

UN Human Rights Council 47th Session – 24 June 2021

ID with Special Rapporteur on the right to education

Delivered by Mr. Tom Levy Israel's Youth Delegate to the United Nations

Madam President,

I am Tom Levy and I am Israel's Youth Delegate to the UN. As a young person, I appreciate the importance of ensuring the enjoyment of the right to education by every girl and boy.

We thank the Special Rapporteur for her report, dealing with such an important topic for Israel, with our multicultural society.

Israel's education system, in a commitment to be sensitive and open to the cultural, religious and social background of the students, manages four parallel public networks of schools – for the secular, religious, ultra-orthodox and Arab students.

Our *curricula* includes civic education, the struggle against racism, and we have special Plans of Action to mitigate educational gaps in society and promote the inclusion of young persons belonging to minorities, persons of Ethiopian descent, LGBTIQ+ students and persons with disabilities, among others.

Moreover, Israel's Mandatory Education Law embraces every child, including those of diverse populations in south Tel Aviv. There, the world-acclaimed Bialik-Rogozin school has proven that even under challenges such as cultural and linguistic diversity, educating can be a success.

Madam President,

Educational systems must recognize the diversity of students, which is not a burden to be faced, but rather a treasure to be cherished and embraced.

Thank you.