Vallentine Mitchell

**Book Proposal Form**

**Date:** 24/1/2024

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**THE BOOK:**

**1. Title:** A History of Israel’s Economy

**2. Subtitle:** Economic Development and Prospects for the Future

**3. Subject classification:** Economics, History, Israel

**4. Background and details of author(s)/editor(s) (maximum of two):**

 (If it is a multi-authored work, please give one name and address for correspondence)

During my over 30 years of public service in Israel, I have held several high-ranking positions, culminating in the role of director general of the Ministry of Finance. In addition, I have lectured in academic institutions on the Israeli economy while also serving in senior positions in the business and third sectors. The book’s contents, then, are not only academic in nature but also reflect observations and conclusions drawn from my personal involvement in key events and policy-making decisions. As a result, the book is likely to appeal to a broad range of readers interested in economics and history.

**5. Description of scope and subject matter of proposed book (in about 100 words):**

Please give a description of the main theme/s.

This book explores somewhat more than a century of the development of the economy of the Land of Israel and the State of Israel as an integral part of the epic story of the Jewish struggle to establish and maintain an independent homeland to this day. During this period of economic activity and development, the foundations were laid for Israel to become what it is today—a developed economy and one of the most advanced countries in the world.

The Israeli experience is a unique one. In just a few decades, its economy has rocketed from an under-developed condition to become a leading and advanced economy. All this while dealing with challenging geopolitical issues.

The manuscript, originally written in Hebrew, has recently been professionally translated into English.

**6. Give details of any illustrative material including graphs or diagrams (which must be copyright cleared). Please include the number of images and roughly how many pages you expect them to take up (our usual trim size is 6 by 9 inches).**

**Pictures should be supplied 300 dpi Tiff files in greyscale.**

**None**

**7. Word length of text including notes and references and proposed delivery date of manuscript?**

183, 700

**8. Table of Contents:**

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9. Market level:

**For whom is the book written? What professional groups will find it useful in their work? To what non-professional groups will it appeal? Who will buy it?**

The book is written for economists, historians, public policy experts in academia and government, students of economics and history, and informed readers interested in the Israeli economy and Israeli history. Professional economists, academics, and public policy experts should find it useful in their work. Non-professional, informed readers interested in the economics and history of Israel as well as in economics generally should find it appealing and be interested in purchasing it.

**Do you expect your book to be used for teaching purposes? If yes, do you expect it to be recommended as core or supplementary reading? Specify the names of any courses for which the book may be considered.**

Drawing on first-hand experience and years of research, this book would be an ideal core reading choice in university courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels on economics, Israeli history, and Middle East history.

**List any books or manuscripts that might directly compete with this one. Include the author, title, publisher, price and sales figures if known. Is there a gap in the currently available literature?**

Prof. Joseph Zeira, *The Israel Economy: A Story of Success and Costs*, Princeton University Press, Economic History of the Western World series.

Unlike other literature on the Israeli economy, my book focuses on the significant economic developments that unfolded over a significant period of Israel’s history, placing them in a social, demographic, and geopolitical context. Interwoven into this history is an explanation of the country’s institutions and institutional system, which constituted a major foundation of the country’s economic development and success, both during the pre-state Yishuv period and after the establishment of the state.

**Describe what you see as the chief selling points of your book, emphasising the unique aspects of its origin, content, style methodology, organisation or your particular qualifications to write it. Include any new findings of fact or statements of theory or viewpoint that the book contains.**

The author is an economist who for more than fifty years was involved in Israel’s economy at senior government levels, in the business sector, in civil society, and in the third sector.

My long-standing engagement with the government mostly in the realm of macro-economics, my lectures in academia on Israel’s economy and my access to primary sources. My participation in public committees in the business and third sectors both enriched me personally and informed my authorship with additional, multi-faceted perspectives on

My professional focus in the economic sphere allowed me a presence, close-up view, and involvement in the key junctures of the Israeli economy. I was fortunate to be an active partner in the Stabilization Program (1985), responsible (as project manager) for its “non-orthodox” portion – price supervision; a formative period that equipped me for crisis management. Following a four-year respite as financial deputy-director (CFO) for Israel Aircraft Industries (1987-91) after the cancellation of the Lavi jet-fighter project, I returned to the Finance Ministry as State Budget Director and Director General of ministry of Finance (1991-97). This was a fascinating period of large-scale immigration from the former Soviet Union, the introduction of essential economic reform and changes, the transition from a centralized public economic regime to an open, competitive market-based economy. It was also a period of political processes undertaken with the Palestinians, and the peace treaty with Jordan. I was privileged to conduct the negotiations with the Palestinians on the economic agreement of Paris, 1993-94. For the Israeli economy, these were important, formative years.

My experience outside of the government system lent me diverse perspectives on the economic activities of Israel’s economy and society. I served as chairman of the executive committee of the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, the Hadassah Community College, and Hadassah Hospital. I was involved in the area of economy and security, serving, among other things, as chairman of the public committee examining the security budget. My years as chairman of the Bank Leumi from 2010 to 2019 coincided with significant changes in technology and regulation worldwide, including in Israel. My lectures in academia were a pleasant and professional way for me to remain updated on the processes and data of Israel’s economy. In the senior positions that I filled, I saw the economy in periods of change and transformations that introduced me to broad areas of the economy and society, allowing me to both observe and be involved in the exciting processes of Israel’s economic development.

**10. Envisaged format of book: hard cover 🞏 paperback ⌧ epub 🞏**

11. List three professionals in your field (with their addresses/emails) who would be qualified to read and objectively evaluate your work:

Prof Karnit Flug, Former governor of Bank of Israel. Professor In Economic department, Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Karnit Flug <Karnit@idi.org.il>\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2.\_\_Prof Reuben Gronau, Professor in Economic department in Hebrew University, Jerusalem

\_Reuben Gronau <reuben.gronau@mail.huji.ac.il>\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_Prof Udi Nissan, Professor Public policy department, Hebrew University, Jerusalem

udi and udit <udi.nisan@mail.huji.ac.il>\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**12. If a PhD thesis, please list referees:**

13. Are there specific dates by which the book should be published (e.g. important conferences, anniversaries, media interest, etc.)?

There are no specific dates. It was written for the 75th anniversary of the State of Israel

**14. Is your book eligible for any publication subsidies from your institution or a research-support body, or would you be able to arrange some financial support?**

No

15. Are there any other publishers considering this proposal?

no

16. Any other comments:

Please return completed form to

Vallentine Mitchell Publishers

Catalyst House, 720 Centennial Court, Centennial Park, Elstree WD6 3SY

Email: editor@vmbooks.com