

Survey Text (English Translation)

Survey for Israelis Living in Europe

Hello,

This survey is part of a research study being conducted by JDC and Machon Kehilot about the lives of Israelis who reside in Europe.

The questionnaire takes about 15 minutes to complete. It is possible to skip questions, but of course, we would be grateful if you would answer all of them.

The questionnaire is anonymous, and we hope you will feel free to express your personal opinions.

Should you have any questions, you can contact us at: XXXXXXXX

Thank you for your cooperation!

Israeli communities and connections with other Hebrew speakers in your area

1. Is there an organized and active Israeli community in your area (not necessarily in your city)?
(Yes, No)
 - If yes:
 - To what degree do you participate in the community's activities and events?
 - To what degree do you play an active role in the community?
(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)
 - If no:
If there was an active and organized Israeli community:
 - To what degree would you want to participate in activities and events held by the community?
 - To what degree would you want to play an active role in the community?
(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)
2. To what degree are you currently involved in the following activities?
(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)
 - Activities organized by representatives of the State of Israel (embassy, "Israeli House", Jewish Agency, etc.)
 - Activities organized by local Jewish communities

- Social and cultural activities organized by local Israeli independent initiatives and organizations
- Educational activities for children and teenagers dealing with Jewish and Israeli identity
- Activities organized by Israeli youth movements
- Activities for Israel – goodwill ambassadors, etc.
- Business networking among Israelis living in the area
- Facebook groups of local Israelis
- Concerts, theatre shows or movies from Israel appearing in your area
- Other (please specify)

3. To what degree, in your opinion, do the following factors hamper the existence of an organized and active Israeli community in your area?

(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)

- There are not enough Israelis living in my area to justify forming a community
- The Israelis where I live are dispersed over too wide an area, making it difficult to organize things together
- There are many Israelis whose partners do not speak Hebrew, and whose children don't speak Hebrew well either, and so it is hard to create social connections based on a cultural common ground
- Local Israelis' lack of interest in creating a communal framework
- Local Israelis' aspiration to assimilate into local society, and their unwillingness to preserve their Israeli and Jewish identity
- Lack of motivation to be part of Israel-related activity ("I left Israel in order to get away from Israel and Israelis...")
- Tensions and divisions among groups of Israelis living in the area, and the difficulty of convening them around shared social and cultural aspects
- Lack of initiative or necessary organizational skills among local Israelis
- Lack of financial support from external bodies for funding the operation of a community for local Israelis
- Lack of professional, content-related and conceptual support from an organization with experience in building Israeli communities in other places around the world
- Political divisions regarding the State of Israel, its government and its policies
- Antisemitism and a sense of insecurity at being in places identified with Jews
- Previous unsuccessful attempts to establish communal activities for Israelis in the area
- Other (please specify)

4. In your opinion, to what degree do the following elements constitute an important component in the communal life of Israelis outside of Israel?

(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)

- Social activities conducted in Hebrew
- Israeli culture activities (singing clubs, Israeli music, movies, theatre, lectures)

- Supplementary education frameworks in which studies and discussions are conducted in Hebrew
 - Events to mark Jewish/Israeli holidays and memorial days
 - Activities on subjects connected to Jewish and Israeli identity
 - Activities for Israel – goodwill ambassadors, etc.
 - Business networking among Israelis living in the area
 - Mutual support systems
 - Sense of belonging
 - Other (please specify)
5. To what degree do you agree with the following statements?
(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)
- It is important for me to be in contact with other Israelis living in my city or country
 - It is important for me to belong to some form of community framework of Israelis in my city or country

Connection with local Jewish life

6. Do you currently participate (to any degree) in the local Jewish community or in any other Jewish initiative in your city or country of residence? (Yes, No)
- If no:
 - To what degree do the following factors explain your lack of participation in one of the Jewish communities in your area?
(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)
 - The Jewish communities in my area use the local language and not Hebrew
 - I have not yet had the opportunity to be in contact with local Jewish communities
 - The activities of local Jewish communities are of no relevance or interest to me, because they mainly deal with Judaism and tradition from a religious-belief perspective, and are distant from my own cultural worldview as a secular person
 - The Jewish communities are not aligned with my own religious denomination (for example, I am Orthodox and the community is Reform)
 - Membership of the Jewish community is too expensive for me
 - I have never been approached by or invited to join any of the local Jewish communities
 - I contacted the Jewish community in the past, but I was treated with indifference or hostility
 - I tried to join the Jewish community, but was not admitted because my partner is not Jewish
 - My children were not admitted to the Jewish school on halachic grounds
 - I don't feel the need to belong to any Jewish community
 - Other (please specify)

- To what degree would each of the following factors encourage you to participate in activities of the local Jewish community?
(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)
 - Openness to different religious attitudes/streams
 - Willingness to accept family members who are not Jewish
 - Activities designed for secular Jews
 - Activities in Hebrew
 - Cultural events
 - Educational activities for children
 - Social events
 - Activities for Israel – goodwill ambassadors, etc.
 - Business networking among Israelis living in the area
 - Other (please specify)

- To what degree do you participate in the following:
(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)
 - Shabbat dinners with friends
 - Events to mark Jewish holidays
 - Cultural events and activities connected with Jewish identity
 - Jewish street festivals
 - Jewish film festivals
 - Independent minyanim
 - Other (please specify)

- If yes:
 - When you contact a Jewish institution or when you attend a Jewish community event, what are the reasons for doing so? (Please check all that apply):
 - I want to meet new friends
 - I want my children to socialize with other Jewish children and acquire Jewish values and knowledge
 - I am hoping to meet a partner/spouse
 - Fulfil religious/spiritual needs (Shabbat prayers, Jewish holidays)
 - I want to participate in cultural and leisure events
 - I am interested in services offered by the community (employment, health care, welfare, etc.)
 - I want to participate in Jewish community activities in support of the State of Israel
 - I intend to establish business contacts through business networking activities
 - Feelings of loneliness and lack of belonging
 - Other (please specify)

 - In which of the following local Jewish community events do you usually participate? (Please check all that apply):
 - Religious services at synagogue

- Cultural activities and programs at the local Jewish community center
- Activities or dinners organized by Chabad
- Cultural events/activities on Jewish topics (exhibitions, films, etc.)
- Volunteering activities in the Jewish community
- Shabbat dinners with friends
- Local Limmud event
- International Jewish events in Europe (Junction, Limmud, etc.)
- Jewish street festivals
- Jewish film festivals
- Independent minyanim
- Activities at the local Moishe House
- Jewish parties
- Organising and participating in Passover Seder nights / Rosh Hashanah dinners
- Jewish community activities in support of the State of Israel
- Business networking activities
- Other (please specify)

7. How would you describe the relationship between Israelis living in your area and the local Jewish community?

- Indifference
- Tension and conflict
- Tension alongside cooperation
- Cooperation and goodwill
- There isn't any real connection between the vast majority of the Israelis in the area and the Jewish community
- Don't know/No comment
- Other (please specify)

Children and family

8. Do you have children?

- (If yes)
 - How many? (drop down – numbers)
 - How old are they?
 - Do your children participate in an Israeli education framework? (Please check all that apply)
 - Supplementary school once a week/once every two weeks/once a month
 - Supplementary school several times a week
 - Youth movement
 - Occasional activities
 - Other (please specify)
 - Do your children participate in a Jewish education framework? (Please check all that apply)
 - Supplementary school once a week/ once every two weeks/ once a month
 - Supplementary school several days a week
 - Jewish day school
 - Summer camp
 - Youth movement
 - Occasional activities
 - Other (please specify)
 - To what degree do you agree with the following statements:
(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)
 - It is important to me to transmit to my children universal and humanistic values and culture
 - It is important to me to transmit to my children Jewish values and culture
 - It is important to me to transmit to my children Israeli values and culture
 - It is important to me to provide my children with enjoyable experiences in Hebrew in order to encourage them to speak Hebrew with me and with family members in Israel
 - It is important to me that my children learn to read and write in Hebrew
 - It is important to me to deepen my children's connection to Jewish traditions and heritage
 - It is important to me to expose my children to Hebrew stories and songs, so that they view Hebrew as a bridge to a rich cultural world full of content
 - It is important to me to strengthen my children's affinity with Israel
 - It is important to me that my children develop friendships with children with similar identity characteristics
 - It is important to me to nurture my children's Israeli and Jewish identity components, which are an inseparable part of their complex identity
 - It is important to me that my children and I can converse in my mother tongue

Relationship with the local environment

9. To what degree are you satisfied with the following elements of life in your country of residence?

(1=Not at all, 2=To a small degree, 3=To some degree, 4=To a large degree, 5=To a very large degree, Don't know/No comment)

- Political situation
- Economic situation
- Social situation
- Opportunities for my children
- Local culture
- Proximity to friends and relatives
- Social security benefits
- Availability and quality of higher education
- Quality of life
- Access to culture
- Other (please specify)

10. Most of your closest friends in your current area of residence are: (Please check all that apply)

- Israelis
- Local Jews
- Jews from other countries
- Local non-Jews
- Non-Jews from other countries
- Don't know/No comment
- Other (please specify)

11. Of the following languages, which do you mainly use at home? (Please check all that apply)

- Hebrew
- The local language
- English
- I speak Hebrew with my children, they speak the local language among themselves and with my partner, and my partner and I speak English
- Other (please specify)

General background

12. Gender

- Male
- Female
- Other

13. Year of birth

14. Current country of residence (drop down list-European countries)

15. Current city of residence (open text)

16. Country of birth (Israel; Other—please specify)

- If other: In what year did you move to Israel?

17. In what year did you begin living outside of Israel?

18. Since what year have you been living in your current country of residence?

19. On what grounds are you allowed to stay in your current country of residence?

- Citizen of this country
- Citizen of another EU country
- Permanent resident of this country
- Temporary visa that permits residence here for several years to work in a specific job
- Student visa valid for the period of my studies here
- Other (please specify)

20. What is your marital status?

- Single
- Married or domestic partnership
- Separated or divorced
- Widowed
- Don't know/No comment
- Other (please specify)

21. What is your occupation? [drop-down list- based on Israel Census Bureau's Occupational Structure]

22. How would you describe your education?

- High school
- Non-academic higher education
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Doctorate or MD

- Other (please specify)

23. In terms of Jewish affiliation, which of the following do you feel describes you? (Please check all that apply)

- Haredi
- Modern Orthodox
- National religious
- Masorti/traditional
- Conservative
- Reform
- Liberal
- Post-denominational
- Secular
- Israeli
- Jewish
- I don't consider myself Jewish
- I don't consider myself Israeli
- Other (please specify)

Conclusion

24. If you have any more comments or thoughts that you feel would be helpful to our research, please feel free to share them with us: (open text)

25. Would you like to leave your email address so we can contact you regarding the results and keep you informed about programs and our projects? (open text)

26. This survey is about Israelis living in Europe. Would you be able to recommend other respondents?

In addition, we would be very grateful if you would share this survey with your friends!

[Link]