



# For the Living

## Part 3: Our Perspective, Our Opportunities

By Brigitte Chaya Nussbächer



*The Righteous Among the Nations have given us an inspiring example. But today, in our time, what is the urgent call to action? How can we be a blessing for Israel and thereby actively fulfill the promise of “Never Again”?*

### The Legacy and My Contribution

On the night after October 7, 2023, the example of my grandmother stood vividly before my inner eyes. It was evident to me that I would not remain idle, yet I had no idea what I could do, for I possessed neither influence nor wealth. All I had was a burning heart for Israel, my mind, and my hands. But that night, I said to God: “Hineni — Here I am. Please show me what I can do for Israel.”

And that was the beginning of it all...



The next day, I founded an international **prayer group**, “**Prayer Protection Israel**,” in which people from many European countries from the USA to Australia, from Norway to Namibia and South Africa, have since joined together to stand for Israel in prayer.

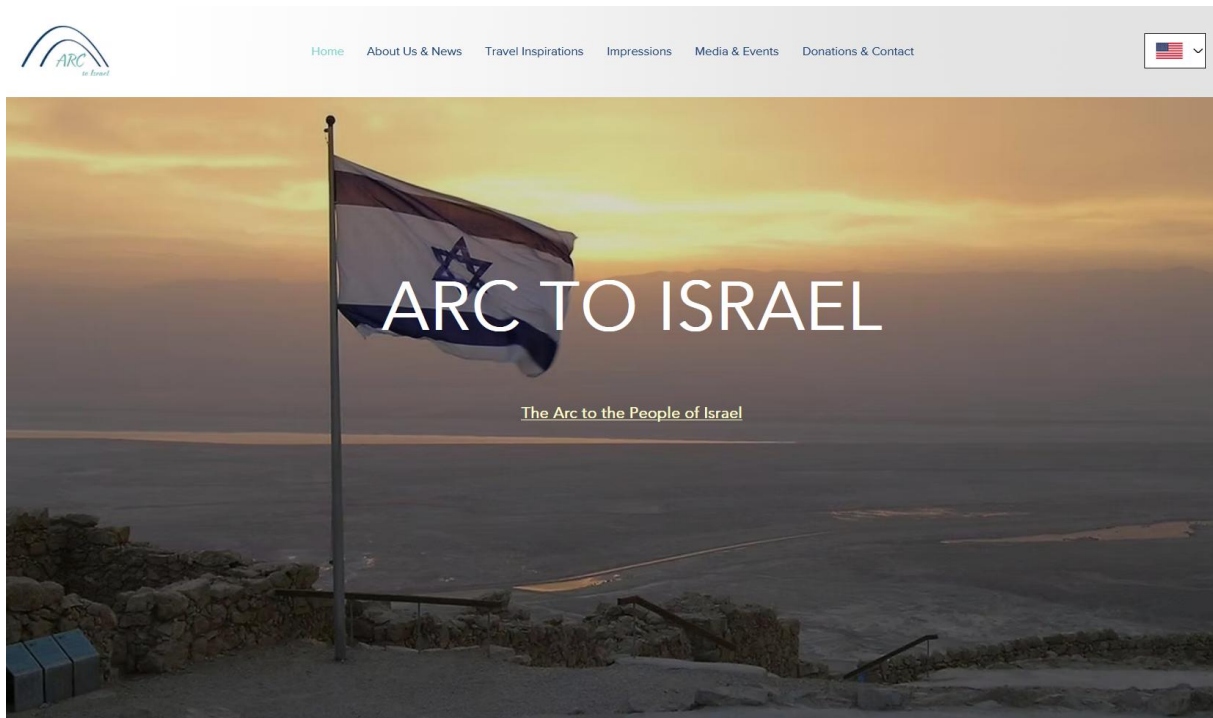
*Logo of the International Prayer Group. Photo: Shutterstock*

Then I began writing **articles about Israel**. At the end of October 2023, only three weeks after the horrific massacre, when it became clear that the international community was turning away, and many churches remained in deafening silence and indifference, I said to God: “I will not remain silent.”



In less than 10 days, this led to the first **Israel event** organized by us on November 16, 2023, in the SCM publishing building — probably the event with the shortest preparation time ever held there, and we didn't know if 5 or 50 guests would come. In the end, 170 attended.

Since then, we have organized more Israel events with ever-growing attendance, and I have written articles that have now reached thousands. Our **website**, ARC to ISRAEL, was created.



*Our Website **ARC to ISRAEL**. Photo: Private*

All of this in our free time, without startup capital or external support — but with heart, mind, and countless hours of investment. All our work for Israel remains 100% voluntary, and we are grateful and amazed at what God has made of it. We had no specific goal and no plan, but we tried to follow God's guidance. We tried to sow — everything else is God's blessing. To Him alone belongs all the glory.

Today, I have the privilege of presenting to you my first **book** on Israel, to be published in 2026 by Hänssler: "Israel's Trial of Fire — The Fateful Years around October 7." It tells Israel's story over the past seven years, but it is also our story, experienced in Israel.

In this book, I take you on a journey to the people of Israel, connecting the current events with real faces and personal stories. The individual experiences open a much deeper perspective than conventional media can provide. Join me as we marvel at a thriving Israel before the massacre, where many biblical promises have come to life.



Then we move to the devastated kibbutzim, witness what actually happened on October 7, and experience how the affected families rebuild their lives, what they feel, and how the events are perceived in Israel. Authentic. Touching. Full of resilience.

It is also a journey into the past, because a deep look into Israel's history explains much that would otherwise be overlooked. Within the broader context of historical events, causes and connections become clear, and frightening historical parallels emerge. Exciting like a thriller. Fascinating and stirring. In the end, we address the ancient question: What helps us look beyond current events and not lose hope? You can order the book at [www.scm-shop.de](http://www.scm-shop.de). But unfortunately at the moment it is available only in German.



*My Book "Israel's Trial of Fire". Photo: Private*

And that has been my own "Hineni" experience up to today.

### Questions for the International Day of Remembrance

What has been the response of the international community? I have already touched on some of these reactions in the chapter about antisemitism. The question is: will it remember the crimes of the past in 2026, yet turn a blind eye to the crimes of the present, while condemning Israel, which is working to prevent massacres from ever happening again?

Or will we truly perceive the pain and suffering caused by the barbaric assault of Hamas? Will we strive to better understand Israel's shock and determination to prevent such atrocities from recurring — especially knowing that Hamas has declared its intention to continue the fight against Israel?

### Do We Remember the Blessing We Have Received Through Israel?



Will we remember all that we owe to the Jewish people — all their achievements? This small nation, making up only 0.2 percent of the world's population, has won about one in every four Nobel Prizes ever awarded. These people have contributed so much to our modern standard of living and deserve our respect.

*The Jewish people have contributed disproportionately to human progress. Photo: Shutterstock*



Will Christians remember that Jesus - a Jew - opened the way to the Father through the New Covenant for those who were not part of God's people? That through Him, they became co-heirs and, together with the Jews, the original heirs, also belong to God's people? That the Jews are therefore their brothers?

Will we fill Holocaust Remembrance Day with meaning and value by taking up the legacy of the rescuers, the Righteous Among the Nations, and, in a world of moral decay, be those who make a difference? Will we show Israelis and Jewish people around us that we respect, love, and stand with them?

Are we the ones who will fulfill the promise of "Never Again"?

Today, as the world marks 81 years since the liberation of Auschwitz, we are still confronted with the question of our own position and responsibility. Especially now, at a time when antisemitism has reached its highest levels since the Shoah, and calls for the destruction of Israel, advocacy of violence against Jews, and open support for Hamas terror have become a distressing normality — as Benjamin Steinitz, CEO of the RIAS Association, summarizes — it is so important to stand as a counterforce.

God's call to bless the people of Israel remains — the question is whether we are ready to say "Hineni" (Here I am!). And this is not a one-time decision. This question confronts us every single day. A new challenge, a new opportunity — and perhaps a new, unforeseen path, just as it was for me. Who can foresee which talents you may discover or awaken along this journey?

And I know that many of you have already said their "Hineni" and live it actively.

The beautiful truth is: Anyone can make a contribution. And even today, the principle holds: whoever blesses Israel will be blessed.



Do you know the name of the last hall in the *Friends of Zion* Museum? "The Promise". Here, the figures and stories from all the previous rooms come alive once more, repeating their pledge: "Hineni".

Visitors are shown that everyone has the potential to become such a bearer of blessing, a Friend of Zion. Suddenly, you see your own face among all the others... Will you join them?

*Will your face also appear here? Photo: Private*



## More Than Just Words

*"You have to do things to make them happen."* This saying – the motto of my family, yes, the family of my grandmother – has hung on our wall and accompanied me throughout my life.

From the very beginning, it was important to me and to us that our commitment to Israel consist of more than just words, even though words can be very necessary and valuable. Since the massacre, we have been seeking and found ways to support people in Israel who were affected on October 7.

At the beginning of 2024, we visited the destroyed kibbutzim near the Gaza border and connected with affected families. Some contacts came as gifts, others by chance — God's synonym when He wishes to remain unnoticed. We met evacuated individuals, people whose homes were destroyed, and those who lost loved ones. Widows and orphans. Hostages' relatives and traumatized people struggling to cope with the past and return to daily life.

In the meantime, friendships with individuals and partnerships with organizations have developed, allowing us to help many people. Of course, we are not doing this alone - we are empowered by the countless individuals who support our work for Israel.

We want to share today these concrete ways to bless Israel – well aware that there are many other ways and that many of you are already doing so. These are people and projects we have personally visited in Israel; we know them and are convinced of the value of their work. Long-term, lasting relationships have formed. The need is not over – the rebuilding has begun, but it will take a long time, requiring much energy and investment.

**Sigal** and **Hadas**, the two widows with their children from Nir Oz, are already known to some of you. We have been in contact with them since November 2024. They hope to find a new home in Kibbutz Beit Nir in the summer of 2026. They no longer want their children, who still suffer from night terrors, to live so close to the border. On our website, you can read their harrowing stories and updates they have sent us.



*Sigal with her four children // Hadas and her children in front of their destroyed home // Meeting with Hadas & Sigal in Kiryat Gat. Photos: private*





All bereaved families of fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism are supported by the **IDF Widows and Orphans Organization (IDFWO)**. Hundreds of children and women have been added in the aftermath of the massacre and during the ongoing war. Assistance begins with participation in the funeral and extends to providing night nurses, allowing young mothers to sleep through the night, as well as many other practical support services. Pregnant widows are accompanied by midwives through childbirth. Emotional support, financial assistance, educational opportunities, and a community that provides strength and stability are offered. The IDFWO also acts as a partner to the widows, helping to raise the orphans. Particularly valuable are the Otzma Camps, where these children come together with other orphans. Here they can be open, feel understood, make friends, and slowly begin to heal. We have maintained close contact with this organization and its leaders for over a year, and a detailed report titled “[The Smile of Hope](#)” is available on our website. Supporting widows and orphans remains our absolute passion project.



*At the grave of a fallen soldier // Shlomi thanks us // Event for orphans. Photos: Private*

What will also take a long time is the healing of the traumatized. Civilians who, on October 7, witnessed their homes being destroyed and their loved ones murdered before their eyes, and who must relearn how to trust and hope. Men and women traumatized by intense combat experiences, the loss of comrades, or injuries, struggling to return to a normal life and searching for a bridge back to everyday existence. These people receive support at the **Rimon Therapy Centers** in the Negev Desert through high-quality rehabilitation programs, trauma therapies, resilience workshops, and team-building activities—individualized care with tailored plans that also involve their families. We not only met the leaders and psychologists but also spoke with people who have experienced healing here. Their testimonies are absolutely impressive and demonstrate the value of this work. We have also reported about this project, “[Oases of Life](#)” on our website.



*Group therapy // Our visit in April 2025 // Work therapy on the farm // The Rimón Courtyard. Photos: Private*

Some of the **evacuated families** have since returned to their hometowns. But it is no longer the same. Many familiar faces are missing. And practically, much needs to be repaired — or in most cases, replaced — to make the houses livable again. We also have personal connections with these families.

On this Holocaust Remembrance Day, each of us has the opportunity to turn it into a blessing for the living, if we choose. Every single one of us can “lend a hand,” right now, in a concrete and immediate way. By doing so, we show empathy, solidarity, and love, and we can help these people rebuild their lives in a very practical sense. Thank you to those of you who have been doing this for a long time. Your contributions have already made a profound impact. A thousand thanks on behalf of all the recipients! Your support will never be forgotten.

We are privileged: today, we do not have to risk our lives to save Jews. We have it easier. And yet, we can still make a decisive difference. Every donation is not just practical help — it is also balm for the souls of the recipients. Many people in Israel are completely shocked by the waves of hatred they see in the media. Let us continue to show them that there are people willing to stand with them, not just in words but in deeds. People who take the promise “Never again!” seriously — and understand that this promise is not for the dead, but for the living!

Remember the image I shared at the beginning: giving flowers to the living? These are your flowers. Today, this can be your personal way of fulfilling the promise: “Never again!”



*We are passing blessings on to the people in Israel. Photos: Private*

Those who wish to participate can donate via PayPal or directly to the bank account of our association, ARC to ISRAEL – and will, of course, receive a donation receipt (ARC to ISRAEL is a registered non-profit organization, monetary donations are tax deductible).



Everything marked with “Never Again” will be 100% invested to bless these people: with practical help, empathy, and love!

From April 12–23, 2026, we will be back in Israel to deliver the aid personally. We will visit these people, whose friends we have become, and the organizations we now call our partners. I am already looking forward to it. Naturally, we will report about it on our website afterward.

What we are doing is sowing: for God’s people – as an act of worship. We sow on the rubble of the destroyed kibbutzim, on the soil soaked with blood, and into the broken hearts of those affected. And we trust that God will bless these seeds, bringing resilience and a strong future. It is a reenactment of the ancient, recurring story of Israel: rising anew from ashes and ruins, ultimately endowed with even greater inner strength, hope, and courage for life.

In this spirit - for the living! Am Israel Chai!

[Donate](#)