



PROF. DR. NAOMI CHAZAN

Professor Naomi Chazan is Head of the School of Government and Society at the Academic College of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo. She completed three terms as a Member of Knesset on behalf of the Meretz (Democratic Israel) party in February, 2003. During her parliamentary career (1992-2003) she served as Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, and as a member of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee (concentrating on issues of the peace process and Israel's foreign relations), the Economics Committee, the House (Knesset) Committee, the Education Committee, and the Committee on the Status of Women. She is considered one of Israel's top legislators of the past decade, specializing in human rights, gender equality, and consumer affairs.

Born in Jerusalem, Naomi Chazan holds B.A. and M.A. degrees from Columbia University and a Ph.D. from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She is Professor Emerita of Political Science and African Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where she served as Chair of the Harry S Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace. She has been a Visiting Professor of Government at Harvard University, a Visiting Scholar at the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University, and the Robert Wilhelm Fellow at the Center for International Studies at MIT, and has lectured at dozens of universities and research institutes throughout the world. She has authored and edited eight books on comparative politics and written numerous articles on Arab-Israeli relations, Israeli politics, African politics, and women and politics.

Naomi Chazan is President of the New Israel Fund and also serves as chair of SHATIL (the Empowerment and Training Center for Social Change Organizations in Israel). Until recently, she chaired HEMDAT, The Association for Freedom of Religion in Israel. She served as Vice-President of the International Political Science Association and was a member of the Executive Committee of Parliamentarians for Global Action. She is among the founders of the International Women's Commission for an Israeli-Palestinian Peace, the Israel Women's Network, the Israel Women's Peace Net, the Jerusalem Link and Engendering the Peace Process, and is active in a variety of professional, human rights, and peace organizations.