Date: February, 2 2026   Name: Michael R. Freedman

ID: 324668201

PART A: CURRICULUM VITAE

1.   Personal Details

0509212105	**Cellular Phone:**
mrfreed@poli.haifa.ac.il	**E-mail Address:**
https://cris.haifa.ac.il/en/persons/michael-freedman	**Personal Webpage:**

2. Summary of my Scientific and Other Contributions and Future Plans

a. Contributions to Science:

Contribution 1: Religion and Politics

My research contributes to religion and politics, with a focus on Israel and the Muslim world. This research agenda develops new ways to examine the ideological choices of religious leaders, and how they affect the public and the state. Within this framework, my research focuses on how do religious leaders relate to nationalism and the state. My research uses diverse tools to answer these questions, from big-data approaches to interviews. An important finding from my work is showing the interplay of religion and material factors on the political choices of religious leaders.

Relevant Publications: C3, C4, C6, C12

Contribution 2: Conflict Processes

My research contributes to the field of conflict processes, with a focus on Israel and the Muslim world. This research agenda develops new ways to examine the impact of conflict on political radicalization. The research draws on several disciplines including comparative politics, international relations, sociology, and economics. An important finding from my work is showing how conflict radicalizes different actors.

Relevant Publications: C4, C5, C7, C8, C15, C16

Contribution 3: Computational Text Analysis

My research contributes to the methodological field of computational social science. It focuses on texts and images in languages ranging from Hebrew, Arabic, and Turkish. I also apply these tools in the framework of causal inference, spatial analysis, and network analysis.

Relevant Publications: C3, C4, C5, C10, C13, C15

b. Contribution to Society:

My research on the interplay of religion, nationalism, and conflict provides significant value for society. By examining how religious leaders' ideological choices affect public opinion and state policies, my work sheds light on the underlying drivers of important social and political phenomena across the Muslim world and Israel. Additionally, exploring the blend of theological motivations and pragmatic considerations in religious leaders' stances informs more nuanced policy debates; rather than seeing religion as an irrational influence, this research demonstrates its nuanced role for leaders and societies. Overall, these insights can aid decision-makers in governments, civil society, and beyond in more effectively navigating complex dynamics between state authority, religious institutions, and public sentiment.

c. Plans for future research programs (my academic vision):

My future research program includes two long-term projects that further develop my research on religion and conflict processes.

First, I am currently working on an ERC proposal that will examine to what extent religion contributes to populism and democratic backsliding. The project argues that religion has supplanted nationalism and other ideologies, and is a main driver of populism across the world. Methodologically, it will combine multiple methods focusing on four case studies: US, UK, Hungary, and Israel.

Second, I have submitted a new ISF grant that will examine how the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has transformed from a nationalist conflict to a religious conflict.

3. Higher Education
a. Undergraduate and Graduate Studies

Degree	Name of Institution and Department	Period of Study (month/year – month/year)
BA	Hebrew University, Philosophy,	10/2007-10/2010

	Political Science, and Economics (PPE)	
MA	Hebrew University, Political Science	10/2011-10/2013
PhD	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Political Science	10/2013-10/2019

b. **Post-Doctoral Studies**

Period of Study (month/year – month/year)	Name of Institution and Department/Lab	Name of Host
10/2019-09/2020	Hebrew University, Political Science and International Relations	Prof. Pazit Ben-Nun Bloom and Prof. Dani Miodownik

4. Academic Ranks and Tenure in Institutes of Higher Education

Rank/Position	Name of Institution and Department	Period (month/year – month/year)
Lecturer (100%)	University of Haifa, School of Political Science	10/2020 – Current

Note:***** represents activities and publications since my appointment as Lecturer.

5. Offices in Academic Administration - None.

6. Scholarly Positions and Activities outside the University

Years	Memberships in Academic Professional Associations
2016-2025	Midwest Political Science Association
2017-2025	American Political Science Association
2018	Political Methodology

2019 – 2025	Israel Association Studies

Years	Reviewing for Refereed Journal
2019	*Comparative Political Studies*]JCR IF 2019= 3.1;R 2019= POLITICAL SCIENCE 16/181 **Q1**[
2019, 2020	*American Sociological Review* (2x)]JCR IF 2019= 6.3;R 2019= SOCIOLOGY 2/150 **Q1**[ ]JCR IF 2020= 9.6;R 2020= SOCIOLOGY 1/149 **Q1**[
2020, *2023, *2024	*Journal of Politics* (Q1) (3x)]JCR IF 2020= 3.4;R 2020= POLITICAL SCIENCE 43/183 **Q1**[ ]JCR IF 2023= 3.5;R 2023= POLITICAL SCIENCE 36/318 **Q1**[ ]JCR IF 2024= 3.8;R 2024= POLITICAL SCIENCE 26/325 **Q1**[
2020, *2021	*American Political Science Review* (2x)]JCR IF 2020= 7.8;R 2020= POLITICAL SCIENCE 4/183 **Q1**[ ]JCR IF 2021= 8.0;R 2021= POLITICAL SCIENCE 4/188 **Q1**[
*2022	*American Journal of Sociology*]JCR IF 2022= 4.4;R 2022= SOCIOLOGY 13/149 **Q1**[
*2023	*Journal of Conflict Resolution*]JCR IF 2023= 2.2;R 2023= INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 35/166 **Q1**[
*2024	*Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*]JCR IF 2024= 6.3;R 2024= POLITICAL SCIENCE 2/325 **Q1**[
*2024	*British Journal of Political Science*]JCR IF 2024= 4.7;R 2024= POLITICAL SCIENCE 14/325 **Q1**[

*2025	*Public Administration*
	]JCR IF 2024= 5.1;R 2024= POLITICAL SCIENCE 9/325 **Q1**[

Years	Reviewing for Funding Agencies
2022*	Israel Science Foundation
*2023-2025	Azrieli Foundation Postdoc

Years	Other Scholarly Positions and Activities
*2021-Current	DSRC Haifa Affiliate
*2022 - Current	Political Behavior Lab (with Israel and Liran)
*2024 - Current	Haifa Laboratory for Religious Studies Affiliate

Years	Other Relevant Positions and Activities
2019 – 2021	Consultant for Freedom House on Israel

7. Conferences (last 10 years) / Invited Lectures / Seminars

a. Participation in International Conferences

Date	Name of Conference	Place of Conference	Subject of Lecture/Discussion	Role
April 2016	Midwest Political Science Association	Chicago	1. Fighting from the Pulpit	Speaker
			2. Vote with Your Rabbi	Poster Presenter
August 31, 2017	American Political Science Association	San Francisco	Vote with Your Rabbi	Speaker
May	POMEPS	Washingt	Vote with your	Speaker

2018		on DC	Rabbi	
April 2019	Midwest Political Science Association	Chicago	Religious Credibility and Political Authority	Speaker
September 1, 2019	American Political Science Association	Washington DC	Religious Credibility and Political Authority	Speaker
September 4, 2019	European Symposium on Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science	Zurich	Rhetorics of radicalism	Speaker
* April 2021	Midwest Political Science Association	Zoom	1.Support from on High (Twitter and Turkey)	Speaker
		Hybrid	2. Citizen self-presentation styles	Speaker
*September 2022	American Political Science Association	Montreal	Right Wing Social-Media	Speaker
*November 2022	Toronto Political Behavior Workshop	Toronto	Right Wing Social-Media	Poster Presenter
*September 2025	American Political Science Association	Vancouver	Religious Responses to October 7 in Israel	Speaker
*April 2026 (Planned)	Midwest Political Science Association	Chicago	Druze Identity	Presentation by Ayal Kheir (grad

				student)

b. Participation in Local Conferences

Date	Name of Conference	Place of Conference	Subject of Lecture/ Discussion	Role
May 2017	Israel Political Science Association	Jerusalem	Fighting from the Pulpit	Speaker
May 2018	Israel Political Science Association	Tel Aviv	Vote With Your Rabbi	Speaker
*January 2022	Israel Data Science Conference	Ein Gedi	Right Wing Social-Media	Speaker
*May 2022	Israel Political Science Association	Haifa	Right Wing Social-Media	Speaker
*February 2025	Israel Political Science Association	Beer Sheva	Religion and Army in Israel	Speaker

c. Invited Scholarly Lectures

c.1. Abroad

Role	Subject of Lecture	Place of Lecture (institute, city, country)	Name of Forum	Year
Invited talk	Text analysis and Religion	MIT	MIT CIS (IR) + Methods	*2025

Invited talk	Religion and Army in Israel	Harvard	Harvard (Middle East Social Science Seminar)	*2025

c.2. In Israel

Role	Subject of Lecture	Place of Lecture (institute, city)	Name of Forum	Year
Speaker	Text Analysis	Haifa University	Haifa Data Science Summer School	*2022
Invited talk	Religion and army in Israel	Tel Aviv	Tel Aviv University	*2025

d. Colloquium or Seminar Talks

Year	Name of Forum	Place of Lecture	Presentation
2018	IDC department seminar	Herzliya	Fighting from the pulpit
*2020	DSRC Haifa Seminar	Zoom	Using text to study religion
*2021	Tel Aviv University	Zoom	Panel on Israel's 4th elections

8. Research Grants

V = VATAT Committee recognized grant-funding agency; C= Other Competitive Fund

Note: In the case of a joint win, the amount was divided equally between the researchers

a. Grants Awarded

Relevant Publications	Amount	Funded by	Title	Other Researchers (Name & Role)	Role in Research (PI, Co-PI, CI)	Years
C13	500,000 NIS/ 3 years (166,000)	ISF (**V**)	Variation, explanation and effects of citizens' coping with administrative burdens through self-presentation in online contacts	Prof. Sharon Gilad (PI1), and Prof. Pazit Ben Nun Bloom (PI3)	PI2 (mainly responsible for data analysis and carrying out the surveys)	*2021-2023
	25,000 NIS	Walter Lebach Institute (C)	Religion and Violence in Israel's Mixed Cities	Dr. Alon Yakter (Co-PI)	Co-PI (equal contribution)	*2022

b. Submission of Research Proposals - Not funded

Years	Role in Research (PI, Co-PI, CI)	Other Researchers (Name & Role)	Title	Funds Requested Agency
2024-2027	PI (equal contribution)	Dr. Yael Kaplan and Prof. Israel Waismel-Manor	Catch-all Discourse, Nostalgia, and Mobilization during Israel's 2023 Judicial Reform Protests	ISF (**V**) (Indicate:"Very Good" grade)

9. Scholarships, Awards and Prizes

Years	Name of Award	Other Awardees	Purpose of Award or Achievement	Source
2017-2019	Israel Institute Doctoral Fellowship	No	Support research on Israel	Israel Institute (30,000 USD)
2018-2019	Global Religion Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship	No	Support for research on religion	Notre Dame (25,000 USD)

10. Teaching

a. Courses Taught

Years	Name of Course	Type of Course Lecture/Seminar/ Workshop/ Online Course/ Introduction Course (Mandatory)	Level	Number of Students
* 2021 (Spring)	Religion and State	Lecture	MA	50
* 2021-2025	Religion and State	Lecture	BA	25
* 2021-2025	Civil Wars	Lecture	BA	25
* 2022-2025	Advanced Methods	Lecture (with Saar Alon Barkat)	PhD	10
* 2023-2025	Introduction to PPE	Mandatory	BA	10

b. Supervision of Graduate Students

Student's Achievements	Year of Completion/ in Progress	Degree	Title of Thesis	Name of Other Mentors	Name of Student
Master's Students					

Excellence Award; Publication C14	2023	Political Science	Democracy and Political Ideology		*Yoav Arad
	2025	Political Science	Education among Arab Woman in Israel		*Rula Zoabi
Preparing for potential publication	2025	Political Science	Nation State Law and Druze Identity		*Ayal Kheir
Excellence Award	In progress	Political Science	Saudi Clerics and Religious Ideology		*Annabell Sharma
Ph.D. Students					
	In Progress	Political Science	Assessing Political Quality		Yoav Arad

PART B: PUBLICATIONS

Source: Google Scholar	9	**H-index:**
Source: Google Scholar	312	**Citation index:**
https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0634-5344		**ORCID number:**
https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Svu2JBIAAAAJ&hl=en		**Google Scholar link:**

A. Ph.D. Dissertation

Sacred Politics: Religious Leaders and Conflict in	**Title:**

Israel	
June 11, 2019	**Date of submission:**
176	**Number of pages:**
English	**Language:**
Professor Fotini Christia	**Name of supervisor:**
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	**University:**
C3, C6, C16	**Publications:** item no. from the following list

Notes for the following chapters:

For joint publications: The order of the listed authors is according to their relative contribution (unless otherwise specified).

Abbreviations:

I.F. = Impact Factor (JCR & Year article published).

R = Ranking (JCR & Year article published in most relevant field)

Q = Quartile (JCR & Year article published in most relevant field).

V = Vatat List (The Council for Higher Education) – when no other indices are available.

= Student under my supervision.

= A student (not under my direct supervision).

B. Scientific Books (Refereed)

None.

C. Articles in Refereed Journals

1. **Michael Freedman**, Or Kaner, and Irena Kaplan. 2014. "Voting for Extreme Right Parties in Israel: Evidence from the 2009 Elections". *Electoral Studies*, 34: 68-77.

   JCR IF 2014= 1.182; R 2014= POLITICAL SCIENCE 43/161 Q2

2. Pazit Ben-Nun Bloom, Sharon Gilad, and **Michael Freedman**. 2017. "Does Exposure to Other Cultures Affect the Impact of Economic Globalization on Gender Equality?" *International Political Science Review*, 38(3): 378-395.

    JCR IF 2017= 1.321; R 2017= POLITICAL SCIENCE 75/169 Q2

3. **Michael Freedman**. 2019. "Fighting from the Pulpit: Religious Leaders and Violent Conflict in Israel". *Journal of Conflict Resolution,* 63(10): 2262-2288.

    JCR IF 2019= 2.644; R 2019= INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 12/95 **Q1**; POLITICAL SCIENCE 31/181 **Q1**

4. Daniel Karell and **Michael Freedman**. 2019. "Rhetorics of Radicalism", *American Sociological Review*, 84(4): 726-753.

    JCR IF 2019= 6.372; R 2019= SOCIOLOGY 2/150 **Q1**

5. Daniel Karell and **Michael Freedman**. 2020. "Sociocultural Mechanisms of Conflict: Combining Topic and Stochastic Actor-Oriented Models in an Analysis of Afghanistan, 1979-2001". *Poetics,* 78: 1-17.

    JCR IF 2020= 1.678; R 2020= SOCIOLOGY 91/149 Q3

*6. **Michael, Freedman**. 2020. "Vote with Your Rabbi: The Electoral Effects of Religious Institutions in Israel". *Electoral Studies*, 68: 1-9.

    JCR IF 2020= 2.070; R 2020= POLITICAL SCIENCE 93/183 Q3

*7. Fotini Christia, Spyros I. Zoumpoulis, **Michael Freedman**, Leon Yao, and Ali Jadbabai. 2022. "The Effects of Drone Strikes on Cellphone Communication in Yemen". *Political Science Research and Methods,* 10(2): 419-427.

    JCR IF 2022= 3.9; R 2022= POLITICAL SCIENCE 26/187 **Q1**

*8. **Michael Freedman** and Esteban Klor. 2023. "When Deterrence Backfires: House Demolitions, Political Radicalization, and Israeli Fatalities". *Journal of Conflict Resolution,* 67(7-8): 1592-1617.

    JCR IF 2023= 2.2; R 2023= INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 35/166 **Q1**; POLITICAL SCIENCE 83/318 Q2

*9. Elizabeth Dekeyser and **Michael Freedman**. 2023. "Elections, Party Rhetoric, and Public Attitudes toward Immigration in Europe". *Political Behavior*, 45: 197-209 (Equal contribution).

    JCR IF 2023= 3.3; R 2023= POLITICAL SCIENCE 40/318 **Q1**

*10. Daniel Karell, **Michael Freedman**, and Noam Gidron. 2023. "Analyzing Text and Images in Digital Communication: The Case of Securitization in American White Supremacist Online Discourse". *Socius*, 9: 1-16.

JCR IF 2023= 3.0; R 2023= SOCIOLOGY 27/217 **Q1**

*11. **Michael Freedman**. 2024. "Earnings, Cohort Effects, and Inter-Generational Inequality: Evidence from the Luxembourg Income Study". *Review of Income and Wealth*, 70(2):278-290.

JCR IF 2024= 1.8; R 2024= ECONOMICS 234/620 Q2

*12. Maximilian Overbeck, Tali Aharoni, Christian Baden, **Michael Freedman** and Keren Tenenboim-Weinblatt. 2024. "Divining Elections: Religious Citizens' Political Projections and Electoral Turnout in Israel and France". *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 36(2): 1-12.

JCR IF 2024= 1.3; R 2024= COMMUNICATION 119/227 Q3; POLITICAL SCIENCE 162/325 Q2

*13. Sharon Gilad, **Michael Freedman**, and Pazit Ben-Nun Bloom. 2024. "Citizens' Communication Styles in Written Public Encounters". *Perspectives on Public Management and Governance*, 7(3): 75-88.

JCR IF 2024= 3.7; R 2024= PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION 11/90 **Q1**

Accepted for Publication

*14. #Yoav Arad and **Michael Freedman**. 2025. The Crises of Israeli Democracy: Political-Ideological Framings by Members of Israel's 24th Knesset. *Frontiers in Political Science*, 7:1-10.

JCR IF 2024= 1.9; R 2024= INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 53/170 Q2; POLITICAL SCIENCE 110/325 Q2

*15. Elizabeth Sanchenko and **Michael Freedman**. 2025. Gender-based Dynamics in Russian Online Political Discourse. *Information, Communication and Society*, 1-15.

JCR IF 2024= 3.3; R 2024= COMMUNICATION 22/227 **Q1**

*16. **Michael Freedman** and Pazit Ben-Nun Bloom. Religious Authority and Political Solutions to Conflict: Experimental Evidence from Religious Leaders in Israel. *Politics and Religion*, 1-20.

JCR IF 2024= 1.5; R 2024= POLITICAL SCIENCE 146/325 Q2

D. Articles or Chapters in Scientific Books (Refereed)

*1. **Michael Freedman** and Nadav Shelef. 2025. From Bennett to Ben-Gvir: Religious Zionist political behavior in the 2019-2022 elections, pp. 203-221. In Gideon Rahat, Noam Gidron, and Michal Shamir (Eds.), *The Elections in Israel, 2022*. Routledge Press.

E. Articles in Conference Proceedings

None.

F. Entries in Encyclopedias

None.

G. Other Scientific Publications

None.

H. Patents

None.

I. Other Works and Publications

Non-Peer Reviewed Articles

*1. **Michael Freedman**. 2020. Religious Authority and Political Instability in Israel, MENA Politics Newsletter, 3(1), 27-29.

*2. **Michael Freedman**. 2020. No Longer Sacred: Religious Post-Zionist Beliefs about the State of Israel, POMEPS Studies 41, 59-63.

Op-eds

1. **Michael Freedman**. Why are Israel's religious parties suddenly so influential? Monkey Cage, washingtonpost.com, January 26, 2018.

2. Elizabeth Dekeyser and **Michael Freedman**. What 500 elections in 28 European countries can tell us about the effects of anti-immigrant rhetoric. Monkey Cage, washingtonpost.com, October 30, 2018.

3. **Michael Freedman**. Repeat elections in Israel may not be enough to overcome religious divisions. Monkey Cage, washingtonpost.com, June 7, 2019.

*4. **Michael Freedman.** If this is the Israeli 9/11, US mistakes must be avoided. Reset Dialogues, October 17, 2023.

Blogs

*1. **Michael Freedman.** 2022. The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict is Becoming More Religious, Religion in Public Blog.

J. Submitted for Publication

Articles Under Review

*1. Niva Golan-Nadir and **Michael Freedman**. State Institutions in Divided Societies: The Case of Religion-based Policies in the Israeli Military.

K. Future Research Plans

Sec section 2c in part A.

L. Publications in Preparation

Articles

*1. **Michael Freedman**. Religion as Security: Religious Responses to October 7 in Israel.

*2. **Michael Freedman**, Zachary Steinert-Threlkeld and Elizabeth Dekeyser. Imams, Social-Media, and Pro-Regime Mobilization in Turkey.

*3. **#Ayal Kheir and Michael Freedman**. The Nation-State Law and Its Impact on the Israeli Identity Perception Among the Druze