

PROMOTE PEACEFUL
AND INCLUSIVE
SOCIETIES FOR
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT,
PROVIDE ACCESS
TO JUSTICE FOR ALL
AND BUILD EFFECTIVE,
ACCOUNTABLE
AND INCLUSIVE
INSTITUTIONS AT ALL
LEVELS

RESEARCH

Democratic Crisis and Social Sustainability

This past [winter's Law Conference](#) was entitled, 'Democracy and Social Sustainability in Broken Times', and featured keynote speaker, former Minister of Justice Gidon Saar. Among the topics discussed at the conference were Gossip and Shaming in the Legal Field; Considerations and Procedures in Judge Appointments; and Democracy in Crisis.

Preventing Violent Escalations

A study that examined the situation in Haifa during the violent events that took place in Israel in May 2021 during Operation 'Guardian of the Walls', led by Dr. Rolly Rosen from the Department of Anthropology, in collaboration with Abraham Initiatives, [offered practical recommendations](#) to prevent a similar escalation in the future. The study makes practical recommendations for implementation.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Impact Project: Field Hospital X – Research, Experience and Development Center

The *Field Hospital X* art display was established by Prof. Aya Ben Ron, from The Department of Fine Art, School of the Arts, as a means to address social illnesses and injustices. The display participated in many central exhibits among them the Venice Biennale (2019), and due to its success, now it will have a permanent exhibit hall within the university. In its four years of existence and activity, it has been a safe space for visitors, where they can recognize and hear silenced voices, understand tolerance and empathy in a new and thought-provoking way.

Honorary Doctorate to former President Bill Clinton

UofH granted [honorary doctorates to former US President Bill Clinton and NYU President Emeritus John Sexton.](#)

The honorary doctorate was given in recognition of Clinton's support for Israel, his actions promoting coexistence and peace in the region, as well as the work of the Clinton Global Initiative promoting social and economic sustainability.

Jewish, Christian, Muslim Conference

For the first time, the [Haifa Laboratory for Religious Studies](#), headed by Dr. Uriel Simonsohn, in partnership with the Ministry

of Regional Cooperation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, organized Israel's first JCM (Jewish, Christian, Muslim) conference in Haifa. Participants included academics and religious leaders from different countries, fostering close interfaith dialogue.

LEARNING AND STUDENTS

Building a More Egalitarian Israeli Society

The School of Political Sciences' new [Yesodot \(Foundations\) program aims to foster social integration and dialogue between Jewish and Arab communities in Israel.](#) The year-long program equips participants with professional tools for public service and sets "shared society policy" as an area of expertise.

The goal is to empower participants to become influential leaders in building a more democratic and egalitarian Israeli society.

Student Leadership in Mixed Cities

Being a mixed-city with a truly diverse student population, the UofH Dean of Students office operates several programs to foster young people to build our shared society. Programs include ['Initiative for Shared Society in Acco'](#) run by diverse students who together map the challenges there; leadership course for Druze students; Ultra-Orthodox/Secular dialogue group, and many more.

'Beeri Program': You and I will change the Country!

['Beeri' is a bachelor's degree program](#) in the Department of Jewish History and Bible, led by Prof. Dani Gutwein and Dr. Tal Elmaliach. The program gives an academic glance into the socio-economic reality in Israel in an overall historical perspective. 'Beeri' is a multidisciplinary program, which offers courses in an array of disciplines. Graduates of the program have been recruited to key and leadership positions in social organizations and political, economic, and educational frameworks.

Fighting Misinformation

Prof. Sarit Barzilai, from the Faculty of Education, and her research group, engage in research and outreach activities to help students and teachers

deal with misinformation and disinformation online. Prof. Barzilai's group created a digital game that helps middle school students navigate the complex world of social media. The game, titled ['Misinformation Is Contagious'](#), , teaches students to evaluate online information critically and avoid sharing misleading content. Prof. Barzilai and her team findings,based on the game, were published in the prestigious journal [Computers & Education.](#)

OPERATIONS

Library Cooperation with UAE

An MOU for cooperation between UofH and the National Library and Archives of the UAE was signed this year, paving the way for an exchange of collections, research, and training. We believe the new relationship will contribute to the [accessibility of new materials](#), the development of ideas and knowledge related to the Middle East.

Protesting Judicial Overhaul

In the past year, the university [hosted dialogues](#) involving academic staff, administrators, and students to discuss government-promoted judicial overhaul. Furthermore, the university decided to allow academic and administrative staff to participate in various protests (on their own time) and permitted students to join major demonstrations without holding their absence against them on those days.