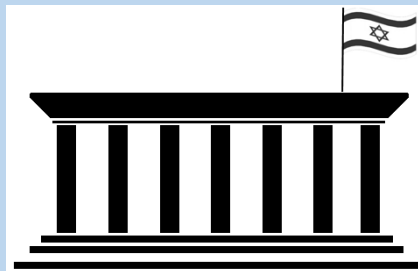


# **The Case of Israel and Youth Political Participation**

## Form of Government

- Representative (parliamentary) democracy
- A "Jewish and democratic" state: tensions and judicial interpretations
- The Knesset: The legislative authority (Parliament). The Knesset approves the Government (the executive authority) and oversees it
- Coalition government (upcoming elections: April 2019)



## Does Israel have a Constitution?

- The Basic Laws – Israel's path to a constitution?
- Basic Laws on the Knesset, the Government, human dignity and liberty, etc.
- A new controversial Basic Law (Israel as the Nation-State of the Jewish People – 2018): protest and legal petitions pending at the Supreme Court

## Youth Political Participation in Israel

- Right to vote at national elections at 18; municipal elections at 17
- Political party membership at 17
- Youth activity in political parties and emergence of youth and young branches of political parties
- New trends?
  - 2017 bill to lower voting age to 17 at national elections (did not pass)
  - Increase in governmental initiatives for youth participation in legislation and policy design on matters relating to their lives
  - Push for youth participation by NGOs (NCC Youth Parliament)