



**Division for External Relations  
and Resource Development**

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*Wishing you and your loved ones a very Happy Passover!  
Chag Sameach from the University of Haifa.*

**1**

Prof. Fania Oz-Salberger, of the Faculty of Law, has been chosen to give the keynote lecture for the Biennial Conference of the [European Union for Progressive Judaism \(EUPJ\)](#) which was held in London on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Her lecture on 'Jewish Identity – What Unites and Divides us as Jews?' was introduced by Mr. Felix Posen, of the Posen Foundation, who is a longtime Friend of the University of Haifa, and Honorary Doctorate recipient in 2015.



**2**

Several Ambassadors from Latin American countries - Brazil, Colombia, Uruguay, Paraguay, Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Chile, and Panama - visited the campus last week with Israeli Foreign Ministry officials to attend a lecture by Director of the International Graduate Program at the National Security Studies Center, Dr. Dan Schueftan. In addition, they met with President Amos Shapira, who told them about the importance of the University in the fabric of life in the city of Haifa.



3

Dr. Arik Cheshin, of the Department of Human Services, in a joint study with the University of Amsterdam, has found that the expression of emotions is a useful information source, giving clues about what is likely to happen in social situations in general. The researchers focused on the emotions expressed in baseball in particular, and published their findings in the journal *Frontiers in Psychology*. "Other peoples' emotions provide information. The expression of emotions can mark for us what the person is thinking and what they are about to do. If we read others' emotions well, we will be better able to anticipate their behavior and to adapt our behavior to that of others," explained Dr. Arik Cheshin. The study was covered by several media outlets including the [Times of Israel](#), the [Jewish Press](#), [Science Daily](#) and [From the Grapevine](#).



4

Intriguing research has been published by Prof. Stephen Levine and Prof. Itzhak Levav of the Department of Community Mental Health, that women who came to Israel during the Second World War are three times as likely to take their own lives as those who survived the Holocaust in its entirety. The research was also conducted with staff from the Health Ministry, the Interior Ministry and the Central Bureau of Statistics. It used data of those born in Europe between 1922 and 1945 and who immigrated to Israel up until 1966. [Haaretz English](#) covered the research.



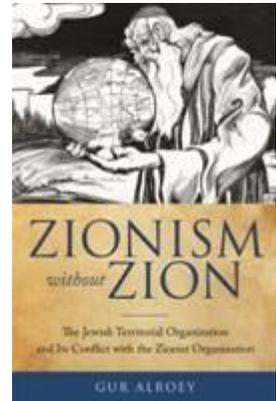
5

An article in the journal of the US organization The National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, [Naela News](#), describes a visit by a representative member of the organization to meet with Prof. Israel Doron, head of the Department of Gerontology and Attorney Carmit Shay, Director of the Elderly Rights Clinic at the Faculty of Law. They compared notes on the practice of elder law between the US and Israel.



6

Prof. Gur Alroey, Program Director of the Ruderman Program for American Jewish Studies, has just successfully published his new book [Zionism without Zion: The Jewish Territorial Organization and Its Conflict with the Zionist Organization](#), in the USA, issued by Wayne State University Press. The book deals with the solutions Territorialism proposed to alleviate the hardship of Eastern European Jews at the start of the twentieth century and offers fresh insights into the challenges faced by Zionism in the same era.



**7**

Dr. Avinoam Idan, who teaches at the Energy Studies Program and is a specialist in the Central Asian region of Russia and the Caucasus at the School of Political Science, has featured in press commenting on the President of Azerbaijan's recent visit to the US. "The President of Azerbaijan's visit to the US this week was marked by an improvement in relations between Baku and Washington. President Aliyev has been asking for a long time for an improvement in relations with the US and the West, and the current visit marks the strengthening of this direction" wrote Dr. Idan, in an opinion column published in [I24news](#).

**8**

Our warm congratulations go to Dganit Gonen-Amir, an MA student in Creative writing at the Department of Hebrew and Comparative Literature, and to Roqia Aduwi, a postgraduate student of Middle East History, who both won first place for their Hebrew and Arabic stories respectively in the writing competition supported by Switzerland's [Arditi Foundation](#) for Intercultural Dialogue. The University of Haifa judging committee was chaired by Prof. Ronit Matalon of the Department of Comparative Literature. The two winners' stories will be translated into English and will be submitted, alongside the winners from other Israeli Universities, for judgement by an international jury in the Arditi Foundation overall prize.



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