

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Tu B'Shvat 5781





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Dear Partners and Friends,

Shalom!

I am pleased and proud to present the Regavim Movement's annual survey of activities. Each year, we publish this report with the approach of Tu B'Shvat, as we mark the rebirth of the Land of Israel which is celebrated, coincidentally, as the fiscal year comes to a close.

This survey offers a taste of our central agenda items, as well as an overview of the broad range of our activities over the past year.

We continue to do our utmost to insure that land policy in the State of Israel reflects core Jewish and Zionist values – by reinforcing and encouraging positive developments, leading the way forward toward legislation and policy that insure the exercise of Israel's sovereignty, and using every possible means to combat unrelenting opposing forces that seek to obscure and disrupt the connection of the Nation of Israel to this good and sacred Land.

Despite the ongoing corona pandemic and the challenging political situation in Israel, we succeeded in blocking the repeal of the Kaminitz Law, legislation that has revolutionized land protection efforts. Regavim took the lead in supporting residents of mixed Israeli cities who came under attack in the May Riots of 2021. We continued to lead the battle to restore governance to the Negev. We maintained maximum pressure to block the establishment of a Palestinian state in Judea and Samaria, and drafted a national strategy to serve as the basis for the government's plan of action.

All this, alongside our ongoing activities: We maintained our constant, daily presence on the ground throughout the Land of Israel, maintained our untiring activism in Israel's bureaucratic and legislative systems, and intensified our legal activism in Israel's courts.

This is also an opportunity to thank you, our partners. Despite this year's unprecedented challenges and uncertainties, your support enabled and empowered us to continue our efforts to protect our treasured homeland. On behalf of the entire Regavim team, I salute you for your conviction and thank you for being a part of the Regavim family.

Warmly,

Meir Deutsch,
Director General



Achievements

► Lod: Supporting our Courageous Brothers and Sisters in Israel's Mixed Cities

On Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day), while Hamas bombarded Israel with rockets, a wave of antisemitic violence erupted in Israel's mixed cities. Jews were attacked, homes set on fire, and massive damage caused to public and private property. When rioting erupted in Lod, we mobilized to help protect our brothers and sisters. Together with the My Israel Movement we set up a national "situation room" to respond quickly and efficiently to the needs of Jews in besieged neighborhoods, and to coordinate between these communities and thousands of volunteers who poured in from around the country. We provided logistical support, sent volunteer security guards where they were needed most, and provided defensive equipment to protect the residents of Lod and other Jewish-Arab cities. At the same time, we filed a complaint against the imam of the central mosque of Lod, Sheikh Yousef El Baz, who was responsible for inciting the pogrom. When the wave of rioting subsided, we continued to monitor enforcement action by the Israel Police and the State Attorney to insure that the rioters are prosecuted

and punished to the full extent of the law. We initiated Knesset hearings and focused public attention on the lessons that must be learned from the events of May 2021.

► State Comptroller publishes a scathing report on governance in the Negev

After years of research, fieldwork, documentation and analysis of the problem of governance in the Negev, we met with the staff of the State Comptroller's office in 2017 and presented our findings and recommendations. That meeting, and the materials we shared, formed the basis for core sections of the State Comptroller's Report on Governance in the Negev, published in August 2021. The report, a comprehensive, in-depth study of the issues Regavim has been studying since 2006, is the first serious effort by any official Israeli authority to examine the central issues that have contributed to the dismal situation in the Negev. Implementation of the State Comptroller's recommendations will have a major impact on the future of the region.

After studying the State Comptroller's report, we distilled a short list of five practical steps that have the potential to turn the situation in the Negev around: (1) Geographic registration of all residents

of the squatters' camps, rather than the current practice of registration by tribal affiliation; (2) creation of new Bedouin communities on state-owned land rather than legalization of existing clusters that were built without planning or infrastructure; (3) planning and developing new communities only on state land for which there are no ownership claims; (4) establishing a municipal authority under the Bedouin Authority umbrella, and (5) creating a specialized police unit to protect infrastructure. Moving forward, we will be building our Negev agenda around the implementation of these and other key recommendations of the State Comptroller's report.

► Bedouistan: New volume reveals the truth about Israel's wild south

We've been tracking and reporting on the untenable situation in southern Israel for years, documenting and warning about the Negev's downward spiral into a chaotic ex-territory of crime and violence. This past year, the situation took a serious turn for the worse during and after the events of "Operation Protective Wall," and any semblance of governance has been buried beneath a tidal wave of drug running, violence, trafficking in women, weapons and stolen goods, and more, and governance in the Negev reached its lowest point since 1948. Our new book, which is in the final stages of production, describes the reality of this state-within-the-state. "Bedouistan" presents a never-before publicized portrait of the dystopian reality in the Negev and explain how and why successive Israeli governments have failed to prevent it. It presents a practical, step-by-step roadmap for meeting the unique challenges of the

Negev. We recently launched a crowdsourcing campaign. To donate and pre-order copies, scan the qr code, or contact the Regavim Office for assistance.



► Revoking "operational procedures" that encourage illegal construction

We submitted a High Court of Justice (HCJ) petition against operational guidelines that have been in use by the Civil Administration and the Ministry of Justice for years – internal guidelines that violate the law and undermine enforcement orders issued against thousands of illegal structures built by Arabs in areas under Israeli jurisdiction. These guidelines have provided an umbrella of protection that is directly responsible for the sharp increase in illegal Arab construction. The guidelines grant an automatic freeze of enforcement procedures when statutory or other appeals are filed. Our petition was the result of in-depth research which began with a freedom of information request to the Civil Administration demanding they reveal the guidelines and defend their implementation despite the fact that they violate the law. We also demanded hard data on the number of structures to which these guidelines have been applied. Our petition, which received widespread media coverage, was accompanied by

explanatory video clips that were seen by thousands of people. As a result, the state informed the High Court of Justice that the guidelines would be revised in order to correct this absurdity.

► We pushed, we prodded – and the Regional Councils are finally taking to the field

When Regavim was established 16 years ago, our field coordinator for Judea and Samaria was the only civilian in the field, documenting changes on the ground in real time and taking action against hostile takeovers. But the battle for Area C is a full-scale war, and it can't be won singlehandedly by one Regavim fieldworker. In recent years, working with the heads of the regional councils, we pushed for the creation of land protection departments in each and every council. This past year, The Yesha Council and then-Minister for Settlement Affairs Tzachi Hanegbi joined forces – and secured a NIS 20million funding allocation to enable regional councils to establish and reinforce regional land protection departments. We continue to work in close cooperation with the regional councils, providing the

newly-appointed regional land protection officers professional support for their field and legal work. There is still so much to do, but this is a very significant step toward protecting our land resources..

► The UAWC is officially designated as a terrorist organization

In October, the Union of Agricultural Work Committees and five other Palestinian groups were officially designated as terrorist organizations. These pseudo-humanitarian groups, established as both operative units and money conduits for George Habash's internationally-blacklisted terrorist organization PFLP, have long claimed to be "humanitarian civil society groups," but the extremely generous European funding they receive is rerouted to fund terrorism in Judea and Samaria. In 2018, we began meeting with Members of Knesset, ministers, foreign parliamentarians and diplomats and the UN's representative in the Middle East, and exposed the direct pipeline connecting European humanitarian aid to terrorist activity. We proved that the UAWC is the operational wing of the PFLP tasked with carrying out the de facto



► Restoring impounded weapons to frontline Security Coordinators

annexation of Area C through massive illegal agricultural projects that create Palestinian territorial contiguity in Judea and Samaria – and we demanded that the flow of funds be cut off immediately. In 2019, two key UAWC officeholders, both of whose salaries were paid by European donor states, were arrested for the murder of 17 year old Rina Shnerb in a terrorist attack in the Binyamin region. The Minister of Defense's designation of these terrorist affiliate groups illustrates the direct connection between the "quiet annexation" of land in Area C to terror organizations that camouflage themselves as humanitarian societies. We hope that the designation will have a significant impact on the war on terrorism as well as for the prevention of the takeover of Israeli state land in Judea and Samaria.

Almost a year ago, the personal firearms of the security officers of Avshalom and Sdeh Nitzan, two Gaza border Jewish communities, were impounded. These exemplary security officers – both of whom are decorated Auxiliary Policemen – were the victims of false charges filed against them by Bedouin criminals. The two men turned to Regavim for help, and we submitted a legal challenge against the Ministry of Public Security. While the case was in process, "Operation Protective Wall" broke out – and one of the unarmed security guards was stabbed by an Arab attacker who had infiltrated from the Gaza Strip. Although the security guard had been stripped of his weapon, he fought off the terrorist with his bare hands and prevented an attack on innocent members of the community. We pushed this infuriating story straight to the top of the media agenda, and as a result of the combination of public outrage, legal action and the intervention of then-Interior Minister Amir Ohana, the case ended with resounding success: We accompanied





the two security officers to the police station where their firearms were returned to them, and we presented them with certificates of appreciation and support. We were honored to have been given the opportunity to help restore their weapons and their ability to defend themselves, their communities, and all of the residents of Israel's southern border region.

► At last, the road to Jerusalem can be expanded

At the foot of the main traffic artery that connects the Binyamin region to Jerusalem, adjacent to the Arab town of Hizmeh, an illegal "strip mall" caused major traffic snarls that left tens of thousands of motorists – Jews and Arabs alike – stuck in a daily road nightmare. The pirate commercial center, built laughably close to the security barrier out of substandard construction materials and without any planning, lighting, road access or parking, posed environmental, safety and security hazards. We petitioned the Jerusalem District Court – and the government presented a "classified" enforcement plan. We agreed to withdraw our petition when we

were convinced that the judge had studied the plan carefully, but we demanded that the enforcement at the site be carried out without delay. Soon afterward, the Jerusalem Municipality, accompanied by security forces, demolished the compound, making way for much-needed expansion of the road to relieve the endless traffic jams. This is only one example of the many dozens of enforcement sweeps that were the result of Regavim's activity this past year. The Hizmeh case is a particularly important precedent, as it will have far-reaching impact on the entire region.

► Squatters removed, Jewish farmland restored

Moshav Nevatim near Beer Sheva is surrounded by illegal Bedouin squatters' camps, and has suffered from home invasions, vandalism, robberies and agricultural crime for years. In early 2021 the moshav's cemetery was vandalized by Bedouin from the nearby squatters' camp. We submitted a police complaint on behalf of the community, and the vandals were apprehended. In another incident

at Nevatim, Bedouin squatters took over a tract of the moshav's farmland, built an illegal structure on it, and blocked the farmers' access, making it impossible for them to work their land. The farmers turned to us for help, and our legal battle resulted in the removal of the squatters and the demolition of the illegal structure. The threat was neutralized and the farmers of Moshav Nevatim returned to their fields.

► Regulating Bedouin settlement, restoring State land

Despite the extreme pressure exerted by the Raam Party to change the wording of legislation establishing three new all-Bedouin communities in the Negev, out intensive work with Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked's staff preserved the originally agreed-upon formulation that had been drafted during the Netanyahu administration. The new communities are intended to aggregate the residents of

dispersed Bedouin encampments into permanent settlements. This legislation has the potential to bring much-needed change to the Negev, to restore land presently covered with illegal encampments to state hands, and to begin to resettle the Bedouin in legal, organized communities and preserving the Negev's land reserves. On the other hand, the plan poses serious risks. Thanks to our efforts, these risks were offset by including conditions and time limits for the evacuation of the squatters' camps and the resettlement of the residents; if these conditions are not met, the plans for the new communities will be cancelled, and no additional land will be sacrificed. The ball has been returned to the government's court.

Our presence in the field and in the courts, coupled with media coverage and public pressure we generated through our unique campaigns over the course of the year, resulted in a large number of enforcement actions by the authorities, as well as proactive steps to prevent hostile takeover of land resources throughout the Land of Israel – in the north, in Judea and Samaria, in the Negev and the Coastal Plain.

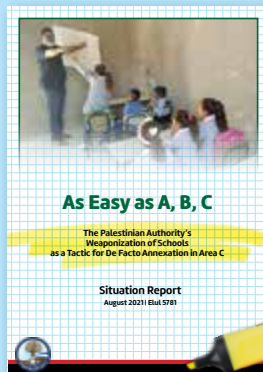


Field Division



► Illegal, politically motivated schools

This year we published a report exposing a tactic used by the Palestinian Authority ever since the publication of the Fayyad Plan – the PA’s blueprint for unilateral creation of an independent state through facts on the ground: Over the past 12 years, the PA has built 100 illegal schools in Area C, many of them with the support of foreign governments and international organizations. The report, which we presented to ministers and MKs, proves that in the past decade the PA has given the State of Israel a schooling, both literally and figuratively. Rather than taking action, the Civil Administration has aided and abetted the PA’s program of creeping annexation, by failing to enforce the law and in some cases even issuing permits for these politically-motivated projects.



► The Secret Tunnel on Mount Zion

In a petition filed in Jerusalem District Court, we sued the Jerusalem Municipality for hiding the existence of an underground tunnel dug by the Church of the Dormition on Mount Zion. The legal pressure we generated forced the municipality to visit the tunnel – whose existence they had previously denied – and to map out its route, which illegally encroaches on public property in an area teeming with archaeological remains. Our petitioned followed repeated requests to the Jerusalem Municipality to share their findings as required by law, and to take the necessary oversight and enforcement action to restore the area, either by sealing off or demolishing the illegal tunnel. In a hearing of the case, the court admonished the municipality and required a full inspection and engineering for the next hearing of the case.

► Khirbet Pharsin

Near Hermesh, a Jewish community in northern Samaria, lies an officially recognized archaeological site known as Khirbet Pharsin. In January 2021, an Arab squatter took over the site and turned one of the structures into a private residence. The construction work he and his family carried out caused irrevocable harm to the ancient artifacts and architecture of the historic site. We turned to the Civil Administration and demanded that the squatters be evicted and the illegal work halted. The Civil Administration responded that they had visited the site and served the squatters with an “Order to Desist from Destruction of Antiquities” – but the squatters were allowed to remain, and continued to harm the site, so we repeated our demand for immediate enforcement. Civil Administration inspectors returned to Khirbet Pharsin, impounded some of the construction materials and gardening supplies, but the squatter and his family remain, and we are continuing to pursue this case.

► The Carmel Nature Reserve

Thanks to our constant monitoring of social media, we learned – and not a minute too soon – that the residents of Daliat al Carmel were about to launch a grassroots project to pave an illegal road through the heart of the Carmel Forest, a national nature reserve. Local residents had donated machinery, asphalt, steamrollers and more. We immediately sent an urgent alert to the Deputy Attorney General, Erez Kaminitz, and to the National Construction Unit and the Israel Police. This was not their first attempt, either: In 2012 a similar move was made to pave this road, but Regavim’s complaint resulted in an official government decision to prohibit paving the agricultural path. Once again, Regavim’s activism and rapid response helped protect the natural beauty of the Carmel Reserve.

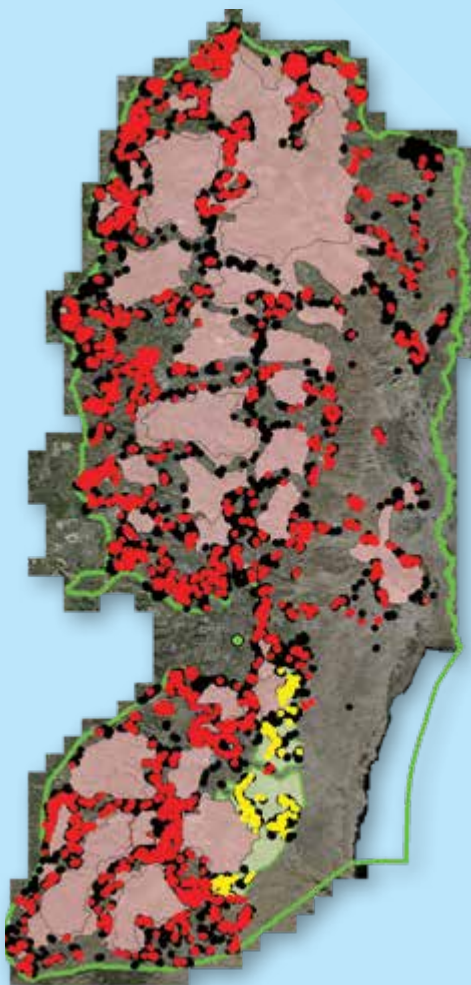


► Joshua's Altar at Mount Ebal

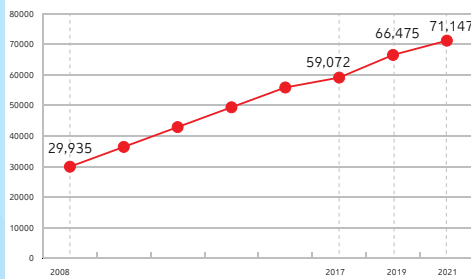
On a fact-finding educational tour for the Regavim staff at the ancient city of Shomron-Sebastia, the capital of the Kingdom of Israel and the seat of King Omri's rule, we visited nearby Mount Ebal in Samaria and had a firsthand experience of the unbearable "new normal" in Judea and Samaria. While inspecting the archaeological site and learning about the Altar of Joshua, we found a group of young Arab men who were using the millennia-old altar as a barbecue pit! We explained the historical and religious significance of the site, but they refused to put out the fire and relocate their picnic. We quickly sent out a media notice, and used this shocking incident to remind ourselves of the importance of maintaining a vigilant field presence.

► Situation Report 2021: Mapping project – illegal construction in Judea and Samaria

Thanks to our meticulous mapping and research methods, Regavim has emerged as the go-to source for data and analysis for the professional, legislative and security communities. This year our GIS Department completed a comprehensive year by year survey of all new structures built in the past four years in Judea and Samaria. The maps, raw data and analysis we extrapolate from this project enable us to better understand the larger picture on the ground, and to identify areas targeted by the Palestinian program of de facto annexation of Judea and Samaria.



**Illegal Structures (Arab Sector)
Judea and Samaria**



Legal Division

► Petition to Repeal the Prohibition Against Sale of Property to Jews

Jordanian land law, still in force in Judea and Samaria, includes a prohibition against the sale of private land to non-Arabs. In other words, this regressive, racist law prohibits Jews from purchasing land in Judea and Samaria, only because they are Jewish. Almost a year ago, we filed a petition to repeal this law, based on a Ministry of Defense recommendation to strike this antisemitic rule from the books. Nonetheless, Defense Minister Gantz recently informed the High Court of Justice that he does not intend to repeal the law – despite the opinions submitted by the professional staff of his ministry and the recommendations of his predecessors at the ministry's helm. We are awaiting a High Court of Justice hearing of the case.

► The Herodion School

In 2017 the Palestinian Authority built a new, illegal school adjacent to the Herodion World Heritage Site. We petitioned the High Court of Justice to compel the Civil Administration to enforce the law, and the Civil Administration responded that enforcement at the site would be given "high priority." Unfortunately, this didn't prevent the Civil Administration from hiding behind a smokescreen of excuses and legal maneuvers to avoid enforcing the law and fulfilling its own commitment to the Court. We didn't leave it at that, and resubmitted our petition to the Jerusalem District Court to compel enforcement. The illegal school at Herodion is one of some 100 politically-motivated schools built illegally by the Palestinian Authority at strategic points throughout Judea and Samaria.



► Petition for Regulation of the Mughrabi Bridge

The Mughrabi Ascent is the sole access point for Jews and non-Muslim tourists to the Temple Mount. In 2004, the old ramp caved in, and a new municipal plan that includes a permanent bridge was approved – but never implemented, due to pressure by the Muslim Religious Trust (Waqf) and the Jordanian government. Over the years, the “temporary” bridge at the site deteriorated to the point of being unsafe, but once again, for fear of Muslim violence, the Prime Minister opted to renovate the old bridge rather than moving forward with the permanent solution. We submitted an emergency petition to stop the renovation work – which was being carried out without the required permits for archaeological sites – and for the implementation of the approved plan. The case is ongoing.

► Khan al Ahmar update

It seems that every year for over a decade, our annual survey has included an update on the Khan al Ahmar case. In the past few months, in the context of hearings on our sixth High Court of Justice petition in this matter, the judges granted the state an

additional six month extension to submit its plans for law enforcement at the site. The High Court reminded the state’s attorney of the numerous commitments, some of which provided specific dates for the planned relocation of the squatters and demolition of the illegal encampment, that were constantly “revised.” The specifics of the case are less important than the precedent it sets: Khan al Ahmar serves as a test case in the battle for Area C and the conclusion of this particular case will have far-reaching ramifications for hundreds of similar illegal Palestinian Authority outposts throughout Judea and Samaria.

► Petition for Enforcement of the Order for New Structures

In 2018, the Order for Demolition of New Illegal Construction was approved, giving the enforcement authorities important, effective powers to regain control over endangered land resources by cutting through bureaucratic red tape– but the Civil Administration has refrained from applying it, despite the High Court of Justice’s green light. We submitted petitions against three different instances



to force the Civil Administration to apply and enforce this important order. The High Court reprimanded the Civil Administration and demanded an explanation of the failure to enforce.

► Petition against annexation of land near Duma

Duma, an Arab village in the Binyamin region, is taking over vast swaths of Israeli state land through illegal construction and roadworks –at a considerable distance from the village itself. We petitioned the court for enforcement of the Order for Demolition of New Illegal Structures, which allows swift action against new construction. Coupled with the pressure we brought to bear on the law enforcement authorities, our petition resulted in effective enforcement. The structures were demolished.

► Bir Hadaj – Landowners’ petition rejected

For over a decade we have been waging a legal battle against Bedouin squatters who commandeered property in the Negev owned by Jewish families. The landowners, who joined our petition, asked the state to establish a timetable for the evacuation of squatters who have built hundreds of structures on their land, located on the outskirts of Bir Hadaj, the crime capital of the Negev. Once again, the High Court of Justice rejected the petition and did not require the state to adhere to a stipulated time frame for removal of the squatters..

► Other petitions

Peduel: We went to court against an illegal neighborhood that is developing as an offshoot of Kfar ad-Dyk near the Jewish community of Peduel. This new neighborhood is part of the Palestinian Authority’s masterplan for annexation of the area.





The Batir-Husan Road: We petitioned against a Palestinian Authority road project in Heletz Valley between Gush Etzion and Jerusalem. The road was designed to connect two Arab villages and to strangle the Jewish community of Har Gilo. Our petition resulted in enforcement activity.

Khirbet Kurkush: We petitioned against the Arab invasion and takeover of state land abutting an archaeological site near the Ariel Commercial Zone. The structure was demolished.

The Yakir Junction: Our two-pronged approach – applying direct pressure on the Civil Administration alongside a court petition – resulted in the demolition of a gigantic illegal commercial structure built in the junction that was a major safety hazard.

A-Sawiyya: We petitioned against the illegal expansion of the village and the intensive work on “agricultural roads” that enabled the construction of dozens of

new illegal homes, all on Israeli state land for which the registration process has not been completed.

Kisan: The illegal school at Kisan in eastern Gush Etzion was built without permits on Israeli state land. When our first petition against the structure was denied, we submitted a second petition.

Enforcement priorities: This Freedom of Information petition requires the Civil Administration to provide data on the considerations for prioritizing enforcement activity in the Jewish and Arab sectors in Judea and Samaria.

Municipal taxes in the Al Kasum

Regional Council: After the success of our petition requiring the Bedouin Regional Council of Al Kasum to charge and collect municipal taxes (arnona) we submitted a Freedom of Information petition requiring the municipality to provide data on the rate of assessment and tax collection.

Annexation lessons: Our Freedom of Information petition requires the Civil Administration to provide data on enforcement activity against illegal Palestinian Authority schools in Area C.

Negev 2030: Our Freedom of Information petition requiring the Bedouin Authority to reveal its masterplan for the Negev.



Regavim in Green



Nature Knows No Borders
Green Now

Partnering with the Green Now Project

This past year we launched an organizational partnership with a well-established environmental protection movement, “The Green Now Project.” For years, Green Now has addressed a wide range of environmental challenges throughout the country. Joining forces has enabled us to compound our clout, and we are expecting very positive results from this promising partnership.

► Pollution Depot

A staggering number of old Egged buses that were sent to scrap by the national transportation cooperative ended up in an illegal, unregulated junkyard in IDF Firing Zone 203. The pirate “chop shop” was causing tremendous environmental damage, and unregulated, substandard parts were cycling back onto the market in Israel. We generated massive public pressure on the Civil Administration, and the junkyard was eventually cleared and the operators’ equipment impounded.

► Mount Trashmore is no more

Thanks to our determined legal battle, the Civil Administration removed the Ramallah Municipality’s illegal “corona dump.” Dumping countless truckloads of untreated residential and commercial waste into an abandoned quarry, the Palestinians began building the massive mountain of trash at the start of the first corona lockdown, with no regulation or oversight of any kind, and caused enormous environmental damage to the air, soil and groundwater of the entire region. We are continuing our legal battle to require the perpetrators to pay for restoration work.



► Blocking the landfill plan

As a result of a Green Now petition and Regavim's partnership on the case, preparatory work on the Ramon Landfill was halted. Years ago, a German development bank offered to bankroll construction of a solid waste landfill site near the Jewish community of Rimoni and the Arab village of Kfar Ramon in eastern Binyamin – on condition that the site serve Arabs only. When the plan was first proposed, we managed to block it on the grounds that the landfill technology it would have used is outmoded and environmentally hazardous. This past year, the plan was re-submitted, and once again Green Now petitioned the court against what would be a project tainted both by racism and pollution. The High Court of Justice issued an injunction freezing all work until the government submits an alternative framework for sorting and disposal of solid waste that will serve Jews and Arabs alike.

► Environmental victory

Green Now and Regavim joined forces to lead a public campaign, backed up by a legal petition, that resulted in the government's decision to repeal a 2017 plan for the construction of a waste incineration plant in Maaleh Adumim. It was inconceivable – to us, and to the court – that the State of Israel, a world leader in innovation and out-of-the-box solutions, considered operating a highly polluting program of trash incineration rather than seeking more modern, ecological, forward-thinking solutions. This was a significant victory for environmental protection in Judea and Samaria.

► High Court of Justice petition: Activate the Wastewater Treatment Plant

The wastewater treatment plant at Ofra has been standing idle for 13 years, and all the while raw sewage has been running right past its shuttered gates into the open spaces of the Binyamin region. Green

Now petitioned the High Court to compel the relevant authorities to activate the plant immediately and put an end to the environmental abuse.

► Exposing the environmental blood libel at the COP26 Climate Conference

PA Prime Minister Mohammad a-Shtayyeh used the platform he was given at the UN's Climate Change Conference in Glasgow to accuse Israel of polluting "Palestinian nature." We immediately responded by publicizing the facts: Under the PA's jurisdiction, raw sewage is left to pollute streams and aquifers, mountains of untreated trash are everywhere, junkyards and quarries are scarring the countryside and polluting the air and soil, and the squalor of the streets in the Palestinian Authority are an environmental catastrophe that the PA's European supporters purposefully ignore.

► 16,000 dunams of quarries

We initiated a media expose' of the Civil Administration's plan to approve the operation of illegal Arab quarrying operations in Judea and Samaria that are ravaging the region's natural resources and causing the worst environmental damage Israel has ever known. We've been fighting these illegal quarries in the courts for years. Despite the state's commitment to the court to enforce the law, in practice it is taking steps to whitewash these quarries and even expand them by thousands of dunams. We are spearheading a consortium of the regional councils of Judea and Samaria that will be impacted by this plan, and will submit objections to the planning authorities, mobilize public protests and initiate legal action.



Parliamentary Affairs Division

The political landscape that resulted from four successive election cycles in two years has created a painful rift in the nationalist camp. On the eve of the formation of the current coalition, Regavim and other organizations warned all of the right wing parties that our government must not depend on the votes of parties who support terrorism. Unfortunately, the government that was formed includes the Raam Party, which continues to support terrorism against Israel, and our worst fears were realized. Nonetheless, as a non-political organization we continue to work with the government and the Knesset in order to promote our agenda: Protection of state land resources. The challenges and difficulties are far greater than they have been, but we cannot stand on the sidelines and abandon the public arena to hostile actors..

► The Knesset Land of Israel Caucus

The Land of Israel Caucus, in which we are founding members, was launched in the Knesset with a hearing on governance and personal safety in Israel. Sunder the leadership of MKs Orit Struk and Yoav Kish, the Caucus has supported us in a number of Knesset battles, and has had significant impact on a range of issues, debates and legislative initiatives.

► The Electricity Law

We continue to fight an amendment to the Electricity Law proposed by Raam Party Chairman MK Walid Taha that would enable the connection of tens of thousands of illegal structures built in Arab communities to the national electricity grid. We proposed a framework for the amendment that would minimize the blow to the rule of law in Israel. The Electricity Law amendment is bad legislation, but without our intensive lobbying and persistent involvement in the drafting process, it would have been far worse.



► Parliamentary hearings

We participated in 16 Knesset committee hearings, some of them initiated by Regavim, in which major policy issues were addressed, among them the Electricity Law, the establishment of three new Bedouin settlements in the Negev, the May 2021 Riots in Israel's mixed cities during Operation 'Guardian of the Walls,' construction and planning policy for the Arab sector, agricultural crime, and more.

Another important tool we employed extensively this past year is the parliamentary query. Members of Knesset submit these queries to the relevant minister, who is obligated to provide a formal, public response from the Knesset podium.



► Field Tours

Regavim hosted field tours in conjunction with the Knesset Land of Israel Caucus, taking a long and impressive list of lawmakers out into the field for a first-hand look at the situation on the ground in the Negev, the Galilee, Judea and Samaria:

MKs Betzael Smotrich, Ariel Kalner, Amichai Chikli, Moshe Abutbul, Orit Struk, Omer Yankelovitch, Nir Barkat, Galit Distal-Atbarian, Yuli Edelstein, Miki Zohar, Ofir Sofer, Yitzchak Pindros, Gila Gamliel, Itamar Ben Gvir, Nir Orbach, Amir Ohana, Michal Shir, Yom Tov Halfon, Simcha Rothman, Michal Valdiger and Avi Dichter.



International Division

Our International Division works intensively in the diplomatic and media arenas. This past year saw important achievements in a number of areas, as our presence in international media expanded significantly. We placed special emphasis on building partnerships with pro-Israel groups around the world, and these partnerships have enabled us to magnify our voice and our exposure, resulting in significant achievements.

► Halting the flow of foreign funding for illegal landgrabs and terrorism

Year round, we work to stop the flow of funds from foreign concerns that is enabling and empowering the Palestinian Authority's creeping annexation of Area C. By joining forces with a number of pro-Zionist organizations, we set a process in motion that led the Dutch government to suspend its years-long funding for illegal activities in Judea and Samaria carried out by organizations with proven terrorist ties, and we are pursuing similar results with other foreign governments and international organizations. As we outlined above, the official designation of the Union of Agricultural Work Committees as a terrorist organization by Israel's Defense Ministry was an outstanding example of recent successes in this area of Regavim activism.



► Battling the US government's planned Palestinian Consulate in Jerusalem

Regavim continues to stand at the forefront of a consortium of some 20 Zionist organizations that came together to fight the Biden Administration's plan to open a diplomatic mission to the Palestinian Authority in the heart of Jerusalem, a move that would violate Israeli, American and international law. We spearheaded public protests that brought Prime Minister Bennett and Foreign Minister Lapid to public and forcefully declare that the Israeli government categorically opposes this plan. The issue has not yet been resolved, and we continue to demand that the Israeli government stand its ground against international pressure.

► Media and conferences

Regavim's activities and publications were showcased in a number of important public lectures, conferences and other academic and media platforms. These discussions, covering the spectrum of Zionist and public policy discourse in Israel, were a very welcome opportunity to present Regavim's work to protect the rights of the Jewish People in the Land of Israel, the battle for Area C, international law and property law in Israel, Judea and Samaria, the Negev and Jerusalem. Virtual conferences, attended by hundreds of listeners, were held in conjunction with pro-Israel organizations in Canada, the US, Australia, England, Finland and other countries. Our impact and exposure in international media outlets grew significantly, with coverage in virtually every European language, as well as Chinese, Japanese and Korean.

► In the field

Despite the corona limitations, this year we conducted some 40 parlor meetings, lectures, field tours, background briefings for the public, and even large-scale public assemblies. We continued, and even increased, the frequency of our contact with the public, with activist groups and the leadership of Zionist organizations from around the world, with foreign diplomats and representatives of international organizations.



Press and New Media



Over the course of the year we conducted dozens of field tours for journalists, publicists and media personalities to present our findings and recommendations on a wide range of challenges, from the Negev to Judea and Samaria, for an “unfiltered” discussion of our core agenda issues. We hosted senior executives of Discount Bank, the Settlement Authority, top figures in the Jewish National Fund and the National Planning Authority, as well as members of HaShomer HaHadash, the Hartman Institute’s Hevruta Program, the Bithonistim, and hundreds of Mechina (pre-military academy) students.

In addition to hundreds of news and other media items covering our activities, our New Media Division continues to bring our most important messages directly to the public. This year, in addition to hundreds of social media posts, we produced and published more than 150 video clips – recordings from the field as well as film clips on broad issues and analysis.

This year, we launched our all-new state-of-the-art website, which invites the public to access our reports and position papers, our legal library, monthly activity updates, short articles on major issues on Regavim’s desktop, and select media items in a variety of languages. We invite you to check it out for yourself; Regavim’s website has become the go-to source of information and inspiration for thousands of visitors from around the globe.



757 posts reached 10,327,633 viewers // 64,507 followers for our Hebrew, English and French Facebook pages



180 video clips were seen 2,819,660 times on our social media and YouTube platforms



12 Monthly Newsletters



2,323 Instagram followers in Hebrew and English



348 Tweets reached 5.5 million views and 13,286 followers in Hebrew and English

Conferences

Media Conference: We participated in conferences hosted by Makor Rishon and BeSheva, where we had an opportunity to discuss some of the issues on this year’s agenda: the situation in mixed cities during the “Guardian of the Walls” riots, the battle against Palestinian annexation in Judea and Samaria, the application of Israeli sovereignty in Judea and Samaria, and more.

Book launch: Law in Judea and Samaria, vol. 2

Together with the Adam v’Adamah Center for Zionism and Law, Regavim’s in-house research division, we hosted a book launch event for our latest volume, “Commercial Law in Judea and Samaria,” an important resource for academic, legislative and legal research that is already being cited in legal opinions and judicial decisions. The event featured a distinguished panel of speakers, including Minister Ayelet Shaked, MKs Amir Ohana, Tzachi Hanegbi, Simcha Rothman, Orit Struk, Yoav Kish, former Justice Minister Dan Meridor, and other jurists and public figures.

Professional training seminars for mayors

We participated in professional training conferences for heads of municipal and regional councils in Judea and Samaria, focusing on the challenges involved in the battle for Area C and highlighting areas of shared interest and cooperation, out in the field as well as in the public and parliamentary spheres. We held a similar conference for employees and administrators of the Amana Settlement Movement, which focused on the situation on the ground and the challenge of protecting state land..





215,743
km



94
New case files

31 Lectures and
webinars



21 Knesset hearings

18 New legal
petitions

17 Ongoing court
cases



136 Tours
22 Fly-over tours



4 lawyers



3 fieldworkers

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Homeland**
♥

which we will continue
to protect – with God's
help, and yours.

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