ADL

50 VOICES 50 YEARS



Pnina Sharvit Baruch / **June 4, 2017**

I was born on April 1967, which means I have no memories of the Six Day War—unless one counts the stories my mother recounted of kind people on the street, leading the new immigrant and her newborn baby to a bomb shelter, as the sirens went off.

[…]

The fates of Israelis and Palestinians are intertwined, yet each has a different vision regarding the implementation and realization of national identity. Those who believe these distinct aspirations are compatible with a one state solution – whether in the form of a harmonious state serving all its citizens as equal, or in the form of a Jewish state where Palestinians exist as part of an enclave with no civil rights – sentence us, as well as the Palestinians, to oblivion.

Therefore, separation – however difficult and painful — is vital. In saying this, I am by no means undermining our own historical, religious and emotional connection to the Land. However, continuing our full grip of the territories endangers the future of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state.

Optimally, a separation should be reached through an agreement that includes mutual concessions and is acceptable to the world. The difficulty in such a plan of action, though, is that it turns us into hostages at the mercy of the Palestinians, who have previously put obstacles on the way to similar solutions. Israel must therefore define for itself the goal it wants to reach—and act accordingly.

….

Pnina Sharvit Baruch *is a senior research fellow and the head of the program on law and national security at the Israel* ***Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)****. She retired from the Israel Defense Forces in 2009 at the rank of Colonel after twenty years in the International Law Department, heading the Department from 2003.*

https://www.50voices50years.com/pnin-sharvit-baruch