

יחד  
**Yachad**  
Together for Israel  
Together for Peace



Annual Report 2019

## Dear friend,

It has been a year of turmoil, polarisation and stalemate. The UK has been through a difficult General Election, as well as protracted arguments over Brexit and antisemitism. Meanwhile, Israelis have been through two elections in 2019 and have watched as their Prime Minister has been indicted on multiple charges of corruption and bribery. Social media has fuelled disinformation, division and distrust to unprecedented levels.

At a time when faith in politics and society feels at its lowest, we at Yachad seek to do things differently.

We believe that it is vital for British Jews to both take pride in, and indeed support Israel, while also not shying away from the challenges Israel must overcome. This year I took part in Yachad's extraordinary Supporter Trip to Israel and the West Bank, where I experienced on-the-ground the challenges Israel's occupation brings to the Palestinians and to the Israel Defence Force, but was also inspired by meeting Israeli Jews and Arabs and Palestinian citizens who work individually and collectively towards a more just future.

Meeting hardworking grassroots activists and committed public servants highlighted to me that now is precisely the moment for us to step alongside them and build the foundations for the future. Last year we shared with you our strategic plan to build a positive vision for the future, working with the next generation of British Jewry and with decision-makers and Jewish institutions both here in the UK and in Israel.

Throughout 2019, Yachad has delivered on this vision by having record numbers of people coming to our events. We have expanded our efforts in developing the next generation of British leaders, launched our ground-breaking Student Activism Fellowship, reached more Israel Tour groups than ever before and nurtured relationships with MPs and political decision-makers who will make the tough decisions going forward.

We thank you for your support in 2019 and look forward to your continued involvement in 2020 as we contribute to the future security and prosperity of Israel, a nation in which we take pride and which is so important to all of us.



Simon Sadie  
Chair, Yachad

## Yachad staff and board members in 2019

### Staff

Hannah Weisfeld (Director)  
Maya Ilany  
Esther Craven  
Ross McGregor  
Julia Marcuson  
Andie Newman (maternity cover)  
Amos Schonfield (maternity cover)

### Board

Simon Sadie (Chair)  
Daniel Cohn  
Ella Grodzinski  
Ella Rose  
Amos Schonfield  
Larry Shulman  
Gideon Smith  
Guy Swimer

# key 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

## Working with the next generation

**OBJECTIVE:** *A new generation of pro-Israel British Jews wants to talk about and understand the conflict, but often feels discouraged or inhibited by the response from others in our community. We will deepen and strengthen our work with them, on campus, in their youth movements, and by taking them to Israel, so they have the confidence to speak out in support of their values and beliefs, and remain connected to our community and ready to assume leadership roles in it in the future.*

### Youth Movements

We worked with **6 youth movements** – BBYO, FZY, Habonim Dror, LJY-Netzer, Noam and RSY-Netzer – to provide content on the ground for **15 Israel Tour groups**. We engaged with over **500** young people over the summer, as well as providing bespoke training for over **30** Israel Tour leaders.

We led **13 training sessions and webinars** for youth movement leaders covering how to educate about Israel on summer camp, as well as updates on Israeli current affairs. We organised a seminar for **25** participants on gap year programmes in Israel.

We delivered **monthly educational sessions**, in partnership with the New Israel Fund, for movement workers responsible for running Zionist youth movements.

### Students

**16 students** from universities across the UK, participated in a **5-day educational trip to Israel and the West Bank**, enhancing their knowledge about

the conflict and developing their skills as activists on campus, in youth movements and in Jewish spaces.

**Over 50 students** participated in our **annual student conference**, attending a full day of sessions and panels covering how to engage in the Israel conversation on the left, in the diaspora, and on campus. Wes Streeting MP also spoke to the students who engaged him in a robust Q&A.

**28 events on university campuses reached over 500 students** including two speaker tours with Frima Bubis from Breaking the Silence, and Alon-Lee Green and Sally Abed from the Jewish-Arab social movement Standing Together.

### Student Activism Fellowship

**6 fellows** were selected to be a part of our inaugural Activism Fellowship, giving them the skills and experiences to take the next step on their journey as activists and leaders. Over 3 seminars, the fellows have met with experts in their fields, covering Israeli and Palestinian current affairs, community organising, and issues within Anglo-Jewry. The fellows will soon take part in an **educational delegation to Belfast**, in order to learn about the Irish peace process.

### Schools

We delivered **school assemblies** for JAMS (Jewish Activities in Mainstream Schools), coordinated by the UJIA. We organised educational sessions on Yom Ha'atzmaut and Rosh Chodesh at JCoSS, **reaching upwards of 200 pupils**.



**over 500**  
students attended Yachad events on campuses

## Working with political decision-makers

**OBJECTIVE:** It is important that our current and future political leaders hear the voice of the mainstream British Jewish community in giving our support to Israel, whilst raising critical questions, and our passionate desire for dialogue that can generate a resolution to the conflict and an end to occupation. Yachad is now uniquely placed to help build connections with like-minded politicians in Britain, Europe and the USA, and with a new generation of future leaders in Israel, who may hold the reins of power in the future so that, when the political landscape shifts decisively towards the possibility of peace, the networks are in place to support it.

In 2019, we held our first **parliamentary delegation to Israel and the West Bank**, with Stephen Twigg and Bambos Charalambous joining us for meetings with Israeli and Palestinian leaders and decision-makers. Highlights included: meeting Israeli Knesset members, Stav Shaffir and Asaf Zamir; visiting the Gaza border region, East Jerusalem, the divided city of Hebron in the West Bank and the Palestinian village of Khan al Ahmar that faces a demolition order; as well as meetings with Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh and PLO member and peace negotiator Dr Saeb Erekat.

Yachad also held briefings with Liat Schlesinger, Executive Director of the liberal Israeli think tank Molad with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the European Council of Foreign Relations, journalists from MSNBC and The Independent, Trade Unionists and others.

*“Like Yachad, I believe in Israel’s right not just to exist, but to flourish; I stand against those who seek to defame it; and I support Palestinian statehood and a two-state solution.*

*Like Yachad, I believe the two-state solution is in peril and worry of the consequences for the hopes, dreams and ambitions of the Israeli and Palestinian people I have come to know.*

*Like Yachad, through my work in Parliament I have not chosen the path of least resistance.*

*We sometimes find ourselves attacked from both sides. But in a world that’s becoming increasingly populist and polarised it is even more vital that there are those of us prepared to stand our ground on the territory where peace can be built if political leaders can find the courage to do so.”*

Wes Streeting MP

## Press, PR and Social Media

In 2019, we had 42 press appearances, including in the *Jewish News*, *Jewish Chronicle*, *Haaretz*, and Israel’s leading business newspaper *Calcalist*.

We increased our **Facebook following by 7.5%** and our posts were seen by tens of thousands of people.

## Communal engagement

**OBJECTIVE:** We want to make sure our communal bodies and institutions represent the values of our supporters to the wider world. We will engage more deeply in institutional Jewish life, and ask our supporters to get involved, to help make sure this happens.

The Yachad Supporter Trip took 11 participants to meet Israeli and Palestinian activists, including: former Israeli Ambassador Ilan Baruch, former members of Knesset, up-and-coming political leaders from across Israel, and staff from the British Embassy in Tel Aviv.

## Educational events

In 2019, we have brought to the UK **Sha’anan Street** from the band Hadag Nahash; **Merphie Bubis** from Breaking the Silence; **Professor Guy Ziv** from American University; **Alon-Lee Green** and **Sally Abed** from Jewish-Arab social movement, Standing Together; **Jessica Montell** from HaMoked; **Ami Ayalon**, the ex-MK and Head of Shin Bet; and **Liat Schlesinger**, Director of liberal Israeli think tank, Molad. In 2019 our event audiences grew by 86%, from 1500 to over 2800.

Limmud Festival sessions and panels were attended by hundreds of people for both the main and youth programmes, including a screening of the new film *Incitement* in partnership with UK Jewish Film.

We held events for the ongoing Israeli elections, with the New Israel Fund and One Voice, for over 250 people.

**Over 2800**  
Yachad  
Together for Israel  
Together for Peace

**people attended Yachad events throughout the year**

*“I was apprehensive and unsure before the trip. So pleased I booked and am grateful for the opportunity to see different aspects of the state and the geopolitics.”*

*“It re-energised me to stay committed to the cause of peace.”*

2019 trip participants

## 2019 Draft income and expenditure

The table below outlines the total consolidated income and expenditure for 2019, subject to adjustment on finalisation of accounts of Yachad (the charity) and Yachad Ltd (the company). Charitable activities only are carried out by Yachad the charity, and non-charitable activities by Yachad Ltd. The expenditure charged in the accounts of each reflects the costs of its respective activities. On the opposite page there is a detailed breakdown of income accounted for in this table.

Item	Detail	Expenditure	Income
<b>Wages and staff costs</b>	Accountancy fees Employers National Insurance Pensions Salaries (inc. maternity leave cover) Staff expenses Staff training	<b>£151,135</b>	
<b>Student and youth movements</b>	Educational events with youth movements Gap year Israel trips Israel Tour programmes Student conference Student trip Visits to campus	<b>£14,213</b>	<b>£3,960</b>
<b>Fundraising</b>	Consultancy fees Fundraising appeals – costs and income Fundraising film expenses Fundraising gala at British Museum – costs, ticket sale General donations Gift Aid Grants Other income Standing orders Ticket sales and costs for general fundraising events	<b>£40,885</b>	<b>£260,944</b>
<b>Events, trips and education</b>	General events Election events November 2019 Supporter Trip - costs and income May 2019 parliamentary delegation - costs Visiting speaker tours: Alon-Lee Green & Sally Abed, Liat Schlesinger, Frima Bubis	<b>£29,135</b>	<b>£11,674</b>
<b>Office costs</b>	Advertising Bank charges Computers and software Database Graphic Design Insurance Office equipment Phone bills Postage Printing Stationary Sundry expenses Web hosting	<b>£28,705</b>	
<b>Rent</b>	Desks and meeting room hire	<b>£17,935</b>	
<b>Funds brought forward</b>	Funds brought forward from 2018		<b>£13,036</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£282,008</b>	<b>£289,614</b>



Yachad's first parliamentary delegation to the region with Stephen Twigg and Bambos Charalambous

### Total Income

Carried over funds – 2018	£13,036
Grants and donations	£242,546
Gift Aid payments	£7,887
Income from ticket sales, events etc	£24,495
Other income	£1,650

### Fundraising income breakdown

Donation Size	Total value of donations	Number of donations	Number of donors
£5,000-£20,000	£98,000	9	9
£500-£4,999	£53,596	51	51
£100-£499	£10,825	70	65
£1-£99	£3,941	118	98
Recurring Donations	£24,852	779	91
<b>Total</b>	<b>£191,214</b>	<b>1027</b>	<b>314</b>

### Money held in accounts December 31st 2019

Company Accounts  
Charity Accounts  
Paypal  
Reserves  
Petty Cash  
**Total £9,057**

## **YACHAD**

PHOENIX YARD  
65 KINGS CROSS ROAD  
LONDON  
WC1X 9LW

[info@yachad.org.uk](mailto:info@yachad.org.uk)

[www.yachad.org.uk](http://www.yachad.org.uk)

 [facebook.com/YachadUK](https://www.facebook.com/YachadUK)

 [@YachadUK](https://twitter.com/YachadUK)

Yachad is a registered charity, registration number 1164566

Yachad Ltd is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, company number 07638945

Any non-charitable activities are conducted under the auspices of Yachad Ltd