

Prof. Ruth Gavison is the founding president of Mezilah Center of Zionist, Jewish, Liberal and Humanist Thought.

Ruth Gavison is Haim H. Cohn Professor emerita of Human Rights at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Her areas of research include the relationships between law and politics, Israel as a Jewish and Democratic State, processes of constitution-making, privacy and the private-public distinction, and the role of laws and courts in divided democracies.

Ruth Gavison is a founding member of the Israeli Association for Civil Rights in Israel and served as its Chairperson and as its President.

In the years 1999-2001 she was involved in an intensive dialogue with Rav Yaacov Medan, which generated a Draft New Covenant between religious and secular Jews in Israel. The authors of the covenant won the Avihai prize for 2000, and the Toleration Award of The Movement of Toleration (2002).

In 2003-2005 Gavison Served as a Senior Consultant to the Committee of the Constitution, chaired by MK Michael Eitan during the 16th Knesset.

In 2006-2008 Gavison served as a member of the Commission appointed to investigate the 2006 Lebanon War (the Winograd Commission).

She is the recipient of a number of prizes: the Zeltner prize for excellence in research (1997), the Avihai Prize (2000, together with Rav Yaacov Meidan), Jerusalem Toleration Prize (2002), the Emet Prize for Law (2003), the Cheshin Prize (2009) and the Israel Prize for legal Research (2011).