

# 6 Facts on Foreign Support for NGOs and Political Organizations

**The political and social activities in Israel, of both the Left and the Right** are supported by fundraising abroad. Many members of Knesset fundraise abroad as well.

**The current law gives adverse treatment to organizations that receive funding from foreign governments.** The law requires open reports while private sources of funding are kept private and are hidden from the public's knowledge. The sources and motives behind private donations are kept private and there is no public oversight over them. Today, most of the right-wing organizations refuse to reveal the sources of their funding from abroad.

**The governments that fund organizations in Israel are friendly governments with full diplomatic relations with the State of Israel.** They assist in many fields including, security and defense, trade, culture and the establishment of a secular society.

**Donations by foreign governments are regulated, and transparent.** They work to advance mutual democratic values, the solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and achieving peace in the Middle East. A private foreign donation, however, can be used to advance special interests that are often kept hidden. These often include ideologies, economic reasons, personal favors, and sometimes are used as a way to launder money or receive tax exemptions.

**The discriminatory laws that are in place today do not allow the public full access to the identity of donors to:** The Yesha Organization (Council of Judea and Samaria), the Elad Foundation, Im Tirtzu, the Council of the Residents of the Shomron, and hundreds of other right-wing organizations. These organizations allow donors from all over the world to make decisions and to build settlements against the desire of the Israeli public.

**The State of Israel maintains strong connections with organizations abroad,** for example AIPAC in the United States.