israel. Those shows were brought to Israel by Yair Dori, an outstanding member of the Argentine-Israeli community who has made a lot to bring our two countries and peoples closer.

It must be borne in mind that not many States in the world were committed with the fate of Israel in those times. Argentina was one of the few that did take a clear stance then and kept it throughout time.

Like in any other bilateral relationship, the relationship between Argentina and Israel has had ups and downs along its history, as well as the typical dose of continuity and change. But in spite of that, and especially despite Argentine political instability during the 20th century, our relationship with Israel has been characterized by stability. A major factor that explains that is the importance of the Jewish community in Argentina, perfectly integrated in mainstream Argentine society, and remarkable

for its contribution to Argentine society and life at large.

## Political relations

**DC:** *Carlos Saúl Menem, President of Argentina from 1989 to 1999, carried the relationship forward by becoming the first Argentinian leader to make a state visit to Israel. His Arab descent and his very pro-Israel feelings made the visit an emotional one for the guest and his hosts.*

President Menem, a member of the Peronist party, was the son of a Syrian Christian mother and a Syrian Muslim father; he was a Catholic himself, and his Cabinet included some relevant Jewish officials, like Alberto Kohan and Carlos Corach, who was his Minister of the Interior. But for us in Argentina that doesn't represent anything unusual. Rather, for us it is a surprise that abroad some consider it surprising to have a President of Arab descent with Jewish ministers and a pro-Israel line of thought.

It would be unfair to say that ours is a country in which people from multiple ethnicities and religions coexist: in fact, they work, study,

mingle, mix, share, live and dream together.

**DC:** *What is position of Argentina in Israel-Palestinian conflict today?*

Regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Argentina recognizes the right of the State of Israel to live in peace with its neighbors, within secure and internationally recognized borders, as well as the right of the Palestinian people to constitute a sovereign State, independent and viable according with basis on the frontiers of 1967, and according to what the parties agree on in the negotiations process.

Argentina supports strongly all efforts tending to the

accomplishment of peace and stability in the Middle East. Because of that, it calls for all regional actors and friends of Israel and Palestine to work in a constructive manner to contribute to resume negotiations as soon as possible.

**DC:** *In 2012 Argentina was elected to a two-year non-permanent position on the United Nations Security Council and was participated in major peacekeeping operations in Middle East. What are the political ties with Syria, Lebanon, Iran and Egypt today?*

As I've already said, Argentina is an example of the positive results of peace among different religions and ethnicities, which all share a

part in building a better country and future for all. In Argentina we have a sizable and relevant community of Syrian and Lebanese origin, mostly Maronite Christian but also Muslim, which contribute to the diversity of our country and its culture.

Regarding our relations with the countries you mention, it would be impossible to attempt a description of our ties that suits all of them, as the countries themselves are varied. Generalizations, in this regard, are not useful and often lead to misconceptions.

**DC:** *Netanyahu visited Argentina last year, during the first visit by an Israeli prime minister to the region since Israel's foundation.*





*Only a few days before Argentina voted against the US recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. What is the position of Argentina concerning recognition of Palestine as state? Will embassy move to Jerusalem?*

First of all I must say that Argentina abstained in the vote regarding the resolution draft approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization on December 21, 2017, regarding the status of the City of Jerusalem, considering that its adoption would not contribute to the solution of the conflict between the parties.

Argentina recognizes Palestine as a State since December 2010, when President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner issued a decree stating that recognition.

Regarding the last question, there are no plans concerning the move of the Embassy to Jerusalem. In that respect, it should be borne in mind that only three countries in the globe have made that decision so far – even though, as one of them is the main superpower on Earth, its impact has been enormous.

## Economic relation

*DC: Having established diplomatic relations and opened the first Latin American legation in Israel, Argentina signed a generous commercial agreement with the Jewish state. This granted favorable terms for Israeli acquisitions of Argentine commodities. Not many people know about this. Could you please, comment it?*

Yes. The agreement granted very favorable terms for Israeli acquisitions of Argentine commodities, and it was designed to do so for political reasons, because the Argentine government wanted to help Israel as a friend in need. It was in that context that Argentina did its utmost effort to contribute to the development of the then newborn Israeli economy. Our first Ambassador to Israel, Mr Pablo Manguel, a Jewish community leader and a Peronist politician, was instrumental in that effort – we paid homage to him at the Embassy some weeks ago, in a ceremony that was attended by some of the last Israeli Ambassadors to Argentina. Mr Manguel's efforts and role in the beginning of our bilateral relationship must surely be useful to tell myth from reality in relation with Argentina in the postwar years.



A good example of the spirit that reigned in those early years is the story about a meeting between the first Israeli ambassador to Argentina, President Perón and his wife, Evita. Perón asked him what we could buy from Israel in order to help it, and the ambassador said, “well, mainly oranges”. Apparently, even before Perón managed to answer, Evita told him “Juan, we should buy from them, they’re friends”. In those times, an economical association with Israel yielded little economic benefits for

a country like Argentina, which was experiencing a postwar boom. It was out of political considerations that our government took measures to help Israel economically.

**DC:** *Argentina's Vice President Gabriela Michetti announced the turning the good relations between both countries “to concrete economic improvements” her visit this year to Israel. Can you provide us with the details?*

The Vice President’s visit was terrific, and its fruits are only starting to be seen. Since the visit, an important number of Argentine cabinet members have been here in Israel, among them Lino Barañao, Minister of Science and Technology, and soon, also Alejandro Finocchiaro, Minister of Education. New opportunities for cooperation are being developed. In that regard, we also hope that we can carry out the State visit of President Mauricio Macri to Israel in the near future.

In this context, also, we could remind the readers of several agreements were signed that are now being executed. Among them, we can mention the Bilateral Agreement on Air Services, Joint Declaration between the Innovation Authority of Israel and the Ministry of Production and between the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation and its Israeli counterpart.

In May 2018, an Argentine delegation took part in Agritech.

Also, Israeli investors, decision makers, Agritech companies and start ups, etc. were invited to attend AgTech week (6-10 August 2018), a public-private initiative to explore and share Argentina's AgTech potential. The event focus was on creating new business opportunities, showcasing the work of the entrepreneurial world and examining the impact that innovation and new technologies have on productivity.

**DC:** *What is the economic situation in Argentina?*

Currently, Argentine authorities are implementing a program of restructuring our economy. It can be said that most relevant stakeholders in Argentina have come to an agreement regarding the necessity of fighting against high inflation, a problem we've been having for a decade, and which is caused in great part by public deficit. We are sure that

Argentine society and leaders are conscious of the importance of economic stability and of the crucial role that fighting inflation has in the quest for a healthy economy, even though sacrifices have to be made, particularly regarding public expenditure, in order to achieve that end.

**DC:** *Tourism in Argentina is characterized by its cultural offerings and its ample and varied natural assets. How many visitors came from Argentina to Israel and from Israel to Argentina?*

Although we don't have updated numbers for this year -they're currently being prepared by the Ministry of Tourism- we know that there's been an important rise in the number of Argentine visitors to Israel this year, as the State of Israel reached its 70th anniversary. On the other hand, visiting South America in general and Argentina in particular has been a common practice for young Israelis after they finish their military service for years, and is still an important bridge, at the popular level, between our two countries.

## Security Issue

**DC:** *Israel and Argentina mark 26 years since the terror attack on Buenos Aires Embassy. How Government of Argentina acted against terror organizations today? Do Argentina using Israeli experience?*

The attacks against the Jewish Community Center "AMIA" and against the Israeli Embassy were despicable terrorist actions that were unanimously repudiated in Argentina. They were attacks against Argentina, against the Argentine community as a whole and against the Argentine Jewish community.

The Argentine people and its Government are deeply committed in the struggle against terrorism in all its forms, which we reject unconditionally.

**DC:** *Why Did the Argentine National Team Cancel its Friendly Match With Israel?*

That friendly match was organized by the Argentine Football Association in the first place, and then cancelled by it. The Argentine Government didn't have anything to do with the organization of the match, nor with its cancellation.

## Jewish issue

**DC:** *Historical setbacks have included Israel's capture of the notorious Nazi commander Adolph Eichmann in Buenos Aires, cases of blatant anti-Semitism, horrific acts of terrorism. As a consequence, Argentina's Jewish population endured rampant manifestations of anti-Semitism. In 1960, Israel became the subject of a United Nations Security Council debate initiated by Argentina. What is the present government doing to*

*residual anti-Semitism that had been tolerated if not encouraged by previous administrations?*

First of all, the historical truth is that notwithstanding the political changes that Argentina underwent during the 20th century and beyond, no Argentine government, of any political tendency whatsoever, ever encouraged or tolerated anti-Semitism. The permanent growth and relevance of the Argentine Jewish community, one of the biggest in the world (the fifth or sixth outside Israel, depending on different estimates) is a telling proof of it.

Isolated acts of anti-Semitism took place in Argentina, as in almost all other countries in the Western world, during the 20th century, and may persist residually in the 21st. Anti-Semitism, though, like all other forms of racism, prejudice and bigotry, have been steadily declining in Argentina for decades. Ours is a society remarkable for its liberal approach to life and culture, for how easy it is for foreigners to blend in, and for how open our spirit is to new innovations from abroad. Our Constitution, since 1853, declared that our soil is open for "all good-willed men from the whole world". That's quite a unique constitutional disposition.

## Personal questions

**DC:** *How do you feel in Israel? What do you think Israel can adopt from Argentina and Argentina can adopt from Israel?*

For a person passionate for politics and history like me, it would be hard to think of a better posting. My experience here has been professionally and personally enriching to an unfathomable level.

I think Israel is an admirable country. Its resilience and its ability to turn adversity into opportunity are, in my opinion, the traits we Argentines should be more eager to adopt, as both peoples share the creativity and optimism needed for it.

On the other hand, I'm of the view that Argentine culture and artistic manifestations are widely well-known and appreciated in Israel. Many Argentine-Israelis and Israelis of Argentine origin also remember, know and respect the capacity Argentina has shown of integrating different communities in a true melting pot (or, as we say in Spanish, "crisol de razas").

**DC:** *Do you like Israeli food?*

Personally I love it. We Argentines are very fond of Mediterranean food, which is part of our heritage. Shakshuka is my favorite.

**DC:** *What is your hobby?*

Reading and writing, mostly on political and historical issues.

Ambassador Mariano A. Caucino was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1976. He is a lawyer graduated from the Universidad de Buenos Aires (2001). He held the position of Chairman of the Council of Trustees of the High Studies in Business, Argentina's largest non-university high school (2012-2016). Founder and Dean of the School of Government in UCES University and Professor of Argentine Political History and Foreign Policy. Head of the International Affairs and Cooperation Department of UCES University. In 2010 he was elected President of the Business Directors Association of Buenos Aires and Secretary to the Argentine Federation of Business Directors. Member of the Council of Foreign Relations of Argentina (CARI) and of the Foreign Policy Institute of the National Academy of Moral and Political Sciences of Argentina. Member of the Consultive Council of the InterAmerican Institute for Democracy (Miami, US). Author of "Argentina 1950-1980: political instability during the Cold War" (DobleHache, 2013), "Argentina 1980-2010: three decades of recent history" (DobleHache, 2012), "Russia's Global Role" (El Estadista, 2015), "Putin's Russia. Myth and Reality of the Post-Soviet Leadership", (Ediciones B, 2016) and "Argentina's Pendulum. The Costs of Unpredictability and the Opportunity of Consensus" (2017). Prior to his appointment as ambassador to Israel, he served as Ambassador to Costa Rica (2016-2017).



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ARMENIAN PATRIARCHATE

Date 22 October, 2018

Your Excellencies

Your Eminences

Your Graces

Dear all,

We are glad to inform you that, His Eminence Archbishop Sevan Gharibian was elected as the new Canon Sacristan for the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem in 2014 after His Eminence Arch. Nourhan Manougian was elected as the new Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Please, take this information into consideration in your correspondence and invitations.

Blessing,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Koryoun Baghdasaryan'.

Fr. Koryoun Baghdasaryan

Chancellor of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem



**O**n October 9, 2018, the Embassy of Ukraine in the State of Israel held an official reception on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of Independence of Ukraine and the 100th anniversary of Ukrainian statehood.

The Ambassador of Ukraine to the State of Israel Hennadii Nadolenko congratulated the guests on the holiday and expressed his gratitude to the State of Israel for its constant support in development a strong and successful Ukraine.

The Minister of Communications of the State of Israel Ayooob Kara and the Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, and Chair of the Israel-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group Tali Ploskov addressed the audience with welcoming speeches.

A high honor was paid during the reception as the municipality building in Tel-Aviv was highlighted in the colors of the Ukrainian flag.

Within the framework of the evening Ukrainian songs were performed by Nadiya Sinenko, Svitlana Mironova and Lyudmila Yasinska.

Representatives of the Israeli Parliament and Government, the business community, media, diplomatic corps, Ukrainian community, immigrants from Ukraine in Israel and friends of Ukraine came to congratulate with the holiday.

A big thank you to everyone who came for the Ukrainian holiday in Tel Aviv!



# NEW JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR ARRIVED TO ISRAEL



***Ghassan Majali, who previously served as the Hashemite Kingdom's envoy to Spain, arrived in Tel Aviv, a month after Israel's new ambassador to Jordan – Amir Weissbrod – presented his credential to King Abdullah II.***

***The exchange of the new ambassadors puts the formal diplomatic ties between the two countries back on track.***

**On the anniversary of the assassination of former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, King Abdullah announced his intention to cancel the annexes to the peace agreement with Israel.**

But, the statement came after Jordan announced its decision to cancel the annexes of the peace treaty between the two countries, which dealt with Israel's lease of the Island of Peace in Naharayim and the Tzofar enclave in the Arava by Israel.

Both areas are used by Israel for agricultural purposes.

Under the 1994 Treaty of Peace between Israel and Jordan, these two areas "will fall under Jordanian sovereignty with Israeli private land use rights. These rights include unimpeded freedom of entry to, exit from and movement within the area. These areas are not subject to customs or immigration legislation. These rights will remain in force for

25 years and will be renewed automatically for the same period unless either country wishes to terminate the arrangement, in which case consultations will be taken."

The king's decision followed a request from government activists to not renew the agreement and to revoke Israeli ownership from Jordanian land.





## 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

September 1 is a major holiday for the Central Asian country, which became the Independent Republic of Uzbekistan on this day in 1991. Known as *Mustaqillik Kuni* in the Uzbek language, National Day is celebrated with feasts and shows in parks and public squares, including music, folk dancing, and displays of local crafts like blue ceramics and woven carpets. The biggest of these parties takes place in the capital city Tashkent, where the President speaks at Alisher Navoi National Park. There's music during the day and fireworks in the evening.

All over Uzbekistan, families celebrate their National Day by enjoying traditional dishes like plov, the national dish, which includes rice, mutton, onion, and grated carrot. Kurt (sour milk balls) and samsa (meat pastries) are also popular treats. The end of summer brings sweet watermelons which are sure to be found

at many National Day feasts.

The flag of Uzbekistan seen in today's Doodle has 12 stars, which correspond to the months of the year and the constellations of the zodiac. The stars are also a reference to the long Uzbek history of astronomy. In the ornate, blue-tiled city of Samarkand, ruins of Uzbek astronomer Ulugh Beg's observatory are still preserved from the 1400s. Beg and his astronomers pioneered many fundamental astronomical and calendric equations, measuring the sun's path around the world and its angle relative to the equator.

Patriotic spirit runs high in Uzbekistan on National Day, and there's a lot of be proud of, particularly the region's rich history of academic and cultural achievements.

**Happy National Day, Uzbekistan!**

# AMBASSADOR'S MATH



On October 10, the Russian Cultural Center in Tel Aviv hosted a simultaneous chess session with Israel Gelfer, former Vice-President of the World Chess Federation (FIDE).

Young Israeli players as well as Russian diplomats participated in the game. The competitors were rewarded with medals and certificates.

Ambassador of Russia to Israel Anatoly Viktorov delivered opening remarks at the event. "Russia and Israel are among leading chess nations. Recently an important decision was made in the Georgian city of Batumi. Arkadiy Dvorkovich was elected the President of FIDE. It testifies to the fact that the position of Russia in the chess community is strong", Ambassador A.Viktorov emphasized.

# CHINESE EMBASSY IN ISRAEL HOLDS RECEPTION TO MARK 69<sup>TH</sup> CHINESE NATIONAL DAY

*A Chinese artist performs a Chinese traditional Peking opera show at the reception hosted by the Chinese Embassy in Israel in Tel Aviv, on Sept. 16, 2018. (Xinhua/Guo Yu)*



The Chinese Embassy in Israel on Sunday held a reception in Israel's coastal city of Tel Aviv to celebrate the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China which falls on Oct. 1.

The celebrations consisted of a photo exhibition on the Belt and Road Initiative proposed by China in 2013, and a marvelous Peking opera show presented to about 400 guests including foreign diplomats, the Chinese people living in Israel, and Israelis from all circles of life.

The Belt and Road Initiative, formally known as the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road, aims to build a trade and infrastructure network connecting Asia with Africa and Europe along the ancient trade routes of the Silk Road.

"This year's national day celebration carries special significance, as it also marks the 40th anniversary of China's Reform and Opening Up, an endeavor that transformed China and the world," said Chinese Ambassador to Israel Zhan Yongxin in his welcoming speech.

Zhan also mentioned the first China International Import Expo slated for early November in Shanghai, the financial hub of China.

Around 140 countries and regions, including Israel, and about 3,000 companies have confirmed their participation in the Chinese expo, which is expected to attract 150,000 professional buyers in and outside China.

The Chinese ambassador hailed the fruitful cooperation between

China and Israel in the fields of politics, economics and trade, as well as on people-to-people and cultural exchanges, since the two countries established diplomatic ties in 1992.

For the development of bilateral relations, the high-level exchanges have provided significant guidance, while the intergovernmental cooperation mechanisms have offered stronged institutional guarantees, noted Zhan.

Meanwhile, Israeli Science Minister Ofir Akunis said the Israel-China relations are stronger than ever and Israel "prioritizes" cooperation with China.

Akunis said he will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Shanghai Science and Technology Committee during his visit to the Chinese largest city in November to attend China International Import Expo.

China is Israel's largest trading partner in Asia and third largest trading partner in the world, with bilateral trade exceeding 13 billion U.S. dollars in 2017.

# THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Dozens of graduates of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award received their Gold Level status at the residence of ambassador David Quarrey. The renowned self-development programme was created by the Duke of Edinburgh in 1956, and today operates in dozens of towns in Israel, with thousands of young participants.



*Graduates with Ambassador Quarrey, partner Aldo Henriquez, MK Revital Swid, Award's co-Chairs Amir Amar and Hilton Nathanson and World WIZO Chairperson Prof. Rivka Lazovsky.*

*Photo by Shay Barel*

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award was founded by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG, KT in 1956, in conjunction with Kurt Hahn, the German educationalist. Both were concerned that young people's development was lacking in certain key areas, and they resolved to create a programme that would be a 'do-it-yourself kit in the art of civilised living'!

The subsequent spread of the Award across the globe is testament to the universal appeal of the programme, and the vision of its founder. However, even HRH admits that this took him by surprise:

"When the first trial of the Award was launched in 1956, no one had any idea quite what would happen. In the event it was an instant success, and the Award has been growing and expanding worldwide ever since."

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh has remained committed to the Award since its birth over 60 years ago, particularly in recognising the achievements of Award participants and the adults who support them.

In the past sixty years, millions of young people have participated and received Awards, with millions more benefiting from its impact in communities around the world.



*On Friday 14 September, the EU Delegation in Israel joined Plastic Free Israel for the annual #EUBeachCleanup at Jaffa's Midron Beach.*

*The Delegation's staff, joined by students from Tabeetha school, the Danish Ambassador, EU member state colleagues and volunteers for the beach cleanup, as part of the EU's commitment to #BeatPlasticPollution*



## KOREA CELEBRATED ITS 70

The Korean embassy in Israel celebrated its national day, with a traditional Korean food, a display of Samsung innovations, and a dance performance that mixed the past with the future at the Embassy in Herzliya.

Ambassador Choi Yong-hwan emphasized the importance of partnership and friendship between two countries

# AMKIRI

An Israeli cosmetics startup, which touts the world's first "visual fragrance" technology, won first place at JournEY Israel's "ThePITCH" contest in Tel Aviv on Wednesday, besting seven other early-stage companies for the \$250,000 top prize. Amkiri was the first beauty startup to have won the prestigious competition.

wand, stencils, and stamps. The result looks similar to temporary tattoos and body art, with a distinct fragrance.

The concept of 'visual fragrance' began when Shoval Shavit, fresh out of a top design college and with a strong affinity for style and perfumes, came up with an idea of

experts, Amkiri began creating the product – scientifically formulating fragrance into a color form, and inventing proprietary beauty tools and applicators.

Fast-forward 3 years, and Amkiri has now brought fragrance into the 21st century, carving out a brand-new, patented product category



Amkiri has scientifically developed a brand-new product category for the beauty industry which combines the senses of smell and sight, enabling consumers the complete freedom of multi-sensory self-expression .

The product range comes with a liquid ink applied to the skin using Amkiri's beauty applicators, including a brush wand, freehand

trying to visualize (the traditional and transparent) fragrance on her own body, in a colorful way.

Taking this from idea to execution – Shoval turned to her chemistry expert mother, Aliza, and with the backing of serial innovation entrepreneur David Chissick, the 3 founded Amkiri in 2014. With a team of savvy business, design, engineering and chemistry

for the beauty and cosmetics industry which enables consumers the complete freedom of multi-sensory self-expression.

# NEW CANNABIS RESEARCH LAB SET UP ON HEBREW UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

A new cannabinoid research lab called Lumir Lab has been launched on the Hebrew University of Jerusalem campus after the Asana Bio Group, an Israeli holding company that takes part in medical cannabis financing, invested \$2.3 million to establish the facility.

The lab will specialize in the research and development of cannabinoids, one of the active ingredients unique to the cannabis plant, and “provide clinical validation and a wide range of solutions for companies operating in the medical cannabis industry,” a statement said.

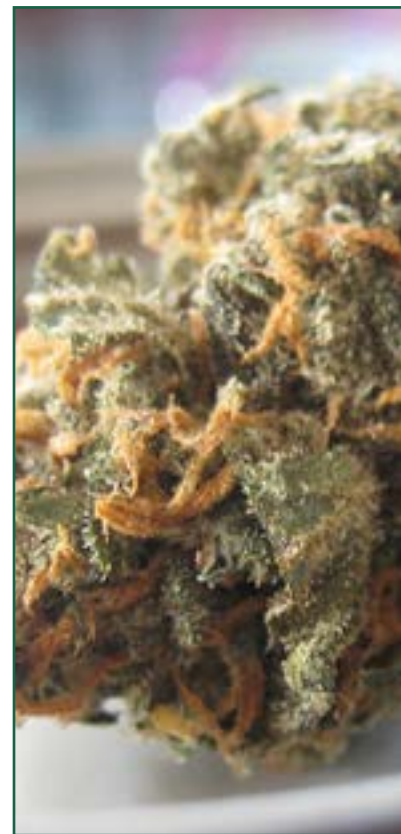
It will be led by Czech analytic chemist Lumír Ondřej Hanuš, a leading cannabinoids researcher known to be the first one to identify and isolate the structure anandamides, endocannabinoids in the human brain.

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## WITH DARING AND CHUTZPAH: HOW ISRAEL IS POISED TO BE A BLOCKCHAIN FRONTRUNNER

Government leaders, industry giants, and go-getting entrepreneurs have big ambitions for blockchain technology, the revolutionary distributed digital ledger system expected to solve many of the tech sector’s persistent problems.

In Israel, there are 129 currently active blockchain companies, ac-

ording to the Israeli non-profit Start-Up Nation Central, and that number has steadily risen: there were just 42 blockchain firms in 2015, 66 in 2016, and 110 in 2017.

Blockchain’s debut actually came as a side innovation to Bitcoin, the digital cryptocurrency launched in 2008, amid the global financial cri-

sis where big banks proved questionable as trusted third parties.

Today, millions of people use Bitcoin for payments and the idea – and creation – of new digital currencies has become mainstream.

In Israel, Tel Aviv-based Colu, a blockchain technology company, offers a mobile payment system to boost local businesses. Bits of Gold, also Tel Aviv-based, enables the Israeli public to buy and sell Bitcoin and Ethereum digital currencies in exchange for shekels, or other currencies.

Israeli blockchain startups have also been behind some of the biggest initial coin offerings (ICOs), the rough equivalent to initial public offerings, in recent years. Last summer, Bancor, an Israeli-Swiss cryptocurrency startup that developed a virtual currency conversion platform, made headlines when it raised \$153 million in just three hours in an ICO. At the time, the company said it was the second-largest fundraising campaign in the blockchain industry.

Later in 2017, Sirin Labs, the Switzerland-based Israeli-founded blockchain firm known for developing a \$17,000 secure smartphone for high-end clients, raised \$157 million in an initial coin offering for a new line of blockchain-based products.

But blockchain goes above and beyond digital currencies, and has proven to be a far greater technology than the underlying system



that initially operated Bitcoin.

In fact, blockchain-related skills are in demand everywhere. True blockchain experts are few to come by because the tech sector is so new. Rather people from other tech sectors can use their skills and adapt them to blockchain's requirements. And this affords developers a lot of prospects.

The Israeli tech ecosystem is world-renowned for its go-getting approach as well as its risk-taking, extremely collaborative culture that sees failure as a stepping-stone to success and abides by the tenet that nothing is impossible.

Israel's tech prowess in cybersecurity, cryptography, fintech, and artificial intelligence – together with the country's well-esteemed computer scientists and engineers – have made Israel a place to watch (and collaborate with) for blockchain development.

Reports suggest at least 200 banks across the globe are al-

ready testing blockchain platforms, including Israel's Bank Hapoalim, which together with software giant Microsoft, is creating digital bank guarantees based on blockchain technology.

In May, The Floor announced a collaboration with the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, semiconductor giant Intel, and global management consulting company Accenture for a unique blockchain-based new securities lending platform aimed at revolutionizing the securities lending market in Israel.

Meanwhile, earlier this week, the Israel Securities Authority, the national securities regulator, implemented blockchain technology. sent out by the ISA to the supervised

While blockchain is still in its early stages of adoption, the local tech and entrepreneurial community is very optimistic regarding Israel's role in this dynamic technological revolution.



# INDEPENDENCE TRAIL

*Launching in time for Israel's 70th anniversary, the 10-stop walking route tells the story of Tel Aviv's foundation and the birth of Israel.*



As Israel's 70th anniversary approaches, a new interactive tourist site aims to change that, focusing on two of the most crucial events in the story of modern Israel: the birth of Tel Aviv in 1909 and the birth of Israel itself in 1948.

The trail begins at the intersection of tree-lined Rothschild Boulevard and Herzl Street, home to Tel Aviv's first kiosk. Established in 1910, the location quickly became a central meeting place for locals. During the 1920s, around 100 kiosks operated in the city under the association of the kiosk and soft-drink store owners. Today, the original kiosk serves as an espresso bar, centrally located among Tel Aviv's most popular bars and restaurants.



The second stop takes visitors to the Nahum Gutman Fountain, decorated with mosaics that tell the history of Jaffa – the ancient port city from which Tel Aviv was born. The mosaic was created by Israeli artist Nachum Gutman, who grew up in Tel Aviv along with the new city, and reflected the simplicity of the early days of the first Hebrew city. Gutman helped pioneer a distinctly Israeli style of art and was awarded the Israel Prize in 1978.

### ***Rear side of mosaic fountain by Gutman at its original location (1976-2008) at Bialik Square, Tel Aviv***

The third stop on the trail is the home of Akiva Aryeh Weiss, founder of the city's first neighborhood, Ahuzat Bayit, which later evolved into modern-day Tel Aviv. As president of the then newly established Building Society, Weiss presided over the 1909 lottery in which 66 Jewish families drew numbers written on seashells to determine the allocation of lots in the future city of Tel Aviv.



From there, the trail continues to the site where the first Hebrew-speaking high school, the Herzliya Hebrew Gymnasium, once stood. Located on Herzl Street, the building was a major Tel Aviv landmark until 1962, when the site was demolished for the construction of the Shalom Meir Tower. Today, the Shalom Tower is home to a visitors center about the history of Tel Aviv, open free to the public on weekdays.

### ***Herzliya Hebrew High School, 1936***



Next, visitors arrive at the Great Synagogue on Allenby Street, the spiritual and religious center of the first Hebrew city. The building features a huge dome, elaborate lighting fixtures and stained glass windows.

The nearby Hagana Museum is the sixth stop on the trail, located in the former home of Eliyahu Golomb, the founder of the pre-state Jewish military force that later evolved into the Israel Defense Force (IDF). From 1930 to 1945, the building was used as Hagana's secret headquarters. The museum will offer free public entry during 2018, in honor of Israel's 70th anniversary.



***The museum is located inside 'Beit Eliyahu Golomb' (Eliyahu Golomb house), 23 Rothschild Boulevard, Tel-Aviv.***



The next stop is the Bank of Israel Visitors Center. The center presents the history of the financial system in Israel and displays an extensive exhibition of banknotes and coins issued throughout pre-state days to the present. The center is also offering free public entry to mark Israel's 70th anniversary.

***Tel Aviv Founders Monument. Photo by Ricky Rachman***

he trail then heads to the Tel Aviv Founders Monument on Rothschild Boulevard, dedicated to the men and women who established Tel Aviv in the first half of the 19th century.

The trail continues at the statue of Meir Dizengoff, Tel Aviv's first mayor. He was known for riding his horse from his home to City Hall, then located on Bialik Street. The statue was created by artist David Zondolovitz and unveiled in front of Dizengoff's historic residence, Rothschild Boulevard 16, in 2009.



***Meir Dizengoff statue by artist David Zondolovitz. Photo by Ricky Rachman***

The trail ends at Independence Hall, the former home of Tel Aviv's first mayor, Meir Dizengoff. The building also served as the municipal museum of art and it is where, on May 14, 1948 – the day the British Mandate in Palestine officially ended – Ben-Gurion read out the Declaration of Independence.

The 10-million-shekel (\$2.874-million) project is being jointly financed by the Tel Aviv-Jaffa Municipality, the Ministry of Tourism and the Jerusalem Affairs and Heritage Ministry. Admission to all the sites is free of charge.

The Independence Trail joins a list of tourist attractions that have recently opened or will soon be launched in Tel Aviv, which is trying to rival Jerusalem as a destination for visitors from abroad. Currently, Jerusalem draws more than double the number of tourists visiting Tel Aviv each year. Other coming attractions in Tel Aviv include the soon-to-be-opened Museum of Natural History, the Peres Center for Innovation, and a new museum founded by and dedicated to the celebrity illusionist Uri Geller, who recently moved back to Israel after spending many years abroad.

**The tour takes about an hour or two, depending upon how much time is spent in the various visitors centers. For less tech-oriented types, the city will be distributing explanatory maps in eight different languages (Hebrew, English, French, Spanish, German, Arabic, Chinese and Russian).**

# France-Israel cross-cultural season



**T**he France-Israel cross-cultural season will be held from June to November 2018 in two countries. Focused on innovation, it will involve all aspects of cooperation between France and Israel. Its objective is to target youth and develop a multidisciplinary programme focused on contemporary design, the cultural and creative industries (series, film, etc.), the digital economy (French Tech and Start-up Nation), academic cooperation, Francophonie and innovation (for example the French-Israeli VEN $\mu$ S satellite).

Since its initiation in 1985, France has held cultural seasons with over 50 countries world-wide, focusing on cross-cultural dialogue in the arts and sciences. The France-Israel Season of Culture includes several hundred events taking place in 50 towns in France and about 20 Israeli locations, with the intent to encourage dialogue over a broad spectrum of disciplines throughout both countries. French events in Israel are curated by Cécile Caillou-Robert, while Israeli events in France are curated by Emmanuel Halperin.

October and November will herald Cine-reel, an exciting cross-cultural event in which the curators of eight cinemathèques in Israel and France will change places! Four French program directors will 'take over' from October 9 – 16, 2018, screening 12 French films at the Tel Aviv, Holon, Jerusalem, and Haifa cinemathèques. Then, from November 22 – 29, 2018, Israeli program directors – Michal Lavie (Holon), Navot

Barnea (Jerusalem), Pini Shatz (Tel Aviv), and Dr. Nogit Altschuler (Haifa) – will bring 12 Israeli films to France.

In another friendly takeover, TEDER will take command at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art on November 15, 2018 for French Touch – a night of multidisciplinary art from Israel and France. The event will feature films, concerts, lectures, dance, and performance, from 20:00 and on into the night. Among the guests from France will be Dany Cohn-Bendit and Romain Goupil with their film *On the Road in France*, a journey through the republic, 50 years after the events of May '68.

The season has already made its cultural mark in Israel with events at the Israel Festival, Jerusalem Film Festival, the Puppet Festival, and a symposium on the influence of Baroque music as part of the Meet In Galilee Music Festival. Launching the season in June was the exhibition *Lifetime* by French artist Christian Boltanski at the Israel Museum, jointly curated by Laurence Sigal and Mira Lapidot. Born in 1944, the exhibition covers a span of 30 years in Boltanski's art, yet the artist regards the exhibition as one artwork. Much of Christian Boltanski's work refers to the murder of Jews by Nazis in WWII, as in *Altar to the Chases High School* which employs relatively simple means – light, photographs and old tin boxes. Evoking the memory of those students whose eventual fate is unknown, such works are also a touchpoint to connect to broader considerations of individual and collective memory. The exhibit will be open until November 3, 2018.

# THE MAZE BY AME72 AT ELMA ARTS COMPLEX & LUXURY HOTEL, ZICHRON YA'AKOV, ISRAEL. AUGUST - OCTOBER, 2018



British graffiti artist Ame72 is displaying his latest art project "The Maze" in Zichron Ya'akov, Israel. Ame72, originally from London, is a graffiti artist famous for his engagement in social and political issues and the use of his art to communicate controversial topics. "The Maze" is his latest art installation displaying an original and acute reading of today's society, on topic such environmentalism, consumism, social media and more. The art project "The Maze" will be open to the public from August 2018 to the end of October 2018, at Elma Arts Complex & Luxury Hotel in Zichron Ya'akov (located between Haifa and Tel Aviv), Israel.

# PRINT SCREEN DIGITAL ARTS AND CULTURE FESTIVAL "FABRICATION" 31 OCTOBER - 3 NOVEMBER 2018

Opening: 31 October 2018, time tba.



The Print Screen Digital Arts and Culture Festival, the biggest of its kind in Israel, is taking place for the 8th time and enjoys an excellent reputation internationally. The motto of 2018 is "Fabrication". Johanna Pichlbauer and Maya Pindeus will present their interactive installation "Beautification". The audience is invited to engage with the beautification machine.

# DENNIS LLOYD IN TEL AVIV, ISRAEL. NOVEMBER 8, 2018

Tickets will be available from September 2

Israeli musician Dennis Lloyd will give a concert in Tel Aviv, Israel, in November 2018. Dennis Lloyd, born Nir Tibor in 1993, is a R&B multi-instrumentalist, producer, singer. His hit "Nevermind" brought him international exposure and made him gain the first places of many country's music charts. Dennis Lloyd will perform in Tel Aviv, location to be confirmed, on November 8, 2018.



# STEVEN WILSON PERFORMS IN TEL AVIV, ISRAEL. FEBRUARY 2, 2019

British musician Steven Wilson will perform in Tel Aviv, Israel, in February 2019. Steven Wilson is known as front-man of the band Porcupine Tree, as well as for his solo career. He's now touring worldwide to present his fifth album, and his show include an intriguing mix on visual arts and compelling sound techniques. Steven Wilson will perform at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv, on February 2, 2018.



## Dormition Abbey CONCERT



Monday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Heidemarie Wiesner | piano

at 8:00 P.M.

Waltraut Elvers | viola

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works by E. Bloch, R. Schumann, F. Mendelssohn, M. Ravel, F. Schubert and C. Schumann

[musica-responsa.de](http://musica-responsa.de)



# HLS & CYBER

Monday

**12 November 2018**

**10:00 AM**

Thursday

**15 November 2018**

**1:00 PM**

**IIN A MONTH**



The Fifth International Conference on Homeland Security and cybercrime in Israel, initiated by the Israeli Institute for Export and International Cooperation In cooperation with the Ministry of Economy and Industry, the National Cyber Network at the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Sibat-Ministry The Ministry of Public Security, the Manufacturers' Association and the Airports Authority.

The conference will open at the Gala Evening on November 12 at Hangar 11 in the Tel Aviv Port. The conference will be held on November 13-14 A professional exhibition of about 160 companies in the field of homeland security and cyberspace.

Hundreds of senior officials from around the world will arrive in Israel to meet with local security authorities and Israeli companies that will represent the organization The most innovative technologies in homeland security and cyberspace.

The conference is of tremendous business importance and represents a unique opportunity to present and expose Israeli technologies in this field Homeland security and cyberspace, and holding B2B business meetings between Israeli exporters and partners / potential customers.

2018  
**SAFE & SMART CITY**

**CONFERENCE**

**18-20 NOVEMBER 2018**

**JERUSALEM - ISRAEL**

After Tel Aviv and Nice will held the 3rd edition of Safe&Smart City Conference to be held in Jerusalem, the social innovation laboratory city from November 18th to 20th in the framework of the France-Israel Crossed season celebrating the 70th anniversary of the State of Israel.

Safe&Smart City is the Premier Europe-Israel event gathering industry leaders, innovators and Policy Makers for crossover conversation, inspiration and business opportunities.

For the third time, the Austrian Cultural Forum Tel Aviv in collaboration with local partners is organizing an Austrian Film Week in different cities in Palestine. The movie selection includes recent films, among them the drama "October November" (AUT 2013), the comedy "Hinterholz 8" (AUT 1998) and the alpine western "The Dark Valley" (AUT 2014). The films will be screened in original version with English and Arabic subtitles.

**Austrian Film Week in Palestine: Bethlehem, Jenin, Ramallah October - November 2018**

**Films on display:**

**"October November"**

(AUT 2013; Director: Götz Spielmann)

**"Hinterholz 8"**

(AUT 1998; Director: Harald Sicheritz)

**"The Dark Valley"**

(AUT 2014; Director: Andreas Prochaska)

**Screening dates:**

**Bethlehem, Holy Land Trust**

11 October 2018, time tba., October November

18 October 2018, time tba., Hinterholz 8

25 October 2018, time tba., The Dark Valley

Free entrance.

**Jenin, Fragments Theatre**

8 October 2018, 15:00, October November

13 October 2018, 15:00, Hinterholz 8

15 October 2018, 15:00, The Dark Valley

Free entrance.

**Ramallah, Sakakini Cultural Center**

4 November 2018, 19:00, October November

5 November 2018, 19:00, Hinterholz 8

6 November 2018, 19:00, The Dark Valley

Ticket information: [info\(at\)sakakini.org](mailto:info(at)sakakini.org)

**AUSTRIAN  
FILM  
WEEK**

**Tel-Avivi  
Magyar  
Napok //  
Hungarian  
Days Tel Aviv**

**Thursday**

**25 October 2018**

**6:00 PM**

**Friday**

**26 October 2018**

**6:00 PM**

**IN 10 DAYS**

**The films will be screened in original version with English & Arabic subtitles.**



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P.O.B : 228 Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: 972-3- 5622061/2 Fax: 972-3-5620212, E-mail: [info@diplomacy-club.com](mailto:info@diplomacy-club.com), [www.diplomacy-club.com](http://www.diplomacy-club.com)