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Request for Change of Name of Party Membership

Basic information

Name of the party/organisation	The Democrats formerly Israeli Labor Party (Avoda) and Meretz
Country	Israel
Core values	The platform of the Democrats is based on five principles: 1. A realistic security approach Israel requires strong and advanced armed forces that know how to defend its borders and neutralize external threats. At the same time, rehabilitating national security requires establishing defensible borders, fostering regional agreements and international alliances, strengthening international alliances, and promoting separation from the Palestinians as part of a regional agreement. 2. Democratic Regime



	<p>Israel's survival as a flourishing state depends on fortifying its liberal foundations – separation of powers, formulation of constitutional foundations, protecting the professionalism and independence of the judiciary, and free media. The Democrats party will work to abolish all measures taken as part of the regime coup and will promote gender equality and full civil equality for all sectors.</p> <p>3. Statism</p> <p>Public service is a mission, not an opportunity for personal advancement. The civil service must be restructured on the basis of quality and professionalism and protected from politicization. At the same time, those who uphold the values of the state must be strengthened, government corruption must be rooted out, oversight and enforcement mechanisms must be strengthened, and they must be protected from political influence.</p> <p>4. An egalitarian society of solidarity</p>
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	<p>A society of solidarity is also a strong society. True solidarity is not forced uniformity but prioritizes peaceful dispute management and dialogue. Political leadership plays a central role in ensuring an open and vibrant public discourse. At the same time, all forms of incitement and delegitimization of political opponents must be combated.</p> <p>5. A Jewish and free State</p> <p>The State of Israel is the Jewish nation-state, not a Jewish religious state. A Jewish state is a state in which Jews realize their right to national self-determination by shaping their lives together as free people, and therefore must nurture a variety of Jewish identities, with equality for all streams and without discriminating against members of other religions. For this purpose, politics must be separated from established religion in all its forms.</p>
<p>Structure and practice of inner party democracy (max. 2000 characters)</p>	<p>The Democrats is a democratic political party, with policy made by its membership (currently c.50,000), represented by an elected party congress of around 700 members, which</p>

	delegates some decisions to an executive committee.
Representation in parliaments on national/regional/local level	The Democrats is represented in the Knesset (parliament) by four Members of Knesset. The party is also represented at local level (municipalities, regional councils, local councils), across the country.
History of the party (i.e. participation in governments) (max. 2000 characters)	<p>The Democrats was formed in 2024 under the leadership of Yair Golan, a former IDF Deputy Chief of Staff and later Democratic Union/Meretz MK and deputy minister, by the merger of two precursor parties:</p> <p>1. The Israeli Labor Party (Avoda)</p> <p>The Israeli Labor Party, and its precursors, was the founding political party of the State of Israel, in national leadership and in uninterrupted government from independence in 1948 until 1977. In that time, Israel grew into a successful and flourishing state under prime ministers David Ben-Gurion, Moshe Sharett, Levi Eshkol, Golda Meir and Yitzhak Rabin. In the 1980s and 90s, Labor shared power in national unity</p>



governments and returned to power under Yitzhak Rabin in 1992, taking decisive steps to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and concluding peace with Jordan. In 1994, Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated in an attempt to halt the peace process. Under his successor, Shimon Peres, Israel continued to pursue peace, and under Ehud Barak, made far-reaching proposals for the establishment of a Palestinian state.

In 2021-22, Labor was part of the 'government of change' that sought to put Israel back on the course set by its previous leaders – protecting democracy, advancing equality and striving for peace.

2. Meretz

Formed in 1992 as an alliance of three smaller parties, Meretz became a single party in 1997 and won seats in every Knesset election until 2021. Meretz was part of government coalitions in 1992 under Yitzhak Rabin, in 1999 under Ehud Barak and in 2021 under Naftali Bennett. Its party platform prioritized the



	Israeli-Palestinian peace process; human rights and social justice; separation of religion and state; and environmentalism.
Number of members (male/female)	c.50,000, with men and women roughly equally represented.
Gender quota or further quotas	The precursor Israeli Labor Party had a 'zipper' system of equal representation for men and women on the Knesset list, which is under discussion in the new Democrats party.
Founding date and place	Tel Aviv, 2024
Name and Contact details of the leader's office and the international department	The Democrats 15 Brodetsky St Tel Aviv 6905123 Israel International Secretary-elect: Jonathan Cummings international@democrats.org.il
Organisational papers attached	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Official letter of intent 2. Statutes/policy program 3. Current list of officers 4. Others