



# SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 2022 - 5782/5783

Tu B'Shvat 5783



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## From the Desk of Meir Deutsch, Director General

Tu B'Shvat 5783 (2023)

Dear Friends, Shalom!

On Tu B'Shvat, we mark the rebirth of nature in the Land of Israel, and the founding of the Regavim Movement. As in previous years, we are pleased and proud to share this summary of our activities over the year that has passed, and to take this opportunity to thank you for your partnership in protecting and preserving our one and only homeland.

This past year, despite the challenging political situation in Israel, we successfully blocked a number of legislative proposals that posed substantial threats to our national interests in the Negev and the Galilee. Although there were a number of bills that we were unable to block, our intensive involvement resulted in damage-control and containment. We made the most of the unstable political climate to make inroads in Israeli public opinion in favor of resolute government action to restore governance and the rule of law to the Negev and to prevent further progress toward the establishment of a terrorist state in Judea and Samaria.

Over the course of the year, our Negev campaign focused on issues that arose in Israel's frenetic news cycle: the cancellation of the JNF's tree-planting program in the Negev, the Electricity Law, the catastrophic Five-Year Plan for the Negev proposed by the Ra'am Party, and more. The publication of our important new book on the situation in the Negev, "Bedouistan: How the State of Israel is Losing the Negev," amplified our messages: Thousands of copies of this groundbreaking, true-to-life snapshot of the situation in southern Israel have already been sold, making our findings, analysis and proposed solutions available to the general public in a concise but readable format. This year also saw the launch of a Regavim campaign publicizing the catastrophic dimensions of the Palestinian Authority's takeover of Judea and Samaria, focusing on the leap in this illegal activity over the past year.

Parallel with our public awareness campaigns, we prepared detailed policy papers and draft legislation. In the days and weeks before and after the national elections, we worked intensively with each of the political parties in order to insure that these policy papers were incorporated in the coalition agreements that formed the new government.

All this, alongside our ongoing activities, including constant and consistent field work, unrelenting pressure on different government authorities and extensive legal activism. The pages that follow offer a sample of all this, and more.

We thank you, our valued partners, for enabling us to continue to fight the good fight for the Land of Israel.



Meir Deutsch,  
Director General

# ACHIEVEMENTS

## Providing policy, programs and data for the new government!

We're wrapping up a year of activity as a strong, Zionist government dedicated to restoring governance and personal security to the Negev, fighting the battle for Area C and reforming the judicial system, takes the helm. Each of these core issues have been at the very heart of Regavim's activities since the day our movement was founded, and we have devoted every bit of our resources, our creativity and our determination to raising these issues to the top of Israel's national policy agenda.

In the days and weeks before and after the elections, our Parliamentary Affairs Division intensified its operations: We developed detailed policy papers for protecting state land in the Negev, Judea, Samaria and the Galilee which we presented to each of the nationalist-camp parties. Significant elements of these policy papers were included in the coalition agreement. We will continue our efforts to insure that the government implements these Zionist policy frameworks throughout the Land of Israel.

## Bedouistan: Ready, set, go!

Our long journey - researching, writing, crowd-funding and publicizing - resulted in the successful launch of a comprehensive, one-of-a-kind book about the Negev, "Bedouistan: How the State of Israel is Losing the Negev". This ground-breaking volume - published and launched separately in Hebrew and English - has raised the challenges facing the State of Israel in the Negev to the very top of the public agenda. Unfortunately, the news over the course of the year made the issues raised in "Bedouistan" even more current, more urgent and more familiar to the public: a deadly terror attack in Beer Sheva, violence and vandalism in the Negev, indiscriminate gunfire on the streets and the loss of

all semblance of order on the roads in the south served as a very painful backdrop for the launch of the book, which presents an in-depth explanation of how this untenable reality came into being, and how it can be resolved.

**If you haven't read  
"Bedouistan" yet, order  
your copy today >>**







## After a 5-year legal battle, squatters evicted from Bilu Pioneers' land

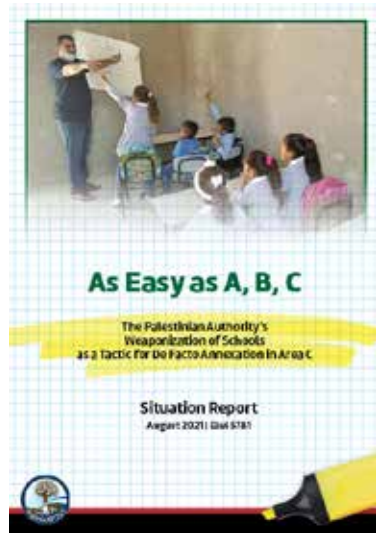
Regavim waged a tireless battle in the courts, which resulted in the demolition of a cluster of structures built the Abu Assa clan on land owned by heirs of the Bilu Pioneers near Gedera, in central Israel.



## Protecting our Heritage at the Hasmonean Palaces

In recent years, dozens of illegal Arab-built structures have sprung up at this important Second Temple-era archaeological site, where the Palestinian Authority continues its efforts to obscure Jewish history and our deep connection to Judea and Samaria. The construction has caused enormous damage to the site. We joined forces with "Preserving the Eternal" and the Binyamin Regional Council, and our efforts resulted in extensive enforcement and numerous demolitions of illegal structures. We continue to monitor the area closely and to demand that the Civil Administration complete the enforcement process and restore the site.





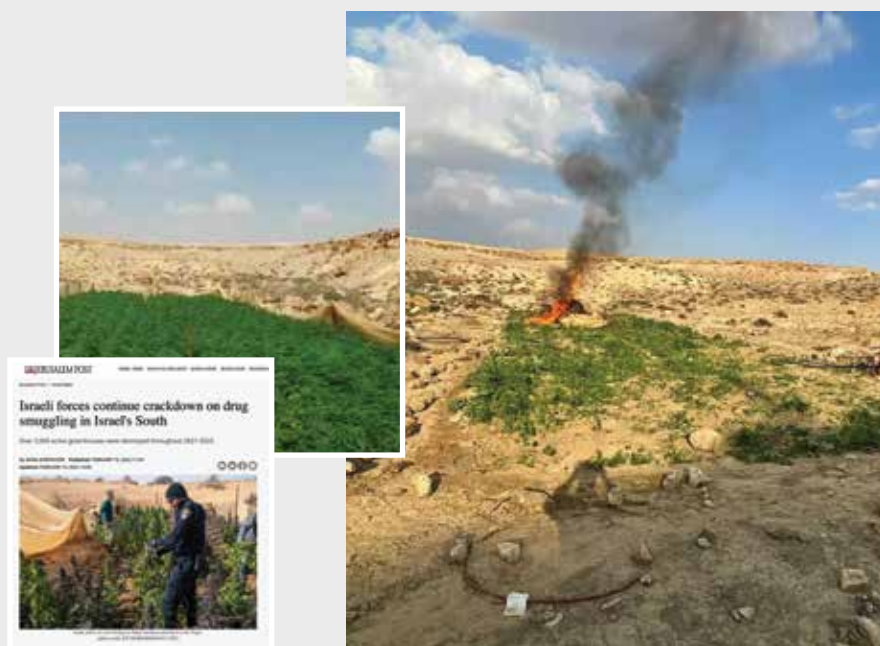
## Law Enforcement: Changing Reality

In the last few months of 2022 the Civil Administration carried out enforcement in a number of strategic cases that we've been pursuing for years: structures outside of Bethlehem facing the northern neighborhoods of Efrat; luxurious villas built in a strategic spot in eastern Gush Etzion; illegal construction in the nature reserve at the Tzreida Ridge in Samaria; illegal clusters in the Judean Desert; infrastructure, agriculture and construction works in the heart of Gush Etzion; buildings in the Jerusalem corridor, and more. These and other achievements were enhanced by our close cooperation with many other key actors, including the municipal land protection departments which Regavim helped establish and to which we continue to provide support, as well as concerned and involved citizens who alert our field coordinators to changes on the ground. These cooperative efforts are changing the reality and helping us turn the tide.

## Easy as A,B,C: At Last, Focused Enforcement

Last year, we published a comprehensive report on the weaponization of “resistance schools,” a Palestinian Authority tactic for territorial annexation of strategic points in Area C. The report provided decision-makers with factual documentation and precise data, and in recent months, for the first time, an illegal school - built virtually overnight in an IDF military training area - was demolished. We look forward to seeing more of the same.





## “Just Say No”

We’ve been spotlighting the phenomenon of illegal drug plantations and the burgeoning drug trade in the Negev as one of the key elements of the erosion of governance and sovereignty. Recent developments have given us cause for cautious optimism: enforcement activity has become more widespread and more effective than ever before. In the last month of 2022, the IDF and the Green Patrol destroyed dozens of drug plantations in the Negev, including some of the sites exposed by our Southern Region Field Coordinator. Alongside these encouraging developments, we have maintained our pressure on the relevant authorities to take a firm stand against the crime families and syndicates that are raking in millions and stoking the atmosphere of lawlessness and anarchy.



# The War of Attrition 2022: A Terrorist State in the Heart of Israel

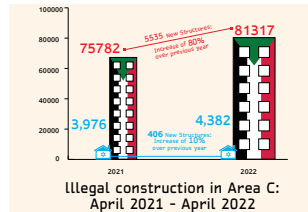
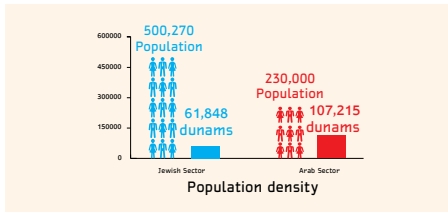
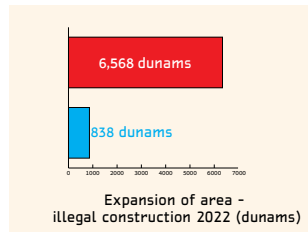
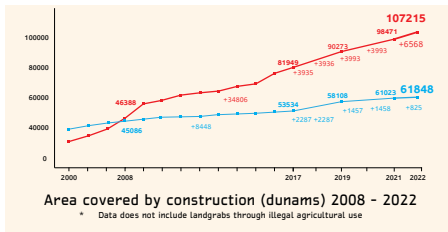
We have been mapping and analyzing the spread of illegal Arab construction in Area C for years. Our most recent data analysis indicates that during the tenure of outgoing Defense Minister Gantz, the rate of illegal construction was some 80%

higher than the already-astronomical rate the year before. We launched the “War of Attrition 2022” report from a mock-up of an illegal EU-funded outpost - across the street from Gantz’s home. The “outpost” and the report stirred public interest and debate ahead of the national elections.

## Palestinian Annexation of Area C

### Area Covered by Construction - 2022

Arab Sector ■  
Jewish Sector ■





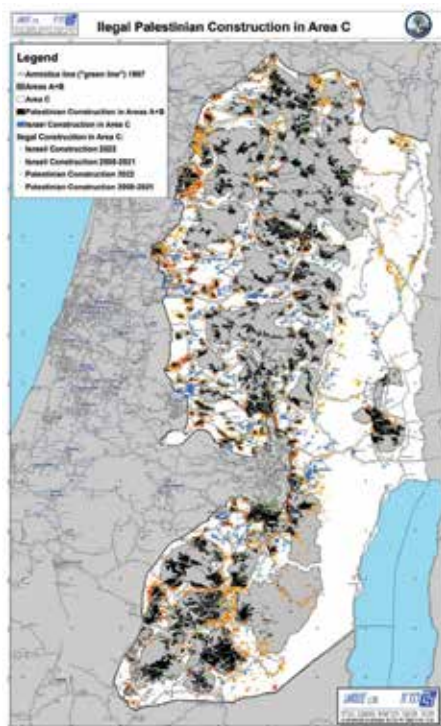


## Selling Out for US President's Visit?

Ahead of President Biden's visit to Israel last June, we exposed plans by Yair Lapid's transitional government to approve massive Palestinian expansion in Area C, "whitewashing" thousands of illegal structures and allocating thousands of dunams of Israeli state land to Arab villages at the expense of Jewish communities - essentially rewarding the Palestinian Authority for its ongoing annexation of Israeli assets. We launched a successful emergency campaign, mobilizing the right wing of the transitional government, and the proposed "gestures" were blocked.

## Regavim's Research Division Reveals: Arab Settlement in Area C - Double the Area of Jewish Settlement

In 2022, Regavim's Mapping and Research Division analyzed the area covered by de facto Palestinian Authority annexation in Area C - and our findings are astounding: The developed area taken up by the Jewish population, which numbers some 500,000 people, amounts to a mere 61,000 dunams, while the area covered by Arab development, for a population estimated at 80,000 - 100,000 people, consists of 107,000 dunams - an area double the size of Jewish settlement.



## Ra'am Takes the JNF Hostage

Jewish National Fund forestation projects have served the State of Israel for many years, as a bulwark against illegal landgrabs and construction. In 2022, one such project was planned for empty tracts of state land near the Bedouin-Israeli town of Molada in the Negev. The tree-planting project was called off after a violent onslaught by Bedouin rioters. Although the Lapid-Bennet government announced that the project had been completed, we did some digging of our own, and discovered that only a small fraction of the project was completed. Widespread violence in Bedouin communities in the Negev, coupled with political threats by the Ra'am Party, brought a quiet and craven halt to the project - but Regavim exposed the government's capitulation, creating pressure for the renewal of the project.



## Neither Rain nor Sleet - nor Rocks nor Bullets

While conducting a routine field tour, our coordinator came across an illegal Palestinian faux-cemetery (a well-known landgrab tactic used by the PA to create a false narrative of historic connection to the land in strategic spots in Area C). Terrorists opened fire while he was documenting the site; luckily, he was unhurt. Earlier this year, while conducting a field tour, our field coordinator's car was vandalized and the windows smashed. These incidents, and others like them, illustrate the connection between the loss of control of the land and the rise of terrorism. Neither live fire, rocks or other acts of violence will deter us; our work goes on, as it must.

### Terrorists Shoot at Regavim Tour near Hebron

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David Israel  
© Talan 0740 - September 28, 2022



Regavim's Moshe Shauli was shot at while this image was captured, September 28, 2022.  
Around 3 PM, Thursday, a shot was fired at the Judea and Samaria coordinator of the Regavim movement, Moshe Shauli, who was touring the area C section of the Binyat Abu near Hebron, together with a representative of the local council, and was documenting an illegal Arab takeover of parts of Area C.

The event ended without casualties. The coordinator alerted Israeli security forces who are now scanning the area in search of the terrorists.

Advertisement

## Benny Gantz's High Stakes Shell Game at Khan al Ahmar

We exposed the plan developed by outgoing Minister of Defense Benny Gantz to relocate the illegal squatters of Khan al Ahmar - a mere 300 meters away from their current location. This dangerous plan would establish a Palestinian Authority foothold in a strategic location, building a land bridge between Bethlehem, Jericho and Ramallah. We continue to demand the relocation of the illegal outpost's residents to the alternative site near Abu Dis, prepared at a cost of tens of millions of Israeli taxpayers' money.



## Regavim: Jewish Press Man of the Year

The Jewish Press, one of the most senior and most beloved media outlets in North America, is a significant source of Israel-related news and analysis for readers throughout the English-speaking Jewish world. We are proud to have been recognized as a major influence on the Zionist agenda in Israel and abroad.



© 2006 Blackwell Publishing Ltd *Journal of Internal Medicine* 260: 399–406

**Keywords:** child sexual abuse; disclosure; social support

286 *Journal of Management Education* 36(3)

Members of the Euzepist movement in Sebastia, site of one of the earliest settlements in Samaria, July 1974.

*The 1948 War of Independence is not over, and we're losing.*

Last Rosh Hashanah, we picked **"The Indefatigable MK Itamar Ben-Gvir"** as the Jewish Press' Man of the year, and soon after, he became the most popular and effective leader of the national religious public has seen in years. We noted his strict theater tactics and predicted that he would "continue to influence right-wing politics in Israel for many years to come, even if he fails to make it to the 25th Knesset." Which stands to show you how limited our own imagination can be on occasion.

#### Advertisement

This year we've selected the **Rogovin movement** for the honor. The Rogovin movement was created in 2006 as "The Association for the Preservation of National Land" by MK Benoit Smotrich among others. Smotrich is, of course, Ben Gvir's partner



## Documentary expose': The high cost of cut-rate petrol

The high cost of living is a concern for every Israeli household, and the pinch is particularly acute at the petrol pump. We initiated a Channel 13 documentary that exposed the free-for-all of illegal petrol stations that dot the landscape of the Negev. These cut-rate operations save customers a few shekels, but pose a clear and immediate danger to life and limb, deal a mortal blow to the environment, and pack a gut-punch of massive tax revenue losses for the state, to the tune of hundreds of millions per year. Sporadic law enforcement to date has failed to address the root of the problem, and new pumps continue to pop up every day. Every Regavim report on the Negev has addressed this problem, and our Sdeh Boker Initiative lays out a systematic approach to solving it at the source.



## The Stockade and Mosque Settlements

Our field coordinator noticed a series of identical mosques that popped up virtually overnight in different Bedouin towns in the Negev. The strange resemblance and the speed of construction alerted him that something was afoot, and he did some careful investigating: These illegal structures were designed to avoid enforcement - and in some cases have been used as shelter for infiltrators who slip through the Judean Desert and hide out until nightfall to make their way into the Israeli interior. The network of mosques were built with funding provided by a radical anti-Israel Bedouin sheikh, and serve as one more symbol of the religious radicalization and rising anti-Israel nationalism among growing segments of Israeli Bedouin society.



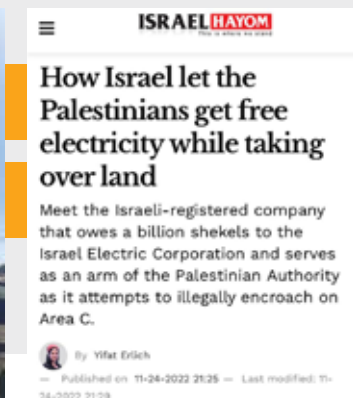
הם נבנים ברלילה, בשיטה אחידה ובמייצוב זהה, ומסווים ללא היסוד: ציחתי  
המסגדים שונים לאמרונו: בזה אומר זה באזור המזרחי. בנגב נבנום הר חבון,  
במיתו של שייח' אבן ישראל, ונעדר להעמיק את ההזדהות והרציפות  
ההיסטורית של הבדואים עם הפלסטינים ביהודה ושומרון





## The Israeli Corporation serving as an Agent of Palestinian Annexation

In an investigation we conducted with "Yisrael Hayom" we revealed that the "Jerusalem District Electricity Company" (JDEC), registered as an Israeli company under the auspices of the Electricity Authority for the purpose of transferring energy to Arab communities in Judea and Samaria, is connecting thousands of illegal Arab structures to the electricity grid. To make matters worse, the JDEC has accumulated a debt of hundreds of millions of shekels to the Israel Electric Company; the debt is so high that the State of Israel recently 'forgave' some of it. Thanks to this shattering expose' Israeli taxpayers now have a better grasp of why their utility bills are so high - and where their hard-earned shekels are being spent.



## Legal Aid for a Bedouin Victim of Racketeering

A business owner from the Israeli Bedouin town of Ar'ara who was awarded the tender for commercial property by the Israel Lands Authority, was repeatedly attacked by Bedouin who claimed to be the property's rightful owners - even though the land in question is registered as state property. The businessman was physically assaulted, he was shot at, he was threatened - but his repeated complaints to the Israel Police didn't help, so he turned to Regavim and we are providing him with the necessary legal support. This case illustrates what we have always stressed: Bedouin citizens in the Negev will be the foremost beneficiaries of improved governance.





## **Objection: The Great Whitewash at Umm al Fahem**

To address the national housing shortage, the Ministry of Interior established Special Planning Committees (SPC) and empowered them to enlarge the pool of available housing. After an in-depth study of SPC 1077, the ‘expansion’ plan for Umm al Fahem that includes whitewashing some 3000 illegal housing units, we submitted official objections: SCP 1077 fails to explore, exploit and exhaust the existing potential for growth in already-approved municipal plans, and instead opts for “virtual” solutions that retroactively legalize thousands of already-built units without creating any new, real solutions for the housing shortage.

## **Regavim Petition: Palestinian Authority Has No Authority**

In the course of 2022, the Palestinian Authority submitted dozens of planning approval requests for expansion of villages in Area C - despite the fact that it has no authority to do so: The law in force in Judea and Samaria stipulates that only the Civil Administration’s High Council for Planning or individual land owners may submit permit requests. Our legal petition emphasized that the Palestinian Authority is acting without authority, and demanded that the Palestinian Authority be barred from exploiting and abusing the Israeli legal system - a key element in the Palestinian program of seizing and annexing more land in areas under Israeli jurisdiction.

## High Court of Justice Upholds Antisemitic Land Law

One of our flagship High Court of Justice petitions demanded the repeal of a discriminatory Jordanian law that is still in effect in Judea and Samaria, prohibiting the sale of land to Jews.

This law, with its odious antisemitism and its wildly unjust consequences, is unique in its racist and retrograde content and intent. Nonetheless, the High Court of Justice recently rejected our petition on the grounds that it does not intervene in matters of government “policy.” The presiding justice in the case suggested that we take our grievance “to the building next door;” in other words, the Knesset. Now that a new government has been installed, we intend to take the High Court’s advice - even though it was intended as nothing more than a cynical quip.



## High Court rules: Squatters in crucial IDF Training Grounds May Be Evicted

Concluding 20 years of legal foot-dragging, the High Court of Justice ruled that hundreds of Arabs who had invaded IDF Firing Zone 918, located between the South Hebron hills and the Arad Valley, can be evicted. We have been actively pursuing this matter on both the legal and public awareness levels: The now-massive takeover of IDF training grounds began with a few seemingly-harmless shacks, but under the protective umbrella of legal deliberations it has become a gigantic, sprawling challenge with hundreds of permanent structures covering an enormous area - and has galvanized a tsunami of international BDS activity. In the interim, the IDF has been unable to use its training grounds for live fire drills. The High Court decision rejected the attempts by leftist organizations to rewrite history and create a false narrative of historic settlement in the area.

## The Buck Stops... Where? Regavim Seeks Prison Sentence for Intransigent Mayor

It’s been ten years since we petitioned the High Court about the Al Kasum Regional Council’s failure to collect municipal taxes. When the municipality ignored the court’s ruling to provide data on tax collection, the municipality was fined, NIS 250 per day. The fine, which continues to grow - and currently stands at tens of thousands of Shekels - had absolutely no impact on the municipality, so we petitioned for a more effective sanction: jail time for the head of the municipality.





## No Cause for Celebration

In 2022 we tracked a new phenomenon: sprawling amusement parks and event halls built illegally in areas under Israeli jurisdiction. The meteoric rise in the number and size of these sites disproves the common claim that illegal construction is due to the Arab sector housing shortage and Israeli permit policy. When the Civil Administration refused our demands for enforcement at a massive illegal compound adjacent to the “Lieberman Road” connecting eastern Gush Etzion to Jerusalem, we took the case to court to expose the larger phenomenon.

## The Beit Fajar Quarry - Round 3

Our friends at “Preserving the Eternal” discovered the wholesale destruction of antiquities by the quarrying operation at Beit Fajar in Gush Etzion: The illegal quarry destroyed sections of the ancient aqueduct that carried water to Solomon’s Pools, and from there to Jerusalem. Regavim filed its third High Court petition demanding that the quarrying be halted. The Beit Fajar quarry is the largest illegal operation of its kind to be found between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean, but the Civil Administration continues to ignore what is happening there, and for over a decade we have been waging a legal battle to stop the quarrying and rehabilitate the landscape.

## Court to Civil Administration: Provide Data You’ve Been Hiding From Regavim

We have been pursuing the Civil Administration for over a year and a half, demanding the release of data on enforcement action in 2020-2021. As always, our correspondence receives the standard, laconic response: the law is enforced according to “enforcement priorities” - so we would like to know: How’s that working out? What is the Civil Administration’s enforcement track record? We were forced to file a Freedom of Information petition - but even that didn’t help: The Civil Administration tried to pull the wool over the judge’s eyes with incomplete data, in an attempt to cover up its abject failure to enforce the law- but the court wasn’t fooled. The judge required the Civil Administration to provide complete data within 60 days.





## Regavim Victory: Illegal Directive Amended



In the context of our battle against the Civil Administration's policy of non-enforcement against illegal construction in the Arab sector, we petitioned the High Court last year against illegal procedural guidelines that automatically freeze enforcement when offenders submit frivolous, retroactive permit requests. As a result of our petition, a new procedure was instituted this year, from which some - but not all - of the clauses that are inconsistent with the law were removed; we have submitted a new petition demanding complete revision of the guidelines to bring them into compliance with the law.

## The Giant Garbage Dump Continues To Fester - At Israeli Taxpayers' Expense

For the last two years we have been waging a legal and environmental battle against a monstrous illegal garbage dump in an abandoned quarry near Psagot. Our efforts resulted in a cleanup of the dump last year - at the expense of Israeli taxpayers, and with absolutely no sanctions against the dumpers who caused unspeakable damage to the soil, water and air quality. Our recent petition called for the Civil Administration to charge the offenders, who were documented "in the act" by our field staff, for the cleanup - but the court chose not to "interfere." This unfortunate decision is wind in the sails of environmental criminals who have learned that in the State of Israel, crime does pay.



## “Enforcement Priorities” At The Expense of Jewish-Owned Land

We filed a new petition against the Civil Administration’s inaction against massive illegal construction on private land near Karnei Shomron, owned by Moshe Zar. In every case that mirrors this one - when the claim that Jews had taken Arab property - enforcement was the Civil Administration’s top priority. Our new petition demands equal, universal law enforcement standards and immediate action to restore Jewish property to its rightful owners.



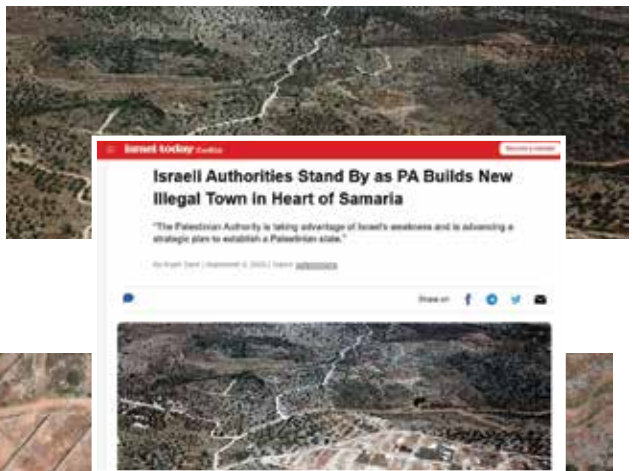
### New Palestinian City Rising on Jewish-Owned Land near Karnei Shomron

[jewishpress.com/news/eye-on-palestine/palestinian-authority/new-palestinian-city-rising-on-jewish-owned-land-in-samaria/2022/09/01/](https://www.jewishpress.com/news/eye-on-palestine/palestinian-authority/new-palestinian-city-rising-on-jewish-owned-land-in-samaria/2022/09/01/)

David Israel

5 Elul 5782 – September 1, 2022

Photo Credit: Regavim



## Additional petitions:

### **The Funduq Bypass Road:**

We petitioned for the demolition of a massive structure that was recently built on the route planned for an important bypass road in Samaria, designed to ease traffic congestion - for the benefit of both Jewish and Arab residents.

### **Khirbet Briza'a:**

Our petition to the High Court of Justice involves a very large illegal construction project abutting the Jerusalem-Gush Etzion road, a project designed to connect Bethlehem to the Arab villages of east Jerusalem.

### **Cancelling the Mukhtar Protocol:**

We convened a coalition of organizations to fight for the repeal of the "Mukhtar Protocol," used by the Jerusalem authorities to determine land ownership for construction permit processes. The protocol resulted in massive fraud, forgery, bribery and loss of property rights of Jewish and Arab owners alike. Our intensive efforts led to significant, substantive changes in the protocol, and property rights in Jerusalem are now more secure than ever before.

### **Al Kasum - Appointing a Caretaker Municipal Committee:**

Our petition against the Minister of Interior calls for appointment of a caretaker municipality, to replace the current administration and mayor of the Al Kasum Municipal Council who continue to refuse to collect municipal taxes from residents, despite a High Court of Justice ruling.

### **Environmental Protection - Illegal Petrol Stations:**

We filed an objection against an Arab developer's plan to build a gas station and commercial center near Rimonim Junction in the Binyamin region - an environmentally sensitive area at the source of Nahal Makoch stream.

### **Objection - Makhul Expansion:**

We filed objections to the planned expansion of the Bedouin settlement of Makhul in the Negev, on the grounds that there are alternatives for planning within the existing boundaries of the settlement.

### **Freedom of Information - Grazing Permits:**

After the Israel Land Authority ignored our requests for information, the court ordered the ILA to hand over all data on non-seasonal grazing permits throughout the State of Israel. The data will allow us to track the takeover of state lands.

### **Freedom of Information - Suspended Enforcement:**

We petitioned the court to compel the state to provide complete data on enforcement procedures that have been "frozen" due to procedural guidelines - and we won: The state handed over the information, and we are using it to formulate new operational recommendations.

### **Freedom of Information - Schools:**

We requested a list of illegal schools in Area C of Judea and Samaria. The data, which we eventually received in full, is an essential tool for our ongoing fieldwork.



## “The Sdeh Boker Initiative: Negev 2050” and “The Line in the Sand”

Prior to the national elections, we presented two detailed working papers to each of the Zionist parties that now comprise the governing coalition. More than policy papers, these detailed plans lay out the practical steps that must be taken in the Negev and in Judea and Samaria: The Sdeh Boker Initiative sets out a comprehensive national vision for development, regulation and resolution of Bedouin land claims, and other challenges. The “Line in the Sand” Program sets the course for formulation of national policy for Judea and Samaria and details strategies for winning the battle for the open spaces, land registration and regulation, population census, a regional development masterplan and a comprehensive approach to protection of land resources. We are happy to report that the principles outlined in these policy papers were included in the coalition agreement, and we will continue to promote and monitor their implementation.

## Establishing a Specialized Police Task Force for National Infrastructure

We initiated a Knesset debate, following the findings published in the State Comptroller’s Report: Each year, national infrastructure elements, including electricity and water systems worth tens of millions of Shekels, is lost to theft, illegal syphoning and vandalism - and the repair and replacement costs are foisted on Israeli taxpayers. We are spearheading the drive to establish a specialized enforcement unit - which will quickly cover its own costs and more by preventing the staggering damage to water and electricity systems in the southern region that is costing us all millions.



## Restoring Arab Sector Enforcement Budgets- Despite Ra'am

After the previous government decided, under pressure from the Ra'am Party, to remove the enforcement chapter from the government's Five-Year Plan for the Negev, we mobilized against the move - emphasizing the significant improvement in enforcement statistics that resulted from the integration of enforcement elements in the previous five-year plan. We explained

- to lawmakers and the public - that reversing this policy will erase these gains and open the door to a wave of illegal construction. As a result of the pressure our campaign created, resources were re-allocated for Negev enforcement bodies, albeit outside the umbrella of the Five-Year Plan.



## Subversive EU Activity to be Addressed in Foreign Affairs and Defense Hearing

Following the disclosure of a European Union document detailing its active support for the illegal Palestinian takeover of Area C, including the creation of a Palestinian land registry, infrastructure projects, and "monitoring" of Israeli archaeological research and preservation, we initiated a petition, which was signed by more than a dozen Members of Knesset, calling on Defense Minister Galant to convene an urgent discussion in the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, and to formulate Israel's response to subversive EU activities in which hundreds of millions of Euros are invested each year under the guise of humanitarian activities, in violation of Israeli and international law.

## Deliberations of the Outgoing Knesset

We participated in numerous Knesset committee hearings this past year - some of which were initiated by Regavim - including a Public Security Committee hearing on police brutality, in which we presented testimony on violence against citizens, unjustified arrests and impounding of personal firearms. In another hearing, convened by the Knesset Land of Israel Caucus, we presented data collected by Regavim's Research Division on aspects of governance in the Negev. At our initiative, a special Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee hearing discussed the Palestinian Authority's creeping annexation of Area C, and more.



## Parliamentary Queries

Another technique in our parliamentary activism toolbox is submission of plenum queries. We work closely with Knesset members who share our concerns on a specific issue; they submit our query, directing it to the minister in charge, who is required to respond from the Knesset podium.

We used this approach a number of times to spotlight issues and spur the Knesset to action, including a query to Minister of Environmental Protection Tamar Zandberg about the pollution of Nachal Kana, a query about the implementation of the Camel Registration Law, another regarding extortion in the Negev, a query about the scope of administrative enforcement tools in Judea and Samaria, and more.



## Bringing the Knesset Out to the Field

Over the course of the year we held field tours and meetings with dozens of parliamentarians from all the Zionist political parties, offering legislators a deeper understanding of the situation on the ground in order to build cooperation and achieve results on key agenda items.





# Regavim in Green: Environmental Activism



## Up in Smoke at the Herodion

Near the Herodion Historical Site and Nature Reserve in eastern Gush Etzion, Arabs set up an incineration point for used tires and electronic waste, where they strip metals for re-sale and burn the remaining elements. Over the last few months of 2022, these fires created an environmental disaster. Together with municipal land protection departments and residents of the nearby Jewish communities, we filed a series of complaints - to the Israel Police, the Fire Department, the IDF and the Israel Nature and Parks Authority. Not one of them lifted a finger - other than to point it at the other - because the burning is happening on land under Palestinian Authority jurisdiction. While pollution does not respect political boundaries, environmental groups continue to turn their backs on this problem for political reasons.



## Objection: Civil Administration Quarry Program is a Catastrophe in the Making

We submitted detailed legal objections to the state's Regional Outline Plan for Quarrying and Mining (TAMA 52/1) that would "whitewash" illegal quarries in Judea and Samaria, enlarge them by thousands of dunams and legalize massive mining and quarrying operations that fail to meet basic Israeli standards. In a hearing of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee initiated by Regavim and a consortium of municipalities and other organizations, we spotlighted the proposal's very serious failures and the irreparable damage to the environment and to national heritage sites it will cause. The committee chairperson at the time, MK Ram Ben Barak (Yesh Atid), called for the shelving of the plan.







## **Victory: Ofra Wastewater Treatment Plant Going Live**

Years of unnecessary environmental damage are finally coming to an end: We joined forces with “Green Now” in a High Court of Justice petition that shocked even the judges: For years, the Israeli government refused to activate a wastewater treatment facility that would have prevented massive pollution from the effluents of Ofra and the surrounding Arab communities. The plant, which cost the state millions to build, had been idle for years, resulting in millions of cubic liters of raw sewage running into the aquifer. The High Court of Justice ordered the state to activate the facility without further delay.

## **An Environmental Hearing to Save the Negev**

In an important Knesset debate on the lack of environmental enforcement in the Negev, we presented documentation of widespread environmental abuse: hundreds of illegal garbage dumps, untreated sewage, dumping of slaughterhouse waste and more. We explained the connection between these problems and organized crime, and noted that the massive territory between Ashdod and Eilat is overseen by only 5 environmental protection staffers, leaving the door wide open for lawlessness. We called upon the authorities to coordinate their efforts and make the environment a top priority.

## BDS Protests Against Regavim

Regavim's Naomi Kahn, Director of our International Division, set out on a speaking tour in North America that included a series of lectures and meetings attended by hundreds of people - members of the Jewish and non-Jewish Zionist public, and others who came to listen and formulate informed opinions. BDS activists attempted to block the public's access to these fact-filled presentations, and to drown out the discussion with false anti-Israel narratives. Regavim is dedicated to connecting Jewish communities around the world to Zionist activism, and goes to tremendous lengths to provide factual, detailed resources and in-depth analysis of the challenges Israel faces and the solutions we propose. Demonstrations against our presentations are nothing new; they have never succeeded in silencing us - and they never will.



## Swiss Parliament Query: Why is the Government Funding Illegal Activity?

We exposed the Swiss government's financing of an illegal Palestinian Authority "Resistance School" in Gush Etzion, in violation of international law. This funding joins the millions of Euros transferred each year to the Palestinian Authority to facilitate the takeover of Israel's state lands. We submitted two queries to the Swiss parliament through a member of parliament, on the subject of the Swiss government's funding policy: aid for the "resistance schools" program, a central tool of Palestinian annexation, and funding for organizations that have been blacklisted as terrorist affiliates by the Israeli government. The queries are still being discussed in the Swiss parliament.





## Diplomatic Incident? Regavim's Exposes Canadian Military Overstep in Area C

We filed an official complaint after spotting members of the Canadian Armed Forces delegation to the Proteus Project at a number of sensitive spots in Area C. Although their mandate is to assist and monitor development of the Palestinian Police in Areas A and B, high-ranking members of the Canadian army met with Palestinian activists at a number of confrontation sites in Area C, visited and inspected illegal structures, and offered support for anti-Israel activities in areas under full Israeli jurisdiction. Our objections were received by the Israeli Foreign Ministry and our Ambassador to Canada, as well as the Canadian Ambassador to Israel and others.

## Advocacy in Jewish Communities Around the World

This past year we gave dozens of public lectures in communities across Israel and around the world. We presented our activities to audiences as far afield as Australia, Scandinavia, England, Canada and beyond, and engaged politicians and public opinion influencers in discussion and debate. Regavim's International Division saw a significant increase in activity as pandemic-related restrictions eased, and we anticipate that this trend will be even more pronounced in the year ahead.

## International Public Diplomacy

Regavim's International Division makes our agenda, our research and our activism accessible to people around the world who do not speak Hebrew - including foreign diplomats and decision makers, public opinion influencers and individual consumers of news and analysis who want to learn more and to formulate an educated opinion about Israel and the region. This past year, we hosted journalists from France, Austria, Finland, Sweden, Germany, the United Kingdom, Japan, India, the United States and other countries, as well as local Israeli and Jewish English-language media correspondents. We created an important channel of direct communication with a number of foreign embassies and hosted field tours for diplomatic staff to give them a new perspective on the issues we address and to offer them precise, factual data.



## Research and Policy Papers

### The Front Lines - At Your Front Door

As a means of raising awareness and spurring public involvement and activism, we created a series of specialized, area-specific reports on the Palestinian Authority's creeping annexation of Judea and Samaria. These reports were delivered to every household in Judea and Samaria, to educate residents about what is happening just beyond the back fence of their own community.



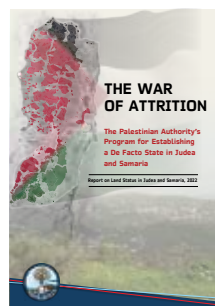
### The Vanishing Negev

We released a comprehensive study of land-use and land policy issues in the Negev. The report offers in-depth background material on the history and legal framework relating to Bedouin land ownership claims, Bedouin settlement, precise mapping of the growth of illegal construction from 2005 through 2021, analysis of the ramifications of the data - and a detailed, practical roadmap for resolving

the conflict and implementing forward-thinking land use policy.

### The War of Attrition 2022

Our most recent status report on land use in Judea and Samaria analyzes illegal Palestinian construction, using aerial photographs of the region taken in early 2022. The report analyzes trends and developments on the ground since 2018, taking into account the impact of the Trump Plan, Israel's political crisis and other factors.



### (Non)Historic Villages

This comprehensive, precedent-setting study busts the myth of "historic Bedouin villages" in the Negev through comparative analysis of archival material and aerial photographs of each and every spot claimed to have been the home of a Bedouin settlement in the pre-State era.





## Proactive Advocacy for Regavim's Agenda

This past year we participated in dozens of conferences, round-table events and panels, where we discussed current affairs, land-use issues, national policy and more: The Tel Hai Conference, The Reichman University Panel, The 'Real Estate City' Conference in Eilat, a Protection and Racketeering Conference, and more. We also conducted dozens of tours, lectures and parlor meetings for journalists and public opinion leaders, members of Israel's security bodies, government officials, foreign diplomats, and the public at large - from Zionist activists and residents of Jewish communities throughout Israel to gap year students and pre-military academy cadets.



## Communications and New Media



**Our Facebook posts had a total of over 5 Million views, with thousands of shares and engagements**



**1.6 Million viewed our 135 video clips from the field, the Knesset, and the Courts**



**Join our growing following of nearly 2,000 followers on Instagram**



**Our Tweets were viewed more than 2 Million times, and were shared and responded to by thousands**



**Our posts on Telegram had over 1 Million views, and were shared widely**



**Our newest media platform, TikTok, was launched mid-year - and already has thousands of followers. Content received over 1 Million views**



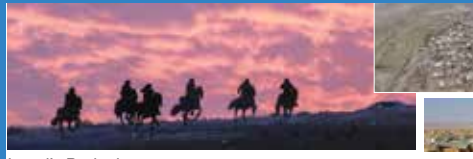
**Our WhatsApp groups deliver active updates on all Regavim activities to hundreds of subscribers**

# PA Giving Free Tractor Licenses to Arab Farmers Engaged in Illegal Takeover of Israeli Lands

By Aryeh Savir, Tazpit News Agency - 25 Tamuz 5782 - יז



לחוקרו: هكذا يقضم المستوطنون اليهود المزيد من أراضي الضفة الغربية



## Israel's Bedouin

Beyond the crime-ridden headlines



THE BEDOUIN, a nomadic people who have lived in the Negev desert for centuries, are now being forced to live in small, crowded towns. This is a result of the Israeli government's policy of land confiscation and the construction of new towns in the area. The Bedouin population in the Negev is estimated to be around 200,000, but only about 100,00 are registered with the Israeli government. The rest are considered illegal residents and are subject to various restrictions and discrimination.

## Palästinenser besetzen umstrittenes Land in Judäa und Samaria und beanspruchen es als ihr eigenes

Ein Bericht von der israelischen Presseagentur, der die Besetzung von Land in Judäa und Samaria durch Palästinenser beschreibt. Die israelische Regierung hat die Besetzung als illegal bezeichnet und fordert die Rückgabe des Landes.

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24. August 2022

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## Why Is Israel Protecting Illegal Palestinian Arab Construction?

"This absurdity must be stopped - immediately. There's a battle raging on the ground for control of Judea and Samaria."

By Israel Today Staff | July 29, 2022 | Topics [palestine](#)

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Illegal Arab construction is rampant in parts of Judea and Samaria that are supposed to be under Israeli control. Photo: Photo: Reuters/PFA

(TPS) In a renewed petition submitted to the High Court of Justice, the **Regavim Movement** is calling for changes in the IDF's Civil Administration procedures that automatically freeze enforcement against thousands of



## The Palestinians Are Stealing Area C, Says An Israeli NGO

"In the past year, the rate of illegal Palestinian construction has increased by 80%," the researchers wrote.

By Ben Zion Tsvetkovsky | 14. 8. 2022

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## Palestinian Authority's Stealth Steal of Judea and Samaria

www.israelhonest.com/2022/08/01/palestinian-authority-steals-judea-and-samaria/2022/08/01

David Isaac

27 Av 5782 - August 24, 2022

www.israelhonest.com/2022/08/01/palestinian-authority-steals-judea-and-samaria/2022/08/01

## Secret Document Reveals EU Plans to Help Palestinian Takeover of Area C

EU secret document reveals the EU's intent to help Palestinian takeover of Area C

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## Israel Again Waffles on Enforcing Rule of Law

By James Shikanyan | JNS.org

January 18, 2022 11:20 AM

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