

Distorting the Declaration

The focus of Israel's Declaration of Independence is overwhelmingly on Jewish sovereignty and political independence, not liberal democracy.

[Martin Sherman](#) / (August 13, 2023 / JNS)

“As embodied in the Declaration of Independence, the essence of the State of Israel is to be a Jewish and democratic state.” — Col. (res.) Adv. Pnina Sharvit Baruch of the Institute for National Security Studies, Feb. 19, 2023.

[...]

In a similar vein, [Pnina Sharvit](#), head of the law and national security program at the amply funded think-tank the Institute for National Security Studies, [scolded](#), “Israel should be extremely cautious about breaching the delicate balance between the Jewish-nationalist component and the democratic-liberal component of its essence, as enshrined in the Declaration of Independence.”

Likewise, the president of the distinctly left-leaning Israel Democracy Institute, cherry-picked words from the Declaration, asserting, “The Declaration of Independence expresses a deep commitment to freedom, justice and peace in the spirit of the vision of the biblical prophets.”

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For full article:

<https://www.jns.org/column/israel/23/8/13/310275/>