

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

and

ISRAEL BAR ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS,

A. The New York State Bar Association (“NYSBA”) was established in 1876 with the objective of cultivating the science of jurisprudence, promoting reform in the law, facilitating the administration of justice, and elevating the standards of integrity, honor, professional skill, and courtesy in the legal profession. NYSBA has a number of sections, including the International Section (“NYSBA International Section”), which is responsible for, *inter alia*, representing NYSBA’s interests internationally.

B. The Israel Bar Association (IBA), an association of Israeli lawyers with more than 80,000 members, was established in 1961 as an autonomous statutory entity to incorporate the country’s attorneys and ensure the standard of integrity of the legal profession.

C. There is a longstanding mutual respect between members of the Israel Bar Association and members of the legal profession in New York State, an overlap of interests, and a shared commitment to defending the vulnerable, calling out hatred, and upholding the virtues of justice.

D. The ability of each association to advance the interests of its members would be enhanced through close cooperation.


NOW, THEREFORE, IBA AND NYSBA, DESIROUS OF MEMORIALIZING AN AGREEMENT RECOGNIZING THEIR COMMON INTERESTS AND GOALS, RESOLVE THAT:

- desiring to strengthen their cooperation in combatting hate crimes, bias, discrimination, and identity-based hatred in recognition of the impediments of these heinous acts to achieving justice and preserving democracy and considering the dramatic increase of incidents involving antisemitism,
- recognizing their mutual support for the rule of law and access to justice throughout the world,

- recognizing how important judicial independence is in the United States and Israel and the need for closer ties between people in the legal profession and the vital part played by the law in these relationships,
- recognizing the potential for more effectively addressing international legal issues through international programs, seminars, congresses, community outreach projects and the exchange of publications internationally, and
- recognizing the advantages inherent in developing and improving understanding within each jurisdiction of the laws of the other jurisdiction relevant to international business transactions, commercial disputes, human rights, and the transnational delivery of legal services, and

hereby agree that they will seek to uphold and protect the rule of law, honor and protect the profession of law, and develop and maintain a relationship based on mutual respect and cooperation. They will endeavor to strengthen the bonds that join them as members of the international legal profession, through exchanges based on mutual respect and cooperation; and specifically, through exchanges of legal publications, materials and information, educational events, and visits of lawyers or remote communications among them. This Memorandum of Understanding is nonexclusive and imposes no financial or legal obligations on the signatory entities and individuals. It is made for an indeterminate term, and either IBA or NYSBA may terminate it upon reasonable written notice to the other.

New York State Bar Association



 RICHARD LEWIS
 President

3/4/24

 Date

Israel Bar Association



 AMIT BECHER
 President

3/4/2024

 Date


**New York State Bar Association
 International Section**



 JAY SAFER
 MOU Liaison

3/4/24

 Date



 TAMI ULLMANN