

# **The Not-Always Holy Land: Law and Religion in Israel.**

Dr. Yael Efron

Zefat College School of Law

Israel

Recommended reading:

Halmai G (2016) Constitutionalism, Law and Religion in Israel a State's Multiple Identities. J Civil Legal Sci 5: 169.

Outline:

## **1. Israeli Society: Identity Complex**

- 1.1. Who am I? - Judaism as Culture
- 1.2. Who are we? - Citizens of Israel
- 1.3. Who are we? – Jews in Israel

## **2. Legal Framework for Law and Religion: Constitutionalism without a Constitution**

- 2.1. The Declaration of Independence
- 2.2. The Status Quo Agreement
- 2.3. Basic Laws
- 2.4. "Jewish and Democratic State" interpretation
- 2.5. The New Basic Law: Israel as the Nation State of the Jewish People

## **3. Judicial Creativity in Balancing Law and Religion: 2 examples of the clash**

- 3.1. Shabbat laws
- 3.2. Marriage and divorce

## **4. Discussion**