



הפקולטה למשפטים
FACULTY OF LAW
كلية الحقوق

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM
الجامعة العبرية في القدس



Digest of Israeli Practice in International Law Relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Project Outline, December 2020

1. A Survey of Israeli Practice in International Law Relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic is being prepared for publication by the International Law Forum (ILF) of the Faculty of Law of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with the support of the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).
2. The Survey will include primarily documents of the following categories, insofar as they explicitly refer to international law and/or clearly reflect Israel's practice in, or views on, international legal issues:
 - a. Practice of derogation from international treaties;¹
 - b. statements by state officials in international organisations (such as the WHO);²
 - c. official correspondence with foreign governments and international organisations;³
 - d. Attorney-General instructions and memos;⁴
 - e. official legal memos by the legal advisors of various state organs (government ministries, parliamentary committees, etc);⁵
 - f. court decisions, and, where relevant, official submissions to courts;⁶
 - g. Press releases and official social media messages.⁷

¹ Israel did not derogate from the ICCPR, although it did rely on its domestic state of emergency legislation to regulate a variety of aspects of the legal response to the COVID-19 crisis.

² eg <https://healthpolicy-watch.news/united-nations-general-assembly-adopts-resolution-calling-for-holistic-covid-19-response-united-states-israel-vote-against-the-bloc/>

³ eg <https://www.un.org/unispal/document/letter-from-israel-to-the-secretary-general-and-security-council-president-on-efforts-to-combat-the-covid-19-virus/>

⁴ eg <https://www.pearlcohen.com/the-worldwide-stakes-of-israeli-compulsory-licenses-for-anti-coronavirus-drugs/>

⁵ eg <https://www.gov.il/BlobFolder/reports/privacy-shabak-coronavirus/he/privacy-shabak-coronavirus.pdf>

⁶ <https://z.calcalist.co.il/assets/pickerul/3612209a-ee6f-47a6-8fae-7c5221e279ee.pdf>; <https://pic-upload.ynet.co.il/news/220320.pdf>

⁷ eg https://www.gov.il/en/departments/news/border_closing_coronavirus_14062020; <https://twitter.com/IsraelinIndia/status/1286263561216385024>



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3. The documents in the Survey will be organised on the basis of the model plan for classification recommended by the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers (Rec. R (97) 11, 12 June 1997). Documents originally in English will be reproduced in part or in full, in English. Documents originally in Hebrew will be either translated into English or summaries thereof presented.
4. The Survey of Israeli Practice in International Law Relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic will be compiled over the first half of 2021. The material will be made publicly accessible on a dedicated website.