



**HADASSAH**

Defining Zionism IN THE 21ST CENTURY

AN ONLINE SPEAKER SERIES

HADASSAH



[hadassah.org/definingzionism](http://hadassah.org/definingzionism)  
[#definingzionism](https://twitter.com/definingzionism)

Transcript: Wednesday, April 8, 2015

JANICE WEINMAN: An online speaker series. Hadassah is the women's Zionist organization of America and the proud convener of this monthly series. I am Janice Weinman, the Executive Director and CEO of Hadassah. Our Defining Zionism series is part of our PRAZE division, which is an acronym for Programming, Advocacy, Zionism and Education. These are the activities that help us develop a strong connection to each other, our beloved Israel and the Jewish people. It is by crafting and delivering a wide variety of programs that we instill in our members, potential members, associates, donors, and communities a bond, a link to Zionism, and for each group to determine how it resonates with them as an individual. We invite all of you, those here with us, and those of you who are participating from your local communities, to join us in creating a safe space as we explore Zionism from various perspectives. We certainly may not all agree on any one definition of Zionism, but we must agree to respect each other's opinion. We offer you the opportunity to listen to our guest speaker and to ask questions in the following manner. For those of you who are with us, please turn off your cell phones. We ask that you write your questions on the index cards that were provided at the registration desk. Please write legibly and in large print and raise your card and it will be collected. For most of you, our viewers

online, if you haven't already done so please register with Livestream and type your questions in the chat box on the side of your screen so that we can record any questions you ask to our presenter.

Please frame your questions in the spirit of respecting each other's differences. The campaign of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions, BDS against Israel seeks to isolate and to legitimize the State of Israel. Many proBDS supporters have gained traction on college campuses. We are honored to have with us this evening Sara Greenberg who is a graduate student representative on the Harvard Hillel board of directors. Sara will discuss an event she is organizing at the Harvard Business School entitled economic driver for peace to reshaping the Arab Israel Palestinian reality through innovation, cooperation, and constructive dialogue. Let me tell you a little bit about Sara. Sara is pursuing a joint master's degree in public policy and business administration from the Harvard Kennedy school and the Harvard Business School. She did her undergraduate studies at Yale University where she majored in economics and interned at the Yale investment office. After graduating Sara worked at Thomson Reuters in their strategy group in New York and Hong Kong and then for Susquehanna growth equity partners in the U.S., China and Israel. While living and working in Israel Sara did research for the Jerusalem center for public affairs and helped start a crowd funding platform for Israeli start ups. Sara has spent time working for social finance Israel in Tel Aviv and this past summer received a grant from the Harvard Business School social enterprise initiative to explore impact investing in Israel. I have gotten to know Sara over the last few months and I can tell you that we're in for a treat. I'm extraordinarily

proud to introduce her.

SARA GREENBERG: Thank you so much for Hadassah and to you, and to my parents and grandparents who figured out the technology. It's really a pleasure to be here to participate in the series and talk a little bit about why Zionism is important to me, and what I'm doing to ensure that my generation continues to understand the importance of strengthening a Jewish democratic state of Israel. I thought I'd start off by giving some background about myself, focusing on what Israel means to me, why it's become such an important place to me and then move a little bit into what I'm seeing on campus and some of the ideas I have on ways to counter the BDS movement which Janice just talked about on campus which includes this conference coming up on April 26th I'm working on with a group of Arab and Israeli students at the Harvard Business School.

People often ask me why I stand up for Israel. When they do, I usually tell them the following story.

Several years ago, I traveled to Eastern Europe with my grandparents - my grandparents who are both Holocaust survivors. We were in a small village called Probka in the mountains of Slovakia where my grandmother was hidden during the war. In a crazy way we ended up stumbling upon the woman who had hid my mother and grandmother during the war. After spending several hours with them talking about what it was like in the war years, the risks they were taking on to hide Jews, my younger brother asked the woman why did you do it? And she responded, and she said, because it was the right thing to do. So when people ask me why do I stand up for Israel, I like to think about what this woman said, and my response has been

because it's the right thing to do. But let me elaborate on that because I didn't always stand up for Israel.

From an early age I knew Israel was an important place. I mentioned both my parents are Holocaust survivors. My grandfather is a survivor of Auschwitz, after World War II he was a volunteer in one of the displaced persons camp in Germany helping other Jewish refugees get to what was then the British mandate of Palestine. He hoped -- he talked about how growing up and also in the camps he dreamed of going to the land of Israel, and being a part of the Jewish experiment to build a state. And so after the war, he planned to go. His entire family was killed in the war. Only one surviving family member, his brother. After the war his brother had a wife and baby in the displaced persons camp so they were unable to get Visas to go to Israel. So my grandfather made the decision that even though going to Israel was something he had dreamed about, that he couldn't separate from his sole surviving family member, and instead they went to the United States together.

So while my grandfather grew up in the United States, my mom and my uncle were born here, I'm here, I have siblings, my uncle has kids, we always grew up hearing from my grandfather particularly why Israel was such an important place; a place that ensured that the Holocaust would never happen again.

But I think I was really curious to figure out whether Israel was more than just an insurance policy for Jews. I wanted to learn more. And I needed to learn more. And I think in particular, when I arrived on campus at college as an undergraduate at Yale, I would hear a lot of things about Israel, such as Israel is an Apartheid state, all these things you read in the newspaper. And

unfortunately, I didn't speak up. At that point I did not feel confident or knowledgeable enough to respond. And it's not a period that I look back on proudly, but I think understanding that I wish I had done something has motivated me to approach my time at Harvard in a different way.

After graduating college and working for a few years in New York, on my 24th birthday I decided that I really wanted to spend time in Israel. I knew it was important, as I talked about. But I really wanted to develop my own connection with the place, and see firsthand what the country was like, whether what I was reading about it was true or not. And so I packed up, I moved to Jerusalem, and a few months into being there I was working in venture capital doing some writing for a think tank as you mentioned. I also ended up playing for the Israeli national lacrosse team which was a very fun thing that I did not expect to find in Israel. I had played lacrosse in college and thought I had retired. Then when the Israeli national team was coming together for the first time, and I got a call to play, I was really delighted to have this totally different unique opportunity to represent the country. So that culminated two summers ago with a trip to the world cup. And we came in 8th in the world which was very exciting. And for me all these experiences together in Israel really was important because in addition to seeing Israel as an important place, I also started to develop my own connection and find meaning in it for myself, and began to see Israel not just as an insurance policy but as a country with a real message. People talk about Israel as a light unto nations but for me living in Israel I saw how minorities in the country including women and citizens had equal rights. I saw how despite the constant threat of terrorism the Israeli justice system held the court and them

to standards of law. I started to appreciate Israel not just as a Jewish state but as a country that shared my liberal values. So when I returned to Harvard three years ago, I'm getting close to graduation now, it's hard to believe, I came to Harvard really resolved to continue to develop my own relationship with the country of Israel, to visit any chance I had, and to speak out when I heard things that didn't resonate with what I knew to be true.

So I think as someone who was not so involved in the discourse around Israel as an undergraduate, and also as someone who was returning to campus after being in the real world for three years, I was really surprised to see the level of hostility towards the Jewish state on campus. Particularly the rising Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement and the power it had on campus to influence or manipulate students to think very poorly of Israel and to have an inaccurate picture of what was going on there.

To give you the audience really a better sense of what it's like on campus today, I looked at a few statistics. During 2013 to 2014, the academic year, student groups across the country hosted more than 350 anti-Israel events, about half of which were focused exclusively on how to initiate the BDS, the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions. At 15 colleges student groups submitted divestment resolutions from Israel to their student governments. So far this year in 2014 to 2015 academic year there have been more than 90 anti-Israel events scheduled to take place on U.S. campuses, which is double the 45 that had taken place in the same amount of time last year. And already since January, five student government resolutions have been passed to boycott, to have the universities' funds divested from Israel and Israeli companies. That includes Stanford University, Northwestern University. So

the situation is not great. It's not good. I would actually characterize it as relatively bad. And I think it's really important that we understand what BDS is about because without understanding what BDS is about, it's very hard to speak up against what it stands for. So on the surface BDS advocates for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against Israel. They claim to be fighting for equal rights in the Middle East with a focus on the Palestinian people. I think it's important to understand, however, the exclusive focus on Israel really exposes the hypocrisy of the BDS movement. Thousands of Palestinians have died in Syria over the past year, and you don't hear anyone boycotting that or speaking out against the Assad regime. Also in Gaza the BDS movement has not talked at all about the use of human shields and innocent civilians and/or how the rights of women and minorities are suppressed. There's no free press. So I think that is an important thing to remember. But more than that, one of the BDS goals if you look on the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions website, it clearly is written there that their main goal is to advocate for the right of return. The right of all Palestinian refugees to come back to Israel. And even President Obama and all world leaders acknowledge that this claim means that the Jewish state would end essentially. It's a way to destroy the state through demographic measures. So I think it's important to acknowledge that if you're an anarchist and you don't believe in the nation state system, then it's one thing to be opposed to the existence of a state or a Jewish state for that matter. But if you believe in the right of countries like Greece or Turkey, ethnic nation states to exist, and you also advocate for the existence of a Palestinian state, but you don't believe that the Jews have a right to self-determination in a state, then

it's hard to describe that as anything other than anti-Semitic and I think calling the BDS movement out for what it is, I think it's helped raise awareness around their core goals because I think many people sign up to the movement potentially or don't recognize the hatred within the movement because they don't understand the real goal. So I just wanted to take a minute to underscore that. BDS has kind of infiltrated many different parts of society. Arts and culture, law, business. But today I want to focus on the university. I think it's also important to note that the BDS movement has not had thankfully yet any kind of negative implications on the thriving economy of Israel. But where I see it as a real threat is on campus, and the war of ideas and what's happening there. Last year, just to give a few examples of how BDS is manifesting on campus and kind of relies on the academia to spread their ideas, the American studies association and the modern language association both voted to boycott Israeli academic institutions. I talked earlier about the divestment resolutions that are being brought forward by all of the various student governments. BDS also sponsors events on campus like Israel Apartheid week. Really does a lot to make the campus environment kind of unfriendly and at best, and scary at worst for students who are speaking up on behalf of Israel.

So the question I think the reason I was brought here today was to ask what can be done. How should the Jewish community respond to the BDS threat? In thinking more about this, I think that the approach needs to really be two pronged, or two dimensional. The Jewish community both needs to respond and create. What do I mean by this? I'll start first on the respond piece in terms of the Jewish community's need to respond to the hypocrisy



and the lies and the delegitimatization -- it's a hard word -- campaign of the BDS movement. So with that said however, the Jewish community cannot find themselves in the cycle of always playing defense. So after I talk a little bit about why I think it's important to respond, I then want to move on to some of the new and innovative ways that we are beginning to build a narrative based on truth around Israel on campus that is not just playing defense and responding.

On the response side, I think there are a lot of things that students can do. In the classroom it's a bit more difficult if a faculty member, professor makes a statement or kind of is public about their support for the boycott divestment movement, I've seen friends of mine decide not to respond for fear of the teacher taking it out on them through their grade. But it's a decision that each student has to make. And I think there are many other things that students can do from speaking out on campus to organizing events to bring speakers to campus, to writing Op-Eds in the student newspapers. I think also the campus Hillel is a really important place to provide students from abroad range of backgrounds with a broad range of views to really come together and find support against those who seek Israel's demise. As you mentioned I am a graduate student representative on the Harvard Hillel board. It's been really an honor to work with the group of directors and figure out the best way to engage students on campus, and for me looking at ways that we can bring Hillel to the graduate community. One of the discussions we've had a lot is around kind of what should our standards around partnership and sponsorship be at the Harvard Hillel. To date I'm really proud to say that the Harvard Hillel has abided by the international standards that Hillel international puts

out around partnership, which essentially is that Hillel should not partner with or sponsor any event with a group that openly endorses BDS and calls for the destruction of Israel. So I want to tell you as a student why I think that that is such an important thing that Hillel continue to do.

I think that as a student on campus, if you're willing to speak up and speak out against what the BDS movement stands for, both the center for Jewish life on campus is not willing to take a stand. It's very hard to make an argument in a compelling way why this group and movement is so problematic. Of course Hillel is not shutting down BDS. They can come speak anywhere they want on campus. The idea is that Hillel is not going to provide a platform and further legitimize this movement that seeks Israel's destruction.

So moving on to the next piece around how the Jewish community should also look to provide students on campus with the tools to create a positive narrative around Israel, I think one of the first things the Jewish community is doing and should continue to do is help get students to Israel. So obviously Birthright Israel is an amazing program that helps Jewish students get to go to Israel. Different Hillel chapters partner with birth right to send buses from the universities. I think that's really made a big impact on the Jewish students' ability to have their own connection with Israel, to understand Israel, and hopefully be inspired to speak up on behalf of Israel. In addition, one thing that's really great that's happening at Harvard and I believe is being replicated at other universities is this idea of student led treks, where Israeli or American Jewish students organize treks to bring their peers, mostly nonJewish students who would not have the opportunity to go to Israel

otherwise, and over spring break or the beginning of the summer bring them to Israel for a ten-day trip to understand what the country is about, meet Israelis, meet people in the Knesset. I've seen when they come back it has a big impact on the discourse. People are not just relying on what they hear in the media or hear from friends, they have their own experiences to talk about. The second thing, and this is my bias from being at the business school at Harvard but I think it also is relevant for the undergraduate college campus scene, Israel has a really great brand around start up nation. I think there's a lot of excitement around the innovation and the technology that is coming out of this tiny country. And so to have events that are focused on some of the positive aspects that are happening in the country beyond just focusing on the conflict has been I think another successful way of engaging students to understand what the country is really about. So at the Harvard Business School I helped start a speaker series, start up nation speaker series, to help bring Israeli entrepreneurs from different industries to come speak on campus. And that's been one effective way for people to not only learn about an industry that they're curious about, but also to understand what Israeli culture and society represents. So we had a panel last year on clean tech technology in Israel. On that panel you have the head of a big solar company in Israel talking about how half of his work force are Arab Israelis. It's just one way for people to really understand the dynamics of the society, kind of embedded in a way that is not focused as I said earlier on responding to some of the inaccuracies that are floating out there.

Another thing related to this notion of start up nation, the culture that Israel is, when I was working in venture capital in Israel I would often meet

with different entrepreneurs who would ask me if I had any friends in the United States who wanted to come work at the companies. So I started kind of calling friends and making these one off introductions, and when I arrived at business school at Harvard, a friend of mine and I decided to create a platform that would help MBA students find jobs or find summer internships at Israeli companies. Last year we did a pilot just at Harvard Business School and now we're expanding it to other business schools. But it's something I'm excited about because it's allowed some of my peers from China, from Mexico, from Brazil to experience start up nation for themselves, develop connections that will hopefully in the future pay off from a business and investment standpoint. But also to really understand as I said earlier about kind of what Israel is like and to be able to challenge some of the notions around Israel that they had heard or are hearing.

The last piece which I'm really excited about because it's something that's new and that's happening at Harvard that I'm involved in is finding ways to highlight the importance of economic cooperation, and investment in Israel and the region. Not only as kind of a counter answer, or a response to the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement but really more to highlight some positive initiatives happening in the region between Arabs, Israelis and Palestinians. There are a few organizations on campus, TAMID is a very good nonprofit organization that brings students together on campuses to form investment clubs around Israel. They also have an internship program for undergraduates to spend time in the country. But something new happening at Harvard which I'm involved in is around working with a group of Arab and Israeli and Palestinian students at Harvard and at the Harvard Kennedy school

to put together a conference around the economic drivers for peace. The idea is to highlight how the private sector can play a role in driving change in the region, improving the lives of people on the ground, also creating opportunities for Arabs and Israelis to work together, and hopefully being one of the pillars that will enable a durable peace in the future. In addition to the output being the conference, the process of the conference has really been quite remarkable. Each panel is being curated by an Arab and an Israeli student together and we're really proud of creating an environment on campus where Arabs and Israelis are working together. For those listeners in the Boston area, if you'd like to come please visit the website. Economic prosperity for peace.org. It's going to take place at the Harvard Business School April 26th and we'd be happy to see those who would like to be there there.

I think to conclude and to turn it over to some questions from the audience, at least maybe my parents online will contribute some if no one else does, I think the environment right now on campus around Israel is challenging but there are also opportunities. And for me I think the important thing I wanted to emphasize today is despite the challenges, the choice I made to engage in both responding to the BDS movement and creating new opportunities to speak about Israel has been incredibly rewarding. I think beyond the BDS movement on campus, one of the biggest risks or challenges that the Jewish community and Israel faces is apathy. So I would hope that for my generation is recognizing not only the importance of Israel as a Jewish state but the opportunity for students to form their own relationship with the country, to understand that Israel is not just an insurance policy, but rather a

beautiful state that you can develop your own relationship to, and bring much more meaning into your life.

I think for the alumni in the audience, alumni of different schools and also online, I think it's important to recognize what's happening at the university level. Contact your schools, the administrations, to make sure that they're not giving resources to support BDS. There's a difference between sponsorship and censorship. So when you call the President of your university, you're of course not going to say that they should shut down a discussion about BDS but they should make sure that the university is not lending their name or resources to promote this movement. That's a big difference that should be emphasized.

I think people should also speak to their Hillel boards, to support the existing guidelines around Israel discourse. Find out if there are ways that they as alumni can get engaged to support some activities that are happening on campus. Finally I think for the parents and grandparents in the audience, really kind of speaking to your children and grandchildren -- this is something that I was fortunate to have in my family -- about the facts around Israel, and the dangers of BDS. Because only with the education of what's happening can we expect our generation to speak up. Thank you so much for having me. I'm really looking forward to answering some of the questions.

JANICE WEINMAN: Thank you so much. (Applause). We're really very fortunate to have Sara with us. I don't have to underscore that. Also to learn and be inspired by her experiences and her remarks.

We have a few questions already. I would like to ask you one if you don't mind.

SARA GREENBERG: Sure.

JANICE WEINMAN: Recently the Harvard Hillel did have a presentation -- a panel which dealt with the movement from Selma to a more recent discussion of racial matters. And during that presentation the moderator or the first speaker opened with her very strong commitment to BDS. So I know that you have stood up against BDS at Harvard. I wondered how this manifested itself, what you did about it, and how you see that having implications for other events on the Harvard campus as well as other campuses.

SARA GREENBERG: Thank you for that question. I do want to underscore that this whole talk and also my response to your question is a reflection of my views alone. I'm not speaking for the Harvard Hillel board. And on this particular matter I personally disagreed with the outcome. I think the intent behind bringing the event into Hillel was to have some control over the content. But the event happened, and I think often times when you have a speaker that has openly supported BDS in other forums and you bring them to Hillel and you expect them to not talk about BDS, I think that's a very hard game to play. I was personally upset that Hillel gave a platform to a speaker who has supported BDS in the past. I think that sends the wrong message. And it was a personal disagreement with the board, but at the end of the day it's a collective decision.

JANICE WEINMAN: Thank you. We have already a number of questions from online. We have the following. In my experience at UC Irvine, Jewish professionals minimize the issue of BDS. Do you have any thoughts or ideas to share about this?

SARA GREENBERG: So I think it's interesting that this question is coming from a UC school because actually the University of California system schools have had some of the worst anti-Israel and BDS activity on campus throughout the entire country. I think without recognition of what's happening, it's hard to counter it. In my remarks I talk about how one of the things that you can do goes beyond just responding and creating positive programming. But to the people on these campuses who feel like they're not getting the support from the Jewish professionals, there are other campus groups that support students on campus. So stand with us is an amazing organization that provides important resources. Camera also is another organization that helps students understand some of the inaccuracies in the media and empowers them to speak out. So my advice to the person who asked this question would be to first approach the professionals to see if they're interested in working with you to create more programming or responding to some of the things that are happening on campus. But if that doesn't work, then to seek out external resources beyond the university that you can then bring in house.

JANICE WEINMAN: Thank you. Another question from online, is it useful to involve Jewish -- no, actually from our members here in the audience. Is it useful to involve Jewish academics from within a specific university, or is it better to bring in big guns, Dershowitz and others such as his quality and reputation?

SARA GREENBERG: I think people should always be excited about bringing in some of the big guns but I also think realistically speaking Alan Dershowitz cannot go around to every school. I think there are also a lot of



other great advocates for Israel out there. I also think that it's really important to find the allies on campus in the faculty and in the student body who you can work with. And in many ways, having those people speak up on their own campuses can be even more effective because people see them in their every day roles as teachers, as peers. And if they're willing to speak up, it can even be more effective. So I think finding the faculty and finding students to work together on programming can be just as impactful as bringing in a speaker who is out there doing this on an every day basis.

JANICE WEINMAN: I think that's very helpful. I think it speaks to building your own capacity on campus, to be able to be ready to do it at any other point in time. Thank you.

This is from online. In your opinion as a college student and a liberal, how do you think younger liberals can be reached to support Israel in a manner consistent with their liberal views?

SARA GREENBERG: It's a great question. I wish I was still a college student. But I'll take it. I often get asked this question about how I reconcile my particularism with my universalism. Meaning how is it possible to be kind of socially liberal person who leaves in universal values but focus more of my time and attention on the Jewish state? My response to that is I feel very fortunate because in this particular instance those values do not come into conflict. Israel is a Jewish state but it also embodies my liberal and universal values of kind of freedom for minorities, free press, and so I feel even more proud and grateful to be able to support a particular cause because it embodies those values.

JANICE WEINMAN: Thank you. From somebody here amongst us,

how should one respond to the accusation that the Hillel standards for partnership alienate many of the students Hillel seeks to reach?

SARA GREENBERG: I think that's a question that I've thought a lot about. I think that, first of all, with the guidelines that Hillel has, any individual student is welcomed into the Hillel house. So Hillel is not saying if you have these views you can't come into Hillel. Everyone is welcome, whether you're Jewish or nonJewish, whether you identify as someone who supports Israel, whether you have questions around Israel. I think the beauty of Hillel is the diversity of views. I think the criticism around alienation potentially looks at is it creating a situation where students that support Israel have a hard time discussing and debating issues around Israel with Palestinian students because of these guidelines. So the answer to that question from my perspective is no. In fact, the only way that the guidelines prevent events from happening is if it's with a group that supports the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement. And in fact by having that standard it helps expose what BDS is about so that other groups, whether Palestinian students on campus, can understand the harm of BDS, and if they want to engage in a true way of tolerance in pursuit of a two date solution, then they need to understand that by supporting BDS it's impossible to have that discourse. And so people can engage outside of Hillel around BDS but we're trying to create a safe space where people who really believe in peace and want to approach the dialogue in a constructive way can come together.

JANICE WEINMAN: Thank you. Now we have another question from our audience in cyberspace. How do you work in conjunction withstand with us and cufi on campus so as to be able to work in unison with other

similar organizations all toward the same goal? I should mention in our defining Zionism series a few months ago we had a speaker from stand with us who was inspiring and somebody we'd like to introduce you to perhaps. If you don't mind responding to that.

SARA GREENBERG: I think it's more relevant on the undergraduate level. They do a lot of work supporting college age students and I know they have a presence at Harvard and at various universities in Boston. I think really understanding the resources that stand with us can provide and how that can supplement what's already happening on campus is really important. Personally, when I'm wanting to speak out or write an article, I have friends that work at stand with us, and we'll ask them for specific advice on how to approach a topic. They're a really great resource for students who want to learn about new ways to engage with Israel on campus, and also find peers at other schools who are doing similar work to understand kind of best practices around speaking out against some of the boycott resolutions that we're seeing. In that way we've been really effective because they see across all the various universities.

JANICE WEINMAN: Good. What specific advice can you give regarding the point you made how can students in any way speak up when they hear biased remarks by professors yet not fear for their grades? That was something you mentioned before.

SARA GREENBERG: Yes. I think this is a big issue. As a graduate student who doesn't care about my grades at this point, hasn't been an issue for me but I understand the pain that students go through when this is happening in their class. I think it's really a personal decision about whether

you want to speak out during the semester, or after the semester. I'm not going to sit here and say that you should speak out and then receive a bad grade. That's for the student to decide. But I do think that if you find yourself in that situation after the semester, at least it's important to raise the issue to the administration, to the department head, to potentially write an article about what's happening to expose the professor for using his classroom as a pulpit to preach prejudice, bigotry. I think that would be my advice to the student who asked the question. Good question.

JANICE WEINMAN: On the heels of that, let me ask you another question. That is what resources are available for students who are interested in getting involved with Israel related initiatives on campus?

SARA GREENBERG: Great question. I have alluded to some of those resources throughout the talk. I think hopefully the Hillels are providing an environment that is supportive of Israel engagement on campus. Beyond the local Hillel I think also groups like stand with us as I said, camera, sometimes local Israeli consulates can provide great resources. In Boston we've partnered with them to identify speakers coming from Israel who can come to the campus. Often they'll be coming in for different meetings and if you can get them to take a few hours to speak to a group of students it's an effective tool as well.

JANICE WEINMAN: I should also mention that we have developed -- published in fact and are distributing a piece that is Israel from the Israel action network, and Hadassah that is how to talk about Israel guide. Somebody actually has asked us from our audience outside of Hadassah to mention it. But I do want to say in advance of mentioning how you can get

access to it that Hadassah takes great pride in having created a document that people can use to talk about BDS, to talk about Zionism, to talk about the range of issues involved in the ways to speak about Israel and Zionism. So it is available at [advocacy@Hadassah.org](mailto:advocacy@Hadassah.org), which is a digital link obviously. And you will have availability to our document that we've done with the Israel action network entitled how to talk about Israel.

I also want to mention before we conclude that Hadassah has been in conversation with other women's groups throughout the United States about garnering and collecting and organizing lists of people on campuses by their various interest groups, whether they are academics in foreign languages, academics in science, and so forth, so that we're ready at any point to mobilize that list to be able to respond to any accusations, any kinds of uprisings or mobilizations on campuses and elsewhere. And we're even considering if possible reaching out to women Presidents of colleges throughout the United States. So we're hoping that we can support your efforts. And we're hoping that you and your colleagues and your friends and your peers will see Hadassah really as a resource to you in this effort which we take very seriously.

So having said that, let me thank you, Sara.

SARA GREENBERG: Thank you.

JANICE WEINMAN: Both from all of us at Hadassah, all of the people who are online of which I know there are several hundred, and me personally, for really a remarkable evening.

I want to remind everyone that this session as well as all our past sessions has been recorded and may be watched alone, in a group, or as a

center piece of a unit or community's program. We encourage you to create parlor groups in which to discuss the topics that are being presented. Also please share your feedback with us by completing our online survey which will be E-mailed to you. Your input helps us create programming that is of interest to you and your communities.

Continue this conversation on our website at [www.Hadassah.org/definingZionism](http://www.Hadassah.org/definingZionism). I'll repeat that again. [www.Hadassah.org/definingZionism](http://www.Hadassah.org/definingZionism) and on Twitter using hashtag #DefiningZionism. Additionally if you haven't done so already please register for the entire defining Zionism series to receive updates about all future programs. Whether we agree with any one definition of Zionism or not, we can agree that the word conjures up in people a wide variety of emotions and responses. Sara, we appreciate your taking the time to be with us to address such a timely and sensitive subject in a very straightforward way. Zionism and combatting BDS is an imperative to the future of Zionism and our connection to the State of Israel.

A special thank you to the volunteers and staff who have been involved in defining Zionism program without whom these presentations would not be possible. Ellen Hershkin, the coordinator of our PRAZE division, Debbie Mazon, the Vice Coordinator, and Naomi Brunnlehrman, the Director of PRAZE. Thank you again to Sara Greenberg for her participation, really enriching our Defining Zionism in the 21st Century series. And of course thank you for being with us this evening, whether you are watching at home or are here in person. It is vitally important for us to remember that Hadassah supports the democratically elected government of Israel, the connections

between America and Israel are evidenced in many activities that we undertake. Hadassah enables U.S. as Americans the ability to be supporters of practical Zionism, an endeavor we began more than 100 years ago. 103 years ago actually.

As an additional point before closing, let me urge you to register and vote for the world Zionist Congress Delegates on the AZM website. In doing so we encourage votes to be cast for the Zionist spring slate. In conclusion, the next defining Zionism will take place on May 5th at 7:30 p.m. featuring Jeffrey K. Salkin, author and Rabbi of Temple Beth am in Bayonne, New Jersey. He will be quoting the z word, why Zionism makes some people uncomfortable. Good night. And thank you again. (Applause).