

Home and Belonging in Mixed Cities

Monday | November 2, 2026 | 9:30–16:30 | Weston Auditorium | The Academic College of Tel Aviv– Jaffa

Conference Program

9:30–10:00 | Arrival and Gathering

10:00–10:20 | Opening and Welcome Remarks

- Prof. Galia Sabar | President, The Academic College of Tel Aviv–Jaffa
- Shahira Shalaby | Co-Executive Director, The Abraham Initiatives
- Adv. Amir Badran | Deputy Mayor, Tel Aviv–Jaffa Municipality
- Martin Kothé | Project Director of FNF’s Jerusalem Office
- Prof. Daniel Monterescu | Head of the Jaffa research Institute, The Academic College of Tel Aviv–Jaffa

10:20–11:30 | Session 1: Shared Urbanism Under Attack

Moderated by Prof. Raef Zreik | The Academic College of Tel Aviv–Jaffa

- Dr. Ariel Handel | Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design
A Home Is More Than a Box to Live In: Domesticity and the Right to Place
- Dr. Yael Shmaryahu–Yeshurun | Ben–Gurion University
“Settling in the Hearts”: Torah Nuclei in Mixed Cities
- Dr. Nadeem Karkabi | University of Haifa
Between a Mixed City and a Shared City: Haifa as a Case Study

11:30–12:30 | Session 2: Challenges of Urban Renewal in Mixed Cities

Moderated by Amnon Be’eri–Sulitzeanu | The Abraham Initiatives

- Avital Blonder | MANOF – The Social Urban Renewal Organization
Urban Renewal in Mixed Cities: Challenges and Opportunities for Social Mobility
- Abd Shahadeh | Urban Planner, The National Committee of Heads of Arab Local Authorities
Existing Built–Up Land as a Resource for Future Housing for Young Arabs in Mixed Cities
- Dr. Michal Braier and Cesar Yehudkin | Bimkom – Planners and Human Rights
Not Just the City: Mixed Regionalism in the Negev

12:30–12:50 | Break

12:50–13:50 | Session 3: Jaffa as a Model of Partnership, Resilience, and Change

Moderated by Omar Siksik | Kulna Yaffa

- Adv. Amir Badran | Deputy Mayor, Tel Aviv–Jaffa
Housing Insecurity and Absentee Property
- Elham Siksik | Social Activist
The Green House: Tradition and Heritage
- Panel Discussion Moderated by Prof. Daniel Monterescu | Jaffa Institute
- Abd Abu Shehadeh | President, the Jaffa Islamic Council
- Adv. Mario Dick | President, Orthodox Philanthropic Society–Jaffa
- Ramzi Abu Taleb | President, The Association for the Ajami Neighborhood–Jabaliya

13:50–14:30 | Lunch Break

14:30–15:30 | Session 4: Whose Public Space?

Moderated by Ruth Lewin | The Abraham Initiatives

- Dr. Guy Shani | The College of Management Academic Studies; May Mentel and Shada Darawsha | Tel Aviv University
Jaffa’s Coffee Shop Boom: New Spaces of Consumption and the Contradictions of Gentrification
- Noa Moyal | The Jaffa Mishlama
The Farmers’ Market at the Flea Market: Local Entrepreneurship and the Revitalization of Public Space
- Dr. Lin Chalozin–Dovrat | Tel Aviv University
”Protection”: Grassroots Knowledge for Addressing Crime in Jaffa

15:30–16:15 | Jaffa Institute Award Ceremony and Presentation of the Winning Research

16:15–16:30 | The Way Forward: Summary and Recommendations

Register >>

