Background of Israeli Policy of Integration in VET

Prof. Vladimir (Ze’ev) Khanin
Chief Scientist, Israeli Ministry of Aliya and Integration

Presentation at the Seminar:
VET and Social Integration of Immigrants and Refugees in Israel and Germany
Tel-Aviv, 23-25 October 2017
Historical Survey of Aliyah (millions)

** Holocaust survivors (Europe): 439,107
Arab and Muslim countries: 511,590
Other: 34,065

Residents (initial)

Residents & new immigrants*

Simulation of Germany today

Simulation of European Union today

* excluding natural growth
Statistical Data
1989-2016/17
SINCE THE YEAR 1989

1,433,315*

JEWISH IMMIGRANTS ARRIVED TO ISRAEL

*until 12/2016
Aliya to Israel, 1989-2016

Olim 1,433,315 Returning residents 138,692
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Ukraine</th>
<th>Russia</th>
<th>USA/Canada</th>
<th>UK</th>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>Brasilia</th>
<th>Belgium</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>33.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>34.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>33.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above represents selected aliya countries data from 2010 to 2016, with each country listed under its respective year and percentage. The table includes percentages for each year and a total column for the percentage of total aliya.
Number of Returning Residents 1989-2016 (total: 138,692)
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Tel-Aviv, 23-25 October 2017
Integration Policies and Practice
The immigration-related laws of the State of Israel

- The Law of Return
- The Citizenship and Entry into Israel Law.
The Law of Return - 1950

The Law of Return bestows the right to every Jew to “make aliya” to Israel, and thus become an Israeli citizen.

In 1970 the law was amended and accorded the right to immigrate to non-Jews who are either:

1. Children or grandchildren of Jews
2. Spouses of Jews or spouses of children or grandchildren of Jews

Israeli citizenship becomes effective on the day of arrival.
Reasons of Immigration

- Political situation in country of origin (13.2)
- Zionism (7.8)
- Desire to live as a Jew in the Jewish State (18.4)
- Desire to advance professionally or economically (6.4)
- Desire to insure the children's future (18.0)
- Decision of parents, spouse or another relative (17.6)
- Immigration of family members and/or friends to Israel (12.1)
- Other (6.4)
### Reasons for Emigration

**In sake of the children's future**
- All respondents: 60%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 37%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 36%

**Because of relatives and friends who live in Israel**
- All respondents: 54%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 39%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 45%

**The economic situation in the country of origin**
- All respondents: 32%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 20%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 14%

**Wish to live as a Jew in a Jewish state**
- All respondents: 24%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 21%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 13%

**To raise the children in a Jewish state**
- All respondents: 58%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 26%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 24%

**Professional or economic advancement**
- All respondents: 24%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 26%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 23%

**Lack of personal security in the country of origin**
- All respondents: 58%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 46%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 44%

**The political situation in the country of origin**
- All respondents: 65%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 26%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 5%

**Due to parent, spouse or other relative**
- All respondents: 63%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 26%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 7%

**Anti-Semitism**
- All respondents: 20%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 47%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 12%

**Lack of opportunities to immigrate to another country**
- All respondents: 36%
- Russian speakers - Asia: 5%
- Russian speakers - Europe: 2%
Major problems after the immigration to Israel

- **All respondents**
  - Work: 52%
  - Social life: 18%
  - Housing: 9%
  - Children's accommodation in new country: 7%
  - Hebrew study: 6%
  - Health: 8%
  - Other: 2%

- **Russian speakers - Asia**
  - Work: 44%
  - Social life: 8%
  - Housing: 12%
  - Children's accommodation in new country: 19%
  - Hebrew study: 16%
  - Health: 7%
  - Other: 2%

- **Russian speakers - Europe**
  - Work: 54%
  - Social life: 8%
  - Housing: 10%
  - Children's accommodation in new country: 16%
  - Hebrew study: 17%
  - Health: 9%
  - Other: 2%

- **Russian speaking rule**
  - Work: 53%
  - Social life: 8%
  - Housing: 6%
  - Children's accommodation in new country: 9%
  - Hebrew study: 7%
  - Health: 6%
  - Other: 2%

- **French speakers**
  - Work: 24%
  - Social life: 12%
  - Housing: 15%
  - Children's accommodation in new country: 5%
  - Hebrew study: 5%
  - Health: 7%
  - Other: 4%

- **Spanish speakers**
  - Work: 58%
  - Social life: 7%
  - Housing: 32%
  - Children's accommodation in new country: 3%
  - Hebrew study: 8%
  - Health: 3%
  - Other: 16%
Established in 1968 to meet the existential challenge of Absorption, the Ministry of Aliyah serves as a “Mini-Government”…
1989 - 2015
1.40 million new immigrants made aliyah to Israel.

1989 – 2015
Approximately 132,000 returning residents received services from the Ministry.

Every Year
Approximately 300,000 new immigrants apply to our offices to receive services.
Areas of Ministry Assistance

- Guidance and counseling in all areas of life.
- Financial assistance and support.
- Assistance in learning Hebrew.
- Assistance in employment and entrepreneurship.
- Housing assistance
- Social integration of immigrants into Israeli society services
- Financial aid and counseling for higher education
- Convergence to Judaism – by the immigrant’s choice
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Tel-Aviv, 23-25 October 2017
Tailored Integration Programs

Special discounts and services regarding public housing, healthcare, and municipal housing tax, social & cultural activities, special allowance beyond minimum pension

Youth centers offering Hebrew-language immersion, housing and social networking, B.A\M.A grants, Tutoring & on-campus activities, municipal centers for youth, volunteer programs, civil\military service

Special allowance for extra classroom hours of language studies, preparatory courses for matriculation exams, afternoon activities in partnership with local municipalities, youth at risk intervention programs

Senior Citizen Olim 1989-2014
365,560 (26.6%)

Minor Olim (0-17) 1989-2014
275,800 (20%)

Youth 1989-2014
188,450 (13.7%)
Special Assistance for Specific Communities
Africa (Ethiopia), Arab countries, Caucasus (FSU)

- Enhanced academic programs and student assistance
- Educational programs for school age children
- Cultural-lingual mediation in health care services, schools and municipal services
- Ministry maps areas with large populations of Olim to identify specific populations in need of social welfare assistance e.g.

  1. Domestic violence prevention programs
  2. Special programing for second generation immigrants
  3. Support Programs for Olim completing civil\military service
PEP (Personal Employment Program)
Goal: Leveraging our human capital

- Personal interview, background uploaded to MOIA database, writing a Hebrew CV, Language adjustments to relevant profession, Employment psychologist

- Unskilled with/without experience (General employees, factories, machinery, heavy duty operators/drivers)
- Academic + experience abroad (Engineers, Economists, Software Developers)
- License Requirements: Medical, Para-Medical, Law, specific engineering, Accounting
Hebrew Studies Centers

Immigration has always been a serious Israeli concern, as evidenced by the ministerial rank given to the official in charge of immigration and the absorption of immigrants. Various institutions and programs have helped integrate immigrants into Israeli society.

Perhaps the most ubiquitous of the absorption organizations is the *ulpan*, a term for intensive Hebrew language school. Since Israel's founding, the *ulpan* (plural *ulpanim*) were funded by municipalities, the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption or the Jewish Agency. On most cases, ulpanim were heavily subsidized and were thus free for new immigrants. Many were residential, offering dormitory-like accommodations intended for single immigrants while giving half-day instruction for six months.

Municipal ulpanim usually offered less intensive night classes and many kibbutzim also ran ulpanim which combined half-day language instruction with a half day's labour on the kibbutz.
Aliya’s Contribution to Economy, Society and National Security Balance
Aliya Gender Structure 1989-2016

Gender Distribution

- Men: 672,122 (47%)
- Women: 761,193 (53%)

0 100,000 200,000 300,000 400,000 500,000 600,000 700,000 800,000

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גברים
נשים

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Age at aliya, 1989-2014

Total immigrants - 1,433,269

- 20 - 44: 572,015 (40%)
- 0 - 19: 413,882 (29%)
- 45 - 65: 285,092 (20%)
- 66+: 162,280 (11%)

Total immigrants: 1,433,269
## Immigrants’ education

Above 70% of the *olim* obtained secondary or higher education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>섹션</th>
<th>사용</th>
<th>מספר</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>1,433,315</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>25.5%</td>
<td>365,347</td>
<td>Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td>509,669</td>
<td>Secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper-secondary vocational</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>229,082</td>
<td>Upper-secondary vocational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>243,850</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>85,367</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Olim according to their occupation
1989-2014

- Scientists: 17,319
- Artists and sportsman: 28,854
- Medical employees: 60,180
- Teachers: 70,951
- Engineers: 120,600
- Students (ע"ז 2013): 198,090
- Free professions (אדריכלים, כלכלים ועוד): 232,600
Olim of the working age per occupation, 2010-14

Participation in the Labor Force
Among Olim is 63.6% (acc. to CSB data)
Returning Israeli residents of working age per occupation, 2007-11

Participation in the Labor Force Among returning Residents – 71%
Employment after immigration

- Never worked in Israel after immigration
- Working or worked in Israel after immigration
- Working or worked in the same profession they had abroad
- Working or worked in a different profession than the one they had abroad
Breakdown of New Immigrants by Region

Approximately 60% of new immigrants reside in Northern and Southern Israel.

- **South**: 443,984 (31.6%)
- **North**: 363,240 (25.8%)
- **Center**: 599,335 (42.6%)
Investment into Civil Construction in Israel (₪ millions, 2005 prices)
Infrastructure investment in Israel

hetkalat selilet canishim, orot bek"am


1989
Population and Employment Development Index (1960=100)

- אוכלוסיה
- עובדים


Employment

Professional Hebrew Ulpan

First/Beginning (500 hours), Hebrew at a high level (150 hours), Hebrew at a moderate level (300 hours), Hebrew at an advanced level (500 hours), Hebrew proficiency test, Bilingual and professional.

Preparations Workshop(s) for Joining the Israeli Labor Market

Preparations workshops for joining the labor market and obtaining employment. The workshops include: Understanding labor market, professional skills, working conditions, understanding the labor market and obtaining employment.

Employment Center:

The Employment Center, including employment at the employment center, interviews, employment at the employment center, employment interviews, employment at the employment center.
**Employment – Vouchers Program**

**Aim:** Vocational training, retraining and advancement of olim to adjust their employment skills to the Israeli labor market.

**Target Population:** new Olim and Returning citizens that are unemployed or interested to obtain professions that of the demand.

**Financial assistance** - up to 7,000 NIS (not more than 80% of the cost of the course).

**Duration:** up to 12 calendar months or up to 600 hours of learning.
Preparatory courses for licensing and certification

Requalification of various Academic Degree holders to nursing
(2.5 years long course)
Promotion of immigrants employment through partial financing their wages

Types of financial assistance in the field of employment

Income support for work seekers, tuition in external courses (Vouchers), living subsidies and reimbursement of travel expenses for participants of licensing and certification courses, participation in the licensing examination fees, grants for artists and athletes, etc.
Entrepreneurship as a career track among immigrants from the former Soviet Union

The rate of entrepreneurs who immigrated from the FSU grew from 2.9% in 2012 to 9% in 2013. The proportion of women entrepreneurs among the FSU olim was higher than in the Israeli population in general.
Entrepreneurship as a career track for new immigrants

• In 2016 there was a 35% increase in the number of beneficiaries in the Ma'alot Center: about 1,200 immigrants received counseling for starting their business, and about 700 participated in the business-preparation workshops.

• 217 business loans for olim were approved in 2016, compared with 189 in the previous year.

• In 2016, the Ministry supported 56 new immigrants’ enterprises in the field of technology
Immigrant entrepreneurship promotion

Cost to benefit ratio

Benefit for Israeli economy

Total cost of immigrants’ placement in 2009 in the entrepreneurship, vocation and science

1 : 52

3,600,394,104 NIS

69,875,308 NIS
Absorption in Science

Cost to benefit ratio
1:20

Total benefited to National economy in the course of the 20 years ₪ 1,152,477

Annual benefit to national economy ₪ 562,833

Average annual accommodation cost of immigrant scientists ₪ 56,480

Cost to benefit ratio
1:18

Total benefited to National economy in the course of the 20 years ₪ 228,615,565

Total cost of immigrant scientists‘ absorption ₪ 12,595,040