

Curriculum Vitae Nir Barak

Department of Politics and Government
Ben Gurion University of the Negev

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https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nir_Barak2

Fields of research and expertise:

political theory, urban politics, environmental politics and philosophy

Academic appointments

- 2020 - Lecturer, Department of Politics and Government, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
- 2018 - 2020 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology
- 2017- 2018 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, department of sociology, Columbia University
Fulbright-ISEF Research Scholar

Education

- 2018 Ph.D. in Political Science, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Dissertation: Civic Ecologism: Towards an Environmental Political Theory of the City
Submitted – June 2017, Approved without corrections - February 2018.
- 2012 M.A. in Political Science (Political Theory), Tel-Aviv University
Summa Cum Laude
Thesis: Political and Philosophical Aspects of Green Political Thought
- 2010 Visiting scholar at Sciences Po. Paris, France
- 2009 B.A. in Philosophy and Political Science, Tel-Aviv University
Magna Cum Laude

Awards, Prizes & Fellowships

- 2023 ‘Reviewer of the Year Award’, *npj Urban Sustainability* (Nature Publishing Group)
- 2022 Ben Gurion University Student Union Award for inspiring lecturer
- 2020 Honorable Mention for Excellence in Teaching (top 12%) – Technion – Israel Institute of Technology
- 2019 Best dissertation award – Israel Political Science Association
- 2018-2020 Aly Kaufman Fellowship Trust at the Technion (70,000\$)
- 2018-2019 Lady Davis Postdoctoral Fellowship, Hebrew University (Declined)
- 2018-2019 Leonard Davis Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship, Hebrew University (Declined)
- 2017-2018 Fulbright-ISEF postdoctoral scholar award (37,500\$)
- 2014-2017 “[Human Rights Under Pressure - Ethics, Law, and Politics](#)” Fellowship, Hebrew University and Freie Universität Berlin. (64,000\$)

- 2015
- Funding for a short research stay in Vienna, Austria. Center for Austrian Studies, Hebrew University. (550\$)
 - Graduate Scholar Award, On Sustainability International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability. Copenhagen, Denmark.
 - City of Vienna and Center for Austrian Studies grant for the research “Learning from Vienna about the Spirit of Cities: Architecture and Urban Political Identity” (3,500\$)
- 2014-2015 “Chevruta” Scholarship for initiation and management of a research group of graduate students on 'placemaking', Hebrew University of Jerusalem. (1,600\$)
- 2014
- Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy and The Center for Austrian Studies (Hebrew University) – invitation and full funding to participate in the annual meeting of the Austrian Studies Association.
 - City of Vienna and Center for Austrian Studies grant for the research “Urban Ecologism in Hundertwasser’s Work” (3,500\$)
 - Graduate Scholar Award, On Sustainability International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, *Economic & Social Sustainability*. Split University Croatia.
- 2013-2014 “Chevruta” Scholarship for initiation and management of a research group of graduate students on *critical theory*, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. (3,200\$)
- 2013 Center for Austrian Studies, Hebrew University – Full funding for German summer course and research stay in Vienna.
- 2012 Dean’s list for outstanding academic achievements (top 5%)
Tel-Aviv University. (2,700\$)
- 2010-2012 Political Science Departmental Scholarship for honor M.A. students (top 5%)
Tel-Aviv University. (Full tuition).
- 2010 ‘Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques’ (Sciences Po.) scholarship. (5,500\$ + tuition).

Research Grants

- 2021-2025 Israeli Science Foundation grant, with **Guy Ben Porat** (BGU)
Research Title: “Secure Citizens: Policing, Safety and City-zenship
- 2021 Heth Academic Center for Research of Competition and Regulation, College of Management,
With **Nir Mualam** (Technion)

Teaching and Research Students

A. Courses:

Current courses at the department of Politics and Government, Ben Gurion University of the Negev:

Introduction to Political Theory – B.A.

Political Theory of the City: City-zenship, urban democracy, and autonomy (seminar) – B.A. and M.A.,

Environmental Philosophy and Politics – B.A.,

Previous courses

The Environmental Crisis: philosophy, politics and social relations (seminar) – B.A., Department of Politics and Government, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Introduction to Environmental Thought, B.Sc.,
Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology (2019-2020)

B. Research Students

1. Ms., Kim Noach, PhD (with Guy Ben Porat), expected 2026
2. Ms. Reut Leu, M.A., expected 2024
3. Ms. Naama Jan, M.A. (with Guy Ben Porat), expected 2024
4. Dr. Natalie Levy – postdoctoral fellowship and part ISF funded project – Secure Citizens: Policing, Safety and City-zenship (with Guy Ben Porat) 2022-2024
5. Dr. Ophir Weinshall Shachar – postdoctoral fellowship 2022-2023

Publications

A. Doctoral Dissertation

1. **Barak N.** “Civic Ecologism: Towards an Environmental Political Theory of the City”, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, July 2017 (approved without corrections February 2018).

B. Chapters in Refereed Edited Books

1. **Barak N.** (2015) “Hundertwasser’s Vienna: Architecture, Urban Identity and Environmental Sentiments”, pp. 249-268 in (eds.) Wakounig Marija, Kühnel Ferdinand, Central Europe (Re-)visited. A Multi-Perspective Approach to a Region, Vienna, LitVerlag.
2. **Barak N.** and de Shalit A. (2016) “Environmental Political Activism”, pp. 266-272 in ed. Byron Williston, Environmental Ethics for Canadians (2nd edition), Ontario: Oxford University Press.
3. **Barak N.** (2019) “What Cities can teach us about Environmental Political Theory in the Anthropocene”, pp. 94-107, in eds. Manuel Arias-Maldonado and Zev Trachtenberg, Rethinking the Environment for the Anthropocene: Political Theory and Socionatural Relations in the New Geological Epoch, New York: Routledge.
4. **Barak N.** and de Shalit A. (2021) “Urbanizing Political Concepts for Analyzing Politics in the City”, pp. 329-340, in (eds.) Helmut Aust and Jane Nijman, Research Handbook on International Law and Cities, Elgar Publishing House.
5. **Barak N.**, (2023) “Cities and Nature: Conceptualizations, Normativity, and Political Analysis”, 385-405 in (eds.) Kassiola Joel, Luke Timothy, The Palgrave Handbook on Environmental Politics, Activism, and Theory, Palgrave.

C. Articles in Refereed Journals

1. **Barak N.** (2017) “Hundertwasser – Inspiration for Environmental Ethics: Reformulating the Ecological-Self”, Environmental Values 26(3): 317-342.
2. Mualam N. and **Barak N.** (2019) “Evaluating Comparative Research: Mapping and Assessing Current Trends in Built Heritage Studies”, Sustainability 11(3), 677.
3. **Barak N.** (2020) “Ecological City-Zenship.” Environmental Politics 29, no. 3: 479–99.
4. **Barak N.** “Civic Ecologism: Environmental Politics in Cities”, Ethics, Policy & Environment 23, no.1: 53-69.
5. Kaddar M., Kirchberg V., **Barak N.**, Seidl M., de Shalit A., Wedler P. (2022), “Artistic City-zenship: How artists practice and perceive political agency in their cities”, Journal of Urban Affairs 44, no.4-5, 471-489.
6. **Barak N.**, Sommer U., Mualam N., (2021), “Urban Attributes and the Spread of COVID-19: The Effects of Density, Compliance, and Socio-Political Factors in Israel”, Science of the Total Environment, 793: 148626.

7. **Barak N.**, Sommer U., Mualam N., (2022), Barak, Nir, and Nir Mualam. "How Do Cities Foster Autonomous Planning Practices despite Top-down Control?" *Cities* 123: 103576.
8. Kaddar M., Kirchberg V., **Barak N.**, Seidl M., , de Shalit A., Wedler P. (2022), "Artistic City-zenship: How artists practice and perceive political agency in their cities", *Journal of Urban Affairs* 44, no.4-5, 471-489.
9. Hoop M., Kirchberg V., Kaddar M., **Barak N.**, de Shalit A., (2022) "Urban Artistic Interventions: A Typology of Artistic Political Actions in the City", *City, Culture, and Society* 29: 100449.
10. Kaddar M., **Barak N.**, Hoop M., Kirchberg V., and de Shalit A., (2022) "The Artistic Spirit of Cities: How Cities Influence Artists' Agency." *Cities* 130: 103843.
11. **Barak N.**, Shani L., (2022) "Climatization: Who are you climate and what have you done to my environment?", *Kriot Israeliot*, 2: 1-13. (in Hebrew)
ברק נ. שני ל. "אקלימיזציה: מי אתה אקלים ומה עשית לסביבה שלי?", *קריאות ישראליות*, 2: 1-13.
12. **Barak N.**, Mualam N., (2023) "Urban Autonomy: Changes in city-state relationships in Israel" *Studies on Regulation*, 7: 25-84. (in Hebrew)
ברק נ., מועלם נ., (2023), "אוטונומיה עירונית: שינויים במערכת היחסים בין העיר למדינה בישראל", *מחקרי רגולציה*, 7: 25-84.

D. Essays

1. **Barak N.** (2015) "Placemaking as a tool for collective inquiry and structuring of urban political identities" in *Making Places: Placemaking in Israel*, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. (Hebrew)
2. **Barak N.** (2016) "Cities as Human Niches: Against the Natural City", in the academic blog *Inhabiting the Anthropocene*. <https://inhabitingtheanthropocene.com/2016/10/05/cities-as-human-niches-against-the-natural-city/>
3. **Barak N.** (2018) "The Limits of Techno-management in Transitioning to Green Cities." In: "Green City: Explorations and Visions of Urban Sustainability," (eds.) Simone M. Müller and Annika Mattisek, *RCC Perspectives: Transformations in Environment and Society* no. 1: 47–52.
4. **Barak N.** (2019) "Postscript: Vertical Allocation as a Manifestation of Urban Autonomy (?)" pp. 252-254, in: Nir Mualam, Eyal Salinger, and Gal Noihaus-Feuerstein, *Vertical Allocations: Allocations of Public Utilities in Multi-purpose Buildings - Legal, Economic and Planning Aspects*, Haifa: The Center for Urban & Regional Studies – Technion (In Hebrew).
5. **Barak N.** (2019) "City-zenship and national citizenship: complementary and competing but not emancipated from each other". This contribution is part of an international debate launched by Rainer Bauböck and Liav Orgad at the European University Institute's *Global Citizenship Observatory* analyzing the question: Should urban citizenship be emancipated from nationality?. <http://globalcit.eu/cities-vs-states-should-urban-citizenship-be-emancipated-from-nationality/3/>
23A. Also published on *Verfassungsblog – On Matters Constitutional* forum.
Barak N. (2020) "City-zenship and national citizenship: complementary and competing but not emancipated from each other". <https://verfassungsblog.de/city-zenship-and-national-citizenship-complementary-and-competing-but-not-emancipated-from-each-other/>
6. **Barak N.** (2022) "[The ecological teaching of the activist and architect Hundertwasser remains urgent and pertinent today](#)", *The Architectural Review* [magazine],

Additional academic experience

- Reviewer: Journals:
NPJ Urban Sustainability; Environmental Politics; Urban Affairs Review; Journal of Urban Affairs; Environmental Values; Environmental Ethics; Sustainable Futures; Sustainability; Home Culture
- Grants:
Slovak Academic and Scientific Programme; Israeli Science Foundation
- 2019-
2014-2015 Member of the Fulbright MA selection committee (2019, 2020)
- 2014-2015 Co-founder and co-director of a graduate-student [research group on 'urban placemaking'](#), Hebrew University.
- 2013-2016 Serving on the committee for 'Hebraizing Political Concepts', nominated by the Israeli Association for Political Science
- 2013-2015 Research assistant, department of Political Science, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
Working with Professor Menachem Hofnung on a research titled: The Price of Information Gathering: Collaborators in the Service of Military Power.
- 2013-2015 Co-director of the graduate student workshop in politics at the Hebrew University. The forum includes students from the departments of political science, IR, and school of public policy.
- 2013-2014 Founder and director of a graduate-student [research group in critical theory](#), Hebrew University.
- 2009-2010 Founder and director of academic student seminars in political economy, Tel Aviv University.
- 2008-2010 Instructor, department of Political Science, Tel-Aviv University.
Courses: Contemporary Political Thought

Additional experience

- 2016 Advisor of environmental ethics for an Israeli landscape architecture project presented in the 2016 Venice Biennale of Architecture.
- 2012 Youth educator and instructor in Jaffa, employed by Tel-Aviv Municipality.
- 2011- Volunteer in 'Bishvil ha'mahar' – an NGO that works with past military combatants that have experienced anxiety or even PTSD by employing 'outdoor training' techniques.
- 2009-2010 Educator and teacher of civics, history, math and language skills
Positioned in 'Miftan' high-school, a rehabilitative and educational institute taking care of youth at risk, as a part of a special training program for designated progressive school principals.
- 2006-2010 Youth educator and instructor at 'Ziv-Neurim'.
Instructing groups of teenagers at risk, utilizing marine resources in order to enhance personal abilities and social skills. At present, I'm still an active volunteer.
- 2006-2014 Sailing and navigation teacher and instructor at Via Maris Sailing School.
- 1998-2004 Major in the Israeli Navy.
Positions: Second in Command of a patrol boat squadron consisting of 150 soldiers; in charge of operational procedures and combat doctrine in the Navy's headquarters; patrol boat commander. Graduated with high honors from the Advanced Naval Academy.

Languages

Hebrew – Native language; English – at native level; French – beginner level; German – beginner level.

Academic References available upon request.