



ACRI Activity Report July – December 2018 February 2019

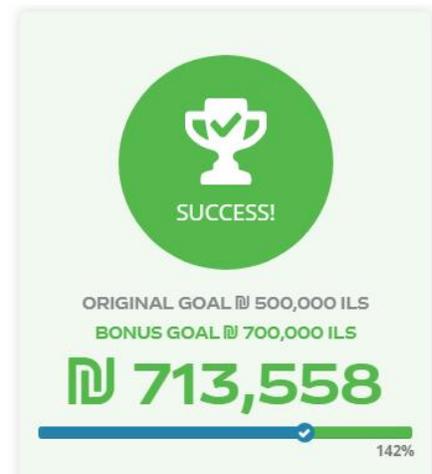
The Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) is a policy driven, non-profit organization protecting the human rights and civil liberties of all people living in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories.

ACRI upholds the pillars of democracy by demanding that duty bearers change policies and practices that violate basic rights and liberties. ACRI works together with the courts, the Knesset, government agencies and civil society to tackle Israel's most urgent human rights injustices.

This report covers ACRI's work in each of our strategic focus areas: the Arab minority, migrants and refugees, the occupied territories, social and economic rights, and political and social rights. It also covers ACRI's work in promoting a public discourse about human rights via policy advocacy, public outreach and human rights education.

For International Human Rights Day on (December 12, 2018), ACRI conducted its first-ever all-or-nothing, 48-hour matching fundraising campaign with the goal of reaching half a million shekels, eventually raising ₪713,558.

The impact of this campaign is represented not only by the funds raised, but by hundreds of new Israeli donors, including an unprecedented group of Arab-Israeli donors. The big success of this campaign and the demographics of those who supported the cause, highlight ACRI's crucial role in Israeli civil society and the potential for wider, more inclusive support for human rights work in our region.



1. Arab Minority Rights in Israel

The Right to Equality: In December of 2018, ACRI [petitioned the High Court of Justice](#) to repeal the discriminatory Nation-State Law, which passed in the Knesset during July 2018. In our petition, ACRI charged that, among other issues, the law does irreversible harm to equality and democracy by transforming the ongoing institutional discrimination against the Arab population in Israel from one based on policy and personal judgment to a guiding judicial principle. The petition is expected to be heard by a wide bench of 11 Supreme Court justices in early 2019.

Other key cases handled by the unit include:

- ACRI continued to work with government ministries, local authorities, and public bodies in order **to make all public and government services available to Arab citizens in Arabic**. Following our appeal, the Ministry of Education announced both that the teleprocessing matriculation exam will be translated into Arabic and that there would begin a process of translating into Arabic all technology-related matriculation questionnaires. We also appealed to the director of Employment Services, demanding that all services on the Employment Service's site and in its offices be made accessible in Arabic (including translation of forms, facilitation of committees and discussions in Arabic, etc.). ACRI also appealed to the Knesset's Science and Technology Committee on the matter, and we were partners in organizing the Arabic Language Day in the Knesset, which took place in early July, 2018.
- Following a petition we filed, the Israel Land Authority (ILA) imposed a 30,000 NIS fine on a construction company that discriminated against selling an apartment to an Arab citizen. This was the first time that the ILA fined a construction company for **discrimination based on nationality**.
- **Fair Treatment:** We appealed to the Director General of the Airports Authority, demanding that he cease discrimination against Arab citizens returning to Israel from Egypt at the Taba border crossing. ACRI demanded he instruct terminal staff on duty to provide equal treatment to all who pass through. In response, the Israel Airports Authority claimed that there was no discrimination or profiling against Arab travelers, and that all civilians were treated equally during border crossing security checks.
- **Employment:** We submitted a freedom of information request regarding admissions for employment in civil service. The data we received attested to significant gaps between Arabs and Jews. We met with the head of the Civil Service's Diversity Division and demanded that all the screening processes be adapted and made accessible to Arab candidates. We continue to monitor the matter. We also appealed to the Constitution, Law and Justice Committee to express our opposition to advancing bills that seek to give preference to those who served in the army, as it is a severe violation of the right to equality.
- **Access to Water:** We filed an application to join a petition filed by residents of the village of Isfiya as a friend of the court against Mekorot's (Israel's National Water Company) decision to disconnect the village from water for extended periods of time due to non-compliance with payment of debts.
- **Right to Education.** ACRI continues to represent the Arab residents of Nazareth Illit in a petition to establish the first Arab school in the city. Throughout the reporting period we remained in contact with the municipality (under the auspices of the court) to examine the feasibility of establishing the school.

- **Freedom of Movement and Access:** ACRI contacted the mayor of Afula following reports that the city's municipal park is open and accessible on Saturday solely for the city's residents — a measure that is accompanied by rhetoric on preserving the "Jewish nature" of the city.
- **Women's Rights:** As part of our activity in a coalition of Arab women's organizations, we submitted a position paper to the Knesset on the phenomenon of **polygamy**.

Rights of the Arab Bedouin Population in the Negev

- ACRI continues to represent residents of unrecognized Bedouin villages, especially the residents of Wadi al-Na'am and Um Mitnan, in their struggle for recognition and planning procedures. In addition, we partake in planning procedures to change District Outline Plan 4/14/89, which aims to concentrate all Bedouin residents living in the Negev Highlands in one locality.
- ACRI appealed to the Knesset and demanded that it advance public transportation in the unrecognized villages of the Negev. In our appeal, we emphasized the particular impact of the absence of public transportation on women.

2. Social and Economic Rights

Welfare System Rights: Following ACRI's requests to the Ministry of Welfare and the Ministry of Education, the Director General of the Ministry of Welfare announced an immediate stop to the procedure of removing toddlers from day care due to their parents' debt. The Ministry is formulating new procedures for handling such debt, as well as considering adding subsidies for needy families. Additional successful advocacy conducted in the welfare system includes the annulment of a 45-year social work regulation directive, which had limited people with mental challenges from receiving services at welfare offices. In its place, an inter-ministerial team was established to formulate new guidelines and to prepare treatment for people with mental challenges at the welfare offices. ACRI also commented on a legal memorandum regarding regulation of the committees that determine the placement of people with intellectual-developmental challenges, emphasizing the need to anchor defenses for due process. In response, the Ministry of Social Affairs decided to freeze the amendment of the law, while accepting our position that such provisions should be anchored in regulations.

ACRI also advanced the following social and economic rights issues:

- **The Right to Dignified Existence:** We submitted our position to the Supreme Court regarding a person who panhandled at the Western Wall. We claimed that upon addressing offenses of poverty and survival, there is no public interest in prosecution, and that treatment of these cases must be facilitated through alternative means, first and foremost through the welfare systems.
- **The Right to Housing:** ACRI continued to conduct a petition demanding an increase in stipends for rental assistance in accordance with rising market prices. We submitted an application to join a hearing as a friend of the court on the appeal addressing admissions committees in Moshavim and Kibbutzim. We also submitted an application to join a petition as amicus curiae claiming that the Prohibition of Discrimination in Products, Services and Entry into Places of Entertainment and Public Places Law should also apply to the sale of residential apartments.

- **The Right to Health:** We petitioned the High Court of Justice along with fellow organizations on behalf of residents of the Neve Sha'anani neighborhood of Tel Aviv, demanding that the New Central Bus Station in Tel Aviv cease operating. We claimed that the station is a serious health hazard, and is a factor in the neighborhood's physical and social deterioration.
- **Workers' Rights:** ACRI submitted an application to become a member of the National Labor Court, where an appeal by an individual who was discriminated against during a job application process will be discussed. ACRI has engaged this case because the compensation from the trial that this individual initially received was reduced on the grounds that he was not really looking for "authentic" work, but rather to expose the discriminatory practices of the employer. ACRI claims that exposing and documenting discrimination through proactive examinations on behalf of activists or social organizations helps deter employers from overt or covert discrimination.

3. Civil and Political Rights

Freedom of Speech and Protest: In December, a ruling was made based on our petition on behalf of the "Negev Coexistence Forum" against the Be'er Sheva municipality following the municipality's decision to evacuate the organization from a public shelter on the grounds that it had conducted political activity in the space. [The High Court of Justice ruled](#) that the municipality must continue to provide the organization with a public shelter and **clarified that a municipality cannot demand that nonprofits operating in its buildings refrain from holding public discussions on controversial issues**. The ruling highlights important principles for the allocation and use of municipal resources and the preservation of freedom of political expression in the public sphere.

The following civil and political rights issues were also advanced:

- During the reporting period, ACRI worked intensively against the [Loyalty in Culture bill](#), which sought to allow the minister of culture to deny support to cultural institutions. Among other things, we submitted position papers to the Ministry of Culture and the Knesset Education and Culture Committee, participated in committee meetings, distributed a video and newsletters, and conducted a campaign on social media platforms. As of today, the bill is no longer on the Knesset agenda.
- ACRI appealed to the attorney general, the deputy legal advisor, and the [High Court of Justice Department](#) regarding the detainment of human rights and political activists at Ben Gurion Airport and border crossings to conduct cautionary talks with Shin Bet Security Service representatives. The responses that we received indicated that the detainment was legal, but that the procedures and control mechanisms had been updated such that the Shin Bet Security Service had been instructed not to include questions concerning political opinions or legitimate legal activity of civil society organizations in Israel. We also issued instructions for activists on the matter.
- As part of the [DocuRights project](#), **we represented organizers of demonstrations and activists** before the police and effected the revocation of unnecessary conditions for the official approval of demonstrations. We held **training** sessions for demonstrators, activists, and protest groups, and launched a new site in Hebrew and Arabic that offers clear and comprehensive information on the rights of demonstrators.

- Following a petition we submitted to the High Court of Justice, the police retracted the hefty demands they initially requested of the **Gay Pride Parade organizers in Kfar Saba**, eventually permitting the march to take place. Our intervention later led to the retraction of similar extraneous conditions placed on the organizers of **pride parades in Ashdod, Modi'in, Rehovot, Lod**, and more. In addition, we wrote a principled letter



to the police and the Attorney General, demanding that the safety regulations for protests be clearly regulated in order to prevent unnecessary demands of the organizers. Additionally, in response to our appeal, the Military Advocate General's Office announced that it would not take measures against soldiers participating in **demonstrations to promote equality among the LGBT community**.

- **Freedom of Information:** We appealed to the military censor on behalf of the *Akevot Institute for Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Research* following the refusal to approve the publication of archival material on the Kfar Qasim massacre, deferring the publication to the military court's approval. Following our appeal, the specific problem was resolved, yet we continue to address the primary issue in which the censor delays publication of information by conditioning it on other parties' approval.
- **Equality, Racism and Hate Speech:** ACRI is leading a project to monitor the implementation of 16 key recommendations from the Palmor Committee's Report to Combat Racism and Discrimination. It is being implemented together with the *Public Knowledge Workshop* and the *Citizen's Empowerment Center* in Israel. During the reporting period, ACRI advocated for the use of police body cameras, appealed to the President and Minister of Justice with a request to expunge criminal records of Ethiopian immigrants and other minority groups that suffer racial profiling and over-enforcement, particularly in the Arab society. Together with fellow organizations, ACRI submitted comments to the Attorney General regarding the planned proposal to transfer responsibility for handling complaints regarding police violence from the police investigation unit (an independent separate unit within the ministry of justice) to disciplinary proceedings within the police.
- **Exclusion of women:** Along with other organizations, ACRI submitted an application to join as a friend of the court during proceedings on the Tel Aviv Municipality's refusal to permit a gender-segregated event from taking place in Rabin Square. The petition was determined on administrative grounds without a decision on the fundamental issue of exclusion of women in the public sphere. Following the proceeding that we joined as a friend of the court, we submitted freedom of information requests to all academic institutions that allow for gender-segregated studies in order to obtain details on the customary arrangements in place. Following requests that we submitted along with other organizations, the Kfar Saba municipality announced that it would open a program for excellence in the sciences to girls as well.
- **Trans Rights:** Marking International Transgender Day of Remembrance, in November ACRI published a document reviewing human rights conditions of members of the transgender community in Israel. ACRI continue to advocate on behalf of a transgender prisoner seeking to undergo a process

of gender reassignment. Following the petition, the prisoner began receiving hormonal therapy, and will soon begin an examination process for gender reassignment surgery.

4. Immigration and Status

- ACRI continued to conduct the petition we filed through the Human Rights Clinic at the College of Management and the Refugee Rights Clinic at Tel Aviv University demanding that foreign residents also be entitled to **representation by the Legal Aid Department**. In parallel, we submitted comments to a legal memorandum on the topic and published an opinion paper.
- In September, the High Court of Justice rejected a petition that ACRI filed with *Adalah* and *The Workers' Hotline* demanding that a worker who is not a citizen or resident (migrant worker, asylum seeker, West Bank Palestinian), will not have to deposit a cash guarantee upon suing an employer.
- ACRI continued to conduct the petition we filed with fellow organizations against the "**Deposit Fund**," which aims to encourage asylum seekers to leave Israel by withdrawing their income.
- ACRI continued to manage the legal proceedings in which *The Workers' Hotline* facilitated the **arrival of migrant workers through bilateral agreements**.
- In June, the National Labor Court held a hearing on the appeal to which we joined as a friend of the court, regarding **profiling carried out by the Immigration Authority** (following an "Asian-looking" woman). Our position on the unacceptable conduct regarding this matter impacted the judges, and following the court's recommendation, the state agreed to withdraw the appeal.
- We petitioned the Jerusalem District Court on behalf of an **asylum seeker from Sudan** (who is the spouse of an Israeli citizen), who sought to leave Israel to visit his mother and return to Israel. Following the petition, the Authority agreed to grant him a travel document and a permit to return.
- Following a petition we submitted (through the Refugee Rights Clinic at Tel Aviv University), **fathers who are immigrants and asylum seekers** and whose details were not registered in their children's birth certificates will be permitted to go to the hospital and request that the registration be amended.
- We filed a suit against the Immigration Authority on behalf of a **migrant worker** for denying her a residence and work permit because she was engaged in a relationship with another migrant worker, and for conditioning the renewal of her visa on a series of humiliating and invasive conditions that violated her privacy and dignity.

5. Human Rights in the Occupied Territories

Focus on the Knesset: We published a position paper describing the phenomenon and significance of the increasing legislative initiatives aimed at promoting "legal annexation" of the West Bank by applying the Knesset's sovereignty to the area. The document focuses on the implications for human rights when institutionalizing a double-discrimination regime of annexation and occupation: on the one hand, strengthening the connection between settlements and the sovereign state of Israel, while on the other hand, leaving the Palestinian population under a military occupation regime and minimizing protections granted by international law. ACRI protests a bill to transfer authority to hear petitions by Palestinians from the Supreme Court to the Jerusalem District Court for Administrative Affairs.

Other items on the OPT unit agenda included:

The West Bank

- In July, ACRI petitioned the High Court on behalf of a resident of Hebron regarding the **closure of Palestinian access** on the stairs leading to the Cordoba school in Hebron. In early December, the petition was rejected but the court ruled that although harm to the petitioner "is not minimal...the weight of the security interest prevails over the specific harm to the petitioner."
- ACRI filed a freedom of information request regarding **the issue of closed military zone orders**, preventing Palestinian shepherds from accessing grazing lands in the Jordan Valley.
- ACRI continues to petition the High Court against the "Illegal Outpost Regulation Law."

East Jerusalem

- In July, ACRI received a favorable ruling on our 2010 petition on **access to postal services**, which included a commitment by the Ministry of Communications to establish new postal units in neighborhoods such as Wadi al-Joz and Beit Safafa, and to find solutions for mail distribution in other Palestinian neighborhoods.
- ACRI continued to conduct our petition regarding **water supply to neighborhoods beyond the separation barrier**. Among other actions, we submitted a response to the court, as well as maintained daily contact and held site visits with residents of the Gihon Company and the Water Authority to address the issues firsthand.
- Ahead of Jerusalem Day we circulated a short film presenting the **lack of services** in East Jerusalem.
- Following a petition submitted in April 2018, the Population and Migration Authority announced that it would allow residents of East Jerusalem to **renew travel documents in any office in the country that the resident chooses**. In addition, a Population Registry office opened at the Qalandiya checkpoint. The petition was filed against the Palestinian Authority's policy, which prevents residents of East Jerusalem from receiving registration services (such as issuing IDs, or renewing travel documents) at offices throughout Israel, and restricting them to the Wadi al-Joz neighborhood office.
- Following a petition we filed in 2017 against **restrictions imposed by the police on press coverage in Jerusalem**, the police formulated a procedure on the matter. In a November hearing, we raised reservations on the procedure, particularly the directive that allows the police to restrict journalists' access if believed that "it will escalate an atmosphere of violence to a degree that could endanger human life." The court ruled that the petition had exhausted itself with the formulation of the procedure, and that it was still too early to examine its actual effect.

6. Public Hotline

The Public Hotline Department includes a lawyer who manages the department, an Arabic speaking coordinator (half-time), and 14 active volunteers. The department is also assisted by both of ACRI's interns. Responses to applicants are provided in Hebrew, English, Arabic, and Russian. Each year approximately 3,000 appeals are received. Response to outreach includes information on upholding rights and addressing their violation, referral to member organizations and national aid centers, writing information sheets, sending freedom of information requests, and legal correspondence with authorities. Among the primary issues addressed by the department are: upholding rights vis-à-vis the National

Insurance Institute, the right to health, immigration and status (vis-à-vis the Ministry of the Interior), public housing, discrimination, accessibility, electricity disconnection, police violence, admissions committees to shared communities, and more. The following are some examples of successful inquiries from the reporting period.

- In working with the Electricity Authority and the Electric Company, we succeeded in **reconnecting dozens of impoverished citizens to electricity**, usually single mothers and disabled people who were cut off due to accumulated debt and inability to meet payment arrangements. In all cases we reached a new arrangement that benefited the clients, and also followed through on ongoing requests in the event of difficulty in meeting payments. In other cases we prevented electricity from being disconnected.
- ACRI is a member of the Public Housing Forum, and we address individual cases and principled issues regarding the amendment of public housing apartments, criteria for obtaining public housing, sexual harassment in housing companies, tenant debt, and more. For example, we assisted a single woman who suffered from domestic violence to receive eligibility for public housing and increased rent assistance.
- We appealed to HaSharon Prison following complaints of difficulties encountered by **prisoners who wished to submit petitions regarding conditions of detention and what occurs inside the prison**. Following our inquiry, we were informed that the prison commander had updated the instructions and directed the staff to follow orders.
- We took action in front of the Holon municipality on behalf of **a wheelchair-bound disabled person prevented from entering and leaving his home by parked vehicles**. Following intensive activity on behalf of municipal officials and media reports, the municipality placed columns blocking the access road.
- We appealed on behalf of **an ultra-Orthodox employee at a kindergarten who was filmed without her knowledge** in a video that appeared on the Facebook page of her workplace. After explaining that for reasons connected to her religious faith she was not prepared to be filmed, she was told she could resign. After we contacted the kindergarten principal, the video was removed. Additionally, we suggested that the applicant submit a tort claim.
- We assisted **a female couple that married abroad** and are registered in the Ministry of the Interior to register their marriage in the National Insurance Institute as well, so that they may exercise their rights.

Human Rights Education

ACRI's Human Rights Education Department works to advance education on human rights and democracy and to promote education against racism. We operate in the education system and teacher training colleges (colleges and schools of education in universities) among Jewish and Arab society in Israel. The activities are conducted in both Hebrew and Arabic through Jewish and Arab educators working together.

In preparation for International Human Rights Day and to mark the 70th anniversary of the Declaration on Human Rights, ACRI's human rights education department initiated a unique collaboration with hip-hop band The BrinX in producing a music video – [This is Israel](#) – that presents human rights issues such as racism, discrimination, LGBTQI rights, Arab minority rights, and more. The music video received praise in the Israeli media and has over 400,000 views.



The video was accompanied by educational content uploaded to ACRI's human rights education website and distributed to educators.

The educational content included suggestions regarding how to discuss the human rights issues presented in the video, the importance of human rights, protest and art as tools for social change, and the relevance of the Declaration on Human Rights 70 years after its adoption by the United Nations.

1. Workshops, Conferences and Seminars

Teacher training colleges and education programs in universities: ACRI conducted training workshops for students and lecturers, participated in events, and collaborated with Al-Qasemi College, Kaye College, Kibbutzim College, Efrata College in Jerusalem, the Haifa College of Arab Teachers and Beit Berl College. A semester-long academic course was facilitated by ACRI at the University of Haifa, and a similar course will be held at Tel Aviv University in the coming year.



During Human Rights Week, ACRI held a seminar with the University of Haifa's Faculty of Education, which addressed challenges and successes in human rights education. In December we also held a **conference** at Kaye College on the amendment to the Special Education Law. In cooperation with the

Tel Aviv Municipality and the Tel Aviv Cinematheque, ACRI held a **course for young filmmakers** (high school students), at the end of which human rights films were produced.

2. Pedagogical Content

ACRI continues to collaborate with the Education Ministry's civilian education headquarters. This year — **the 70th year of the Declaration on Human Rights** — ACRI wrote a lesson plan accompanied by a presentation that relates to the International Declaration itself, on the relevance of the rights enumerated in it today and the tools that may be used to protect human rights everywhere and at all times.

["The Workshop"](#) — our education department's website in Hebrew and Arabic, includes a rich database of materials on democratic, human rights, and anti-racist, education. ACRI updates the site

regularly with lesson plans and posts on topics on the public agenda (such as freedom of speech, sexual harassment, and racism), departmental projects, and conferences and events in which ACRI partakes and facilitates.

ACRI distributes pedagogy-related newsletters in Hebrew and Arabic to thousands of educators. During the reporting period, the Hebrew site had an average of 660 monthly visitors, and approximately 1,090 people visited the Arabic site.

3. Education Policy Advocacy

ACRI works with senior policymakers in the Ministry of Education and teacher training colleges in order to conduct dialogue on education and human rights and combatting racism. Among other activities, we initiated a [position paper on "Multiculturalism and Coexistence between Jews and Arabs in Academic Institutions for Teachers."](#) The document, written by Dr. Warod Jayussi and Dr. Galia Zalmanson-Levi, was published in Hebrew and Arabic and includes an analysis of the current situation and 23 practical recommendations for activities, initiatives, and programs that may be implemented in academic institutions for teacher training.

Public Outreach

ACRI's public outreach team works to raise public awareness on important human rights issues in Israel and the Occupied Territories to provide important information to the public in Israel and abroad and to influence local policymakers. ACRI promotes policy vis-à-vis the Knesset, the government and other authorities; works with the press and social media platforms; and organizes public campaigns.

ACRI continues to combat initiatives that **shrink the democratic space in Israel**, and publishes a [comprehensive overview of legislative initiatives advanced](#) by the current government. ACRI worked intensively against the proposed ["Loyalty in Culture" Bill](#), including the submission of position papers to the Ministry of Culture and the Knesset Education Committee, participation in committee discussions, distribution of relevant newsletters and videos on social media, and more. Together with partner organizations, artists, and cultural institutions, ACRI succeeded in putting pressure on the government, which ultimately removed the bill from the public agenda. ACRI also handled other anti-democratic initiatives, such as the "High Court Override Clause;" the proposal to change the method of appointing legal advisors to government offices; an amendment to the "Boycott Law;" the ["Breaking the Silence" Law](#); the ["Nation-State" Law](#) and more.

1. Policy Advocacy:

ACRI's policy advocacy includes ongoing working meetings with Knesset members, senior ministers, and government officials; submission of position papers on various issues addressed by ACRI; and participation in a variety of discussions among Knesset committees.

In addition to the struggle against anti-democratic initiatives, we have worked with policymakers on a wide range of issues, including:

- Medical tourism
- Weapons in the public sphere
- Legal aid for plaintiffs under the Prohibition of Discrimination Law
- Granting of legal aid to the public
- Abuse of labor
- Defense of workers' rights emergencies
- Death penalty for terrorists
- Annuling security prisoners' early release
- The right to a fair trial before the Medical Institute for Road Safety

2. Press and Campaigns

Hot Hebrew Press Items: Nation-State Law, the Loyalty in Culture Bill; racism and discrimination; and detaining human rights and political activists at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Hot Arabic Press Items: Discrimination and racism via racist statements, discrimination against Arabs in housing, at security checks at Ben-Gurion Airport, and the municipal park in Afula; the Nation-State Law; and cutting off of electricity in neighborhoods of East Jerusalem.

Major outreach campaigns during the period included:

- **Local elections:** before the municipal elections, we launched a campaign called "[Vote - Our Rights Depend on It.](#)" The purpose of the campaign was to clarify the vast power of local authorities in influencing human rights issues and to encourage people to vote. As part of the campaign, we launched a website dedicated to five human rights issues, devoting a video clip to each topic, and a report on the municipalities as an arena of human rights. The campaign was circulated on social networks and in a newsletter, and received over 192,000 views on Facebook.
- **Transgender Rights:** on November 20, we published a document that presents the status of the transgender community rights in Israel. The document received prominent coverage on the *Mako* Pride website.

3. Internet and Social Media Stats:

Social Medium	Midyear 2018	Yearend 2018
Facebook Hebrew	81,000 likes	87,650 likes
Facebook Arabic	24,500 likes	25,160 likes
Facebook English	15,400 likes	20,000 likes
Twitter Hebrew	22,600 followers	22,700 followers
Twitter English	3,780 followers	3,840 followers
Website Hebrew	22,666 unique monthly visitors	24,200 unique monthly visitors
*Website English	2,015 unique monthly visitors	1,400 unique monthly visitors
*Website Arabic	3,247 unique monthly visitors	1,300 unique monthly visitors
Newsletter Hebrew	13,200 subscribers	14,700 subscribers
Newsletter English	3,200 subscribers	3,200 subscribers

*One explanation for the reduced number of unique visitors to ACRI's websites in English and Arabic is the transition to our new website (pictured adjacent).

The transition caused ACRI's website ranking in Google to reset, leading to some pages being pushed off the first results page in Internet searches. That said, the ranking of ACRI's new website is consistently improving and is expected to recover by the end of next year.

4. Human Rights Week, Dec 2018

We published our [annual review of the human rights situation](#), which focused on legislation threatening the democratic sphere this year. At our request, the Knesset marked International Human Rights Day through special discussions among its committees and at a [central conference that we initiated](#) along with *Bimkom*, discussing the implications of planning tools on discrimination, equality, and social justice, inspired by the documentary, “**Salah – Here is Eretz Yisrael** (“**The Ancestral Sin**” in English).

