

# ZIONISM & ANTI-ZIONISM: The history of two opposing ideas

## Screening Guide

We are excited that you'd like to bring this series to your community!  
We have gathered the following to be used as a resource to aid you in a successful screening.

- Series trailer



## FAQ

**Q. How long is each episode?**

A. Each episode is around 45 minutes.

**Q. Is this mostly a lecture format?**

A. No. Parts are lecture, parts documentary-style description, and parts are an "office hours" style conversation between student and teacher.

**Q. Is there a guide for a discussion to have after showing an episode?**

A. Yes, you can access that [here](#).

**Q. There are five episodes, but I want to do a one-night event. What do you suggest?**

A. We suggest you choose one episode to screen. The final episode of the series speaks directly to the word's reaction to the October 7 attack. This makes it a good choice to show as a teaser to the whole series. We would also suggest that you recruit a smaller group to watch the whole series, one episode at a time over several meetings

**Q. What sort of equipment do I need to show the film?**

A. You can stream the series directly from your computer using an HDMI connector that connects to a screen or projector. If you have a large audience, we suggest an eight-foot screen with the associated projector.

**Q. Can my group meet with Dr. Wilf or the filmmaker, Ms. Zeigherman?**

A. To request an in-person or Zoom meeting with either one, write to [zionsim@tikvahfund.org](mailto:zionsim@tikvahfund.org). Also check our website for dates of a US speaking tour that Ms. Wilf will take in Fall 2024.

# PROMOTIONAL VERBIAGE

## TO HELP IN PREPARING INVITATIONS, FLYERS, EMAILS, ETC.

- Short summary

*'Zionism & Anti-Zionism: The history of two opposing ideas' with Dr. Einat Wilf.*

*The series will explore Zionist and anti-Zionist thought in tandem, based on engagement with original texts and key figures who have shaped the more than century-long debates over Zionism and its opposition. By exploring how every type of Zionist thought (political, social, religious) was opposed by a certain brand of anti-Zionism, the series will reflect on how those various debates about Zionism persist to this day. This framework not only provides a structure to comprehend global anti-Zionism and its origins but also offers a deep understanding of what Jews are fighting to preserve.*

- Biographies



Dr. Einat Wilf is an author, former member of the Israeli Parliament, and a Goldman Visiting Professor at Georgetown University. She is a dynamic force navigating the complexities of global affairs with a unique perspective, offering first-hand understanding of Israel's political landscape. Her books include *The War of Return*, *Winning the War of Words*, and *We Should All be Zionists*.



Zoe Tara Zeigherman is the director and producer of this series and, working with Tikvah as a Beren Fellow, she developed the idea of transforming Dr. Wilf's Georgetown University course into a dynamic and accessible episodic series for wider consumption.

- Sample Invitation language

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

On behalf of the Tikvah Fund, it is our pleasure to invite you to the Washington, D.C. premiere of 'Zionism and Anti-Zionism: The history of two opposing ideas' at the Angelika Pop-up at Union Station in Washington, DC on Thursday, February 8th, 2023 at 6:30pm.

This screening is part of a 5-part series, conceived by Zoe Tara Zeigherman when she was a Beren Summer Fellow and developed with Zionist scholar Dr. Einat Wilf. The series explores Zionist and anti-Zionist thought in tandem, based on engagement with original texts and key figures who have shaped the more than century-long debates over Zionism and its opposition.

By exploring how every type of Zionist thought (political, social, religious) was opposed by a certain brand of anti-Zionism, the series will reflect on how those various debates about Zionism persist to this day. This framework not only provides a structure to comprehend global anti-Zionism and its origins but also offers a deep understanding of what Jews are fighting to preserve.

We hope to see you at the D.C. premiere of this series. As a valued member of the Tikvah community, we would greatly welcome your feedback on the project.

Please RSVP by February 1st to secure your seat.

- Episode Blurbs

**'Episode 1: Jewish History, Politics**

- Emancipation and Political Zionism

*We start with a brief history of the Jewish people leading up to the moment of Jewish emancipation in Europe. The offer of emancipation sparked a great debate among Jews. Some communities felt excitement about the prospect of individual equality and sought to assimilate further. Others felt that the Jews would never truly be viewed as equal in the nation-states that were forming around them. Zionism took root among the latter group, emerging as one of the many liberation movements of this time. The founders of political Zionism asserted that Jews should finally have a home and become masters of their own fate.*

**'Episode 2: Labor**

- Communism/Socialism/Bundism and Labor Zionism

*We continue with a comparison of two important Jewish movements in the first half of the 20th century: Labor Zionism and Bundism. Inspired by the rise of socialism and the ideal of self-determination, Labor Zionists worked to revitalize Jewish nationalism by immigrating to Palestine and working the land. At the same time, other Jews argued for remaining in Europe and working to create a utopia that would make distinct national identities obsolete. Although only Zionism has stood the test of time, these other contemporary movements help us understand the Jewish debate which was unfolding, dealing with the question of how to be Jew in the modern era.*

**Episode 3: Religion**

- Jewish and Christian Anti-Zionism and Religious Zionism

For millennia, Jewish faith and tradition have always allowed for, and even encouraged, debate and disagreement. Zionism is no different in this respect. In this episode, we meet Rav Abraham Isaac Kook, a wellspring of Jewish and Zionist thought with a deep influence on the religious Zionist movement today. Additionally, we focus on the sources underlying Jewish religious anti-Zionism and its impacts on contemporary debate. We also look at varying views of Zionism from Christian leaders, some supportive and some fiercely oppositional.

**Episode 4: The Middle East**

- Islamic and Arab Anti-Zionism and the Birth of the State of Israel

*The creation of the modern State of Israel was met with Arab and Islamic anti-Zionism. We learn about the historical place of Jews in Arab society, the mass expulsion of Jews from the Arab world in the 20th century, and the role of anti-Zionism as a unifying force in the Arab world ever since. We also discuss the struggles and successes of the establishment of the modern state of Israel.*

**Episode 5: Secularism**

- Soviet, Anti-Imperialism and Left Wing Anti-Zionism

*In this episode, we learn about the history of Soviet anti-Zionism, and its influence on today's western left-wing anti-Zionism. We consider a recent innovative intellectual analysis of anti-Zionism which ties together themes from the course, and apply the theory to recent protests following the October 7th attacks. Finally, we discuss the ultimate goals of Zionism and anti-Zionism in today's world and the role they play in politics, Western life, and the hope of Arab Zionism.*

PROMOTIONAL IMAGES

---

# ZIONISM & ANTIZIONISM:

THE HISTORY OF TWO OPPOSING IDEAS

---

A FIVE-PART SERIES

