

Review article

Received on December 2, 2020

Accepted on March 13, 2021

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ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF A DEMOCRATIC STATE: THE CASE OF ISRAEL

Abstract

Although democracy in Israel is sustainable and stable, it does not match any of the western types of democracy. Israel is a typical divided society whose political system and social structure do not often make a great deal of sense for the rest of the world. This paper represents a brief analysis, based on theoretical frameworks and typological placement of democracy which is closely connected to social rifts of the Israeli society. The paper investigates if democracy in Israel was being developed in order to facilitate the social divisions management and if it alleviated or strengthened social rifts.

Keywords: Israel; ethnic democracy; ethnocracy; consociation; divided society