

I. Educate Your Community About Israeli Life, Culture and Society

This is an opportunity to witness history and engage with one of the most complex and consequential issues of our time. On this Journey, participants gain firsthand insights from influential voices across the spectrum – Israelis, Palestinians, Israeli-Arabs, and leaders in coexistence projects – as well as institutions at the heart of Israel's thriving startup ecosystem.

In a time when our world feels increasingly divided, this Journey provides a space for reflection, learning, and growth. It also offers something deeply personal: a chance to connect with the spiritual and cultural richness of a region that serves as the birthplace of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

1. Israeli Culture Night

Event Concept: Host an event showcasing Israeli food, music, dance and art. Include a presentation and conversation on Israel's history, its modern cultural landscape, and its diverse communities. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- **Israel's Cultural Diversity:** The complex and diverse communities in Israel, including Jewish, Arab, Druze, and other groups, and how they shape the country's identity.
- **Cultural Fusion and Innovation:** How Israel's history and the blending of cultures contribute to its modern cultural landscape, including art, music, and cuisine.
- **Social and Political Influences on Culture:** Understanding how Israel's social, political, and historical context informs its artistic expression, fashion, and music.
- **The Role of Tradition and Modernity in Israeli Culture:** Exploring the balance between preserving traditions and embracing innovation in Israel's cultural and artistic practices.

Activities:

- A live cooking demonstration featuring Israeli dishes from different regions.
- Traditional and contemporary Israeli music performances or dance showcases.
- An interactive art exhibit or live painting that reflects Israeli culture.
- A presentation or panel discussion about Israel's cultural diversity, including Jewish, Arab, and Druze communities.

Goal: Educate attendees about Israel's rich and diverse cultural identity, while creating a fun and interactive environment for them to experience Israeli culture firsthand.

2. Israeli Film Screening and Discussion

Event Concept: Organize a screening to showcase a film that has an Israeli theme, or explores aspects of Israeli society or history. After the screening, host a discussion panel with experts or alumni to provide insights and explore the cultural context. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The portrayal of Israeli identity, history, and culture in cinema.
- How Israeli films address complex social issues such as conflict, diversity, and national identity.
- The role of cinema in shaping international perceptions of Israeli society.
- Personal reflections on the ways the film resonates with alumni's own experiences in Israel.

Activities:

- A screening of a critically acclaimed Israeli film, such as *Walk on Water* or *The Band's Visit*.
- A nuanced post-film discussion with a panel of alumni or experts on Israeli history, politics, or society.
- An interactive Q&A where attendees can ask questions and discuss their views on the film and its portrayal of Israeli life.

Goal: Provide insight into Israeli society through cinema, followed by a deeper conversation about the themes, generating a nuanced understanding of Israeli culture and history.

3. Israeli Cuisine Workshop

Event Concept: Offer a cooking class that teaches participants how to make traditional Israeli dishes while discussing Israel's culinary traditions and their connection to various communities within Israel. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The diverse influences on Israeli cuisine, including Jewish, Arab, and immigrant communities.
- How traditional Israeli dishes reflect the country's history, culture, and identity.
- The role of food in fostering cultural understanding and community connections in Israel.
- Personal stories of how Israeli food experiences shaped alumni's understanding of the country and its people.

Activities:

- A hands-on cooking demonstration where participants learn to prepare iconic Israeli dishes like falafel, hummus or shakshuka.
- A discussion about the cultural significance of these foods and how they represent Israel's diverse Jewish, Arab and immigrant communities.
- A tasting session where participants enjoy the dishes they've created while engaging in conversation about Israeli food culture.

Goal: Deepen participants' understanding of Israel through its food while creating an interactive and educational culinary experience.

4. Israeli Fashion and Design Showcase

Event Concept: Host an event highlighting Israeli designers or products. Participants learn about Israel's thriving fashion, design, and technology industries, while engaging in dialogue about Israel's innovative culture. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The intersection of fashion and technology in Israel, and how this unique combination drives innovation in design.
- The influence of Israel's diverse cultures and communities on its fashion and design industries.
- How Israeli designers are blending tradition with modernity to create globally recognized trends.
- The role of sustainability and ethical practices in Israeli fashion and design.
- Personal reflections on how the *REALITY* experience shaped an understanding of Israel's innovative approach to design and its cultural significance.

Activities:

- A display of Israeli-designed clothing, accessories, and products, with live discussions about the trends and inspirations shaping Israeli fashion.
- A workshop where participants can create a piece of art or design inspired by Israeli fashion.
- A presentation by an Israeli designer or entrepreneur about how innovation drives Israel's fashion and tech sectors.

Goal: Introduce attendees to the cutting-edge, creative industries in Israel and how innovation and design are central to Israeli society.

5. Israel Beyond the Headlines Panel

Event Concept: Organize a discussion with Israeli experts, journalists, or alumni who can provide an in-depth look at aspects of Israeli life not often covered in mainstream media. Topics could include Israeli LGBTQIA+ rights, the role of women in Israeli society, or Israeli environmental initiatives. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The complexities of Israeli LGBTQIA+ rights and the evolving social climate.
- The role of women in Israeli society, exploring achievements, challenges, and ongoing struggles for equality.
- Innovative Israeli environmental initiatives and how they address regional and global challenges.
- The impact of minority communities in shaping Israel's political and social landscape.

Activities:

- A panel discussion featuring experts or alumni sharing insights and personal experiences about lesser-known aspects of Israeli society.
- A Q&A session with the panel where attendees can ask about topics such as minority rights, Israel's political landscape or social movements.

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- A follow-up networking opportunity where attendees can continue the discussion with panelists and other participants.

Goal: Encourage open, nuanced conversations about Israel, showcasing the diverse perspectives that exist within Israeli society and culture.

6. Israeli Literature Reading and Book Club

Event Concept: Coordinate a book club that focuses on Israeli authors or novels that explore themes related to Israeli identity, history, or contemporary society. Host a discussion about the themes and their relevance in understanding Israeli culture. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- Exploring Israeli identity through literature: how authors address the complexities of belonging, history, and culture.
- The role of conflict in shaping Israeli literature and its impact on personal and collective narratives.
- Contemporary Israeli society as reflected in literature: examining themes of hope, change, and challenges in modern Israel.
- How literature can serve as a bridge to understanding the broader socio-political issues in Israel.

Activities:

- A guided discussion of a selected book by an Israeli author, such as *A Tale of Love and Darkness* by Amos Oz or *The Yellow Wind* by David Grossman.
- Small group discussions where participants can share their reflections on the book's themes, such as identity, conflict or belonging.
- A virtual or in-person author interview or Q&A session.

Goal: Foster a deeper understanding of Israeli culture, history, and identity through literature, providing a space for reflective and engaging conversations.

7. Virtual Reality Tour of Israel

Event Concept: Leverage virtual reality technology to provide participants with an immersive tour of Israel's key landmarks and cultural sites. Alumni who have visited can share personal experiences about each location. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The significance of iconic Israeli landmarks and what they represent in the broader context of Israeli identity and history.
- Personal reflections on how visiting these places transformed alumni's understanding of Israel and its culture.
- The role of virtual reality in making Israel's culture, history, and landmarks more accessible to those unable to visit in person.

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- Exploring the emotional and cultural connections to Israel through immersive technology.

Activities:

- Virtual tours of iconic locations such as the Western Wall, the Dead Sea, or the Negev Desert, offering historical and cultural context.
- Alumni-led sessions where they share stories and personal reflections about their experiences visiting these places.
- A group discussion or feedback session where participants can reflect on the immersive experience and ask questions about Israel.

Goal: Use cutting-edge technology to make Israel feel tangible and accessible, helping attendees connect with its landmarks, history, and culture in an innovative way.

8. Israel and Jewish Identity: Understanding the Connection

Event Concept: Lead a discussion on Israel's role in Jewish identity, exploring how Jews worldwide connect with the State of Israel. The event will examine the emotional, cultural, and political ties between Israel and Jewish communities around the world, focusing on the evolving nature of Jewish identity in connection to Israel. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

1. **The Historical Connection Between Jews and the Land of Israel:** Explore the roots of Jewish ties to Israel, dating back to biblical times and continuing through modern Jewish history.
2. **Modern Jews' Relationship with Israel:** Discuss how contemporary Jews, especially those living outside Israel, feel about Israel today. Consider issues such as Zionism, the challenges of distance, and the role of Israel in personal and communal Jewish identity.
3. **Israel as the Homeland of the Jewish People:** Examine the significance of Israel as a safe haven and center of Jewish life, especially in the context of global anti-Semitism.
4. **Israel's Role in Jewish Education and Cultural Life:** Explore how Israel influences Jewish education, cultural practices, and the Jewish Diaspora's connection to the Hebrew language, Jewish holidays, and Jewish rituals.
5. **Israel in the Global Jewish Community:** Discuss the varied political perspectives within the global Jewish community on issues like the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and examine how these viewpoints shape individuals' relationship with Israel.

Resources for Guiding the Discussion:

- **Books:**
 - *"The Jewish State"* by Theodor Herzl
 - *"My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel"* by Ari Shavit
 - *"Israel: A History"* by Martin Gilbert
 - *"Israel Journey: Eight Days In One Of The World's Most Complex Countries"* by Michael Bauer
- **Articles & Journals:**

- Articles from *The Jerusalem Post* and *Haaretz* on Israel's modern role in Jewish identity.

Activities:

- A guided discussion of *My Promised Land* by Ari Shavit, focusing on Israel's role in shaping Jewish identity and its emotional and cultural significance.
- Small group discussions where participants can reflect on how Israel has influenced their personal Jewish identity, considering historical and contemporary perspectives.
- An interactive timeline activity where participants can discuss key historical events and their impact on the relationship between Israel and Jewish identity.

Goal: Deepen participants' understanding of Israel's role in shaping Jewish identity and its cultural, historical, and emotional significance.

II. Build Partnerships with Israelis, Israeli Companies, or Israeli NGOs to Foster Greater Understanding and Connection with Israel:

1. Networking Event with Israeli Entrepreneurs and Startups

Event Concept: Coordinate a networking event or panel discussion featuring Israeli entrepreneurs or startup founders. These entrepreneurs can share their experiences starting businesses in Israel, discuss the challenges they face, and highlight opportunities in the country's startup ecosystem.

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Discussion Topics:

- How Israel's entrepreneurial spirit and innovation have shaped the country's economy.
- The role of Israeli technology and innovation in global industries, such as cybersecurity, agri-tech, and medical devices.

Activities:

- Panel discussions with Israeli entrepreneurs about the startup landscape and challenges.
- Networking opportunities for participants to explore potential business collaborations.
- A Q&A session to allow deeper discussions on innovation and business opportunities in Israel.

Goal: Build connections between international participants and Israeli entrepreneurs, fostering collaboration, business growth, and shared knowledge.

2. Partnership Building with Israeli NGOs on Social Impact Projects

Event Concept: Partner with an Israeli NGO that works on issues like education, poverty alleviation or social justice. Organize a collaboration event where the NGO can showcase their projects and invite people to learn about how they can contribute or collaborate on similar initiatives. **Be sure to**

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Discussion Topics:

- How Israeli NGOs address local and global issues through innovative social impact projects.
- Building partnerships with Israeli organizations to promote shared values and goals for social change.

Activities:

- Presentations by Israeli NGOs showcasing their social impact projects, followed by Q&A sessions.
- Breakout groups where participants can brainstorm ways to collaborate with Israeli NGOs on shared initiatives.
- Volunteer recruitment or partnership opportunities between participants and NGOs.

Goal: Facilitate collaborations between international participants and Israeli NGOs, promoting global social change through joint efforts.

3. Cultural Exchange with Israeli Artists and Creatives

Event Concept: Collaborate with Israeli artists, musicians, or designers for a cultural exchange event. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The influence of Israel's diverse cultures and traditions on contemporary art and design.
- How Israeli artists reflect the country's societal issues, history, and multiculturalism in their work.

Activities:

- Virtual or in-person exhibitions showcasing Israeli art, with an introduction by the artists.
- Collaborative workshops where participants and Israeli artists work together to create art pieces.
- Panel discussions on the influence of Israeli culture and history in contemporary art and design.

Goal: Cultivate cultural understanding and artistic collaborations, strengthening connections between international and Israeli creative communities.

4. Educational Collaboration with Israeli Universities

Event Concept: Host an academic or educational partnership event with an Israeli university. This could involve a lecture or panel discussion on topics such as Israeli politics, innovation, history, or the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The event can also focus on opportunities for academic exchanges, research collaborations, or student internships between international institutions and Israeli

universities. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The role of Israeli universities in shaping global research and innovation.
- Opportunities for educational collaboration between Israeli institutions and international universities.

Activities:

- A lecture or panel discussion from Israeli academics on topics like Israeli politics, innovation, and history.
- Presentations about opportunities for academic exchanges or student internships between Israeli and international universities.
- Networking sessions where students and educators can discuss potential research collaborations.

Goal: Promote educational partnerships and academic collaboration between Israeli and global institutions, deepening understanding of Israeli culture, history, and innovation.

5. Sustainability and Environmental Partnerships with Israeli Organizations

Event Concept: Partner with Israeli environmental organizations or startups focused on sustainable technologies to host a webinar or event on Israel's role in promoting environmental sustainability. Discuss initiatives around clean energy, water conservation, and recycling. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- Israeli advancements in water technology and their global applications and impact. How Israeli environmental NGOs and businesses are leading efforts to combat climate change.

Activities:

- Webinars or lectures by Israeli environmental startups about sustainable technologies like water conservation and clean energy.
- Collaborative workshops focused on how Israeli innovations can be applied globally to address environmental challenges.
- A networking session for international and Israeli environmental organizations to discuss partnership opportunities.

Goal: Showcase Israel's leadership in sustainability, inspiring global collaborations to combat climate change and promote environmental innovation.

6. Israeli Diplomacy and International Relations Panel

Event Concept: Organize a panel discussion on Israel's foreign policy, diplomacy, and international relations. Invite Israeli diplomats or experts in international affairs to talk about Israel's approach to

building relationships with countries around the world, including how partnerships with NGOs, businesses, and governments foster peace and cooperation. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- Israel's diplomatic strategies for building international alliances.
- The role of Israeli NGOs and business partnerships in promoting peace and mutual understanding.

Activities:

- A panel discussion with Israeli diplomats or experts on Israel's foreign policy, global diplomacy, and alliances.
- Breakout discussions on the role of NGOs and business partnerships in fostering international peace.
- An interactive Q&A session where participants can engage with diplomats on global issues.

Goal: Enhance understanding of Israel's international relations, cultivating opportunities for diplomatic and business collaborations worldwide.

7. Collaboration with Israeli Tech Companies on Innovation

Event Concept: Host a tech innovation event with Israeli companies or startups in fields like AI, cybersecurity, or health tech. Showcase Israeli innovations and how these technologies are making a global impact. This could involve live demonstrations or discussions about how international companies can partner with Israeli innovators. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- How Israeli tech companies lead in cybersecurity, fintech, and other sectors.
- Opportunities for joint ventures and partnerships between Israeli tech firms and international organizations.

Activities:

- Presentations by Israeli tech companies showcasing innovations in AI, cybersecurity, and other cutting-edge fields.
- Live demonstrations or hands-on workshops where participants can interact with Israeli technologies.
- Discussions on how international companies can collaborate with Israeli tech innovators.

Goal: Promote international collaboration in the tech sector by demonstrating Israel's leadership in technological innovation and exploring partnership opportunities

8. Social Responsibility Partnerships with Israeli Corporations

Event Concept: Coordinate an event that focuses on corporate social responsibility (CSR) in Israel. Invite Israeli businesses that integrate social causes into their operations (e.g., sustainability,

employment for marginalized groups) to share their experiences and discuss opportunities for international partnerships. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- How Israeli businesses are incorporating CSR into their core operations.
- Creating sustainable business partnerships that align with social responsibility goals.

Activities:

- Panel discussions with Israeli corporations on their CSR initiatives, including sustainability and social inclusion.
- Workshops on creating business partnerships that align with corporate social responsibility goals.
- A networking session for attendees to discuss potential CSR partnerships with Israeli businesses.

Goal: Inspire partnerships focused on social responsibility and sustainability, encouraging international collaboration in corporate philanthropy.

9. Healthcare Collaboration with Israeli Medical Institutions

Event Concept: Plan an event in collaboration with Israeli medical institutions, hospitals, or health tech companies. This could involve a discussion on Israel's role in global health innovations, such as developments in medical devices, personalized medicine, and biotechnology. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- Israel's contributions to global healthcare and medical research.
- Opportunities for international collaborations in the healthcare sector.

Activities:

- Presentations by Israeli medical institutions or health tech startups on innovations in medical devices and biotechnology.
- Panel discussions on Israel's contributions to global healthcare and potential research collaborations.
- A networking session for healthcare professionals to explore opportunities for collaboration.

Goal: Foster international healthcare collaborations, leveraging Israel's medical innovations to improve global health outcomes.

10. Israeli Tourism Partnership Event

Event Concept: Partner with Israeli tourism companies, such as tour operators or travel agencies, to showcase Israel as a travel destination. This could include virtual tours, cultural presentations,

or special deals for international travelers looking to visit Israel. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The diverse regions of Israel and what makes each of them unique.
- How tourism in Israel contributes to the local economy and promotes cultural exchange.

Activities:

- Virtual or in-person tours showcasing Israel's diverse regions, including historical and cultural sites.
- Presentations by Israeli tourism companies on travel opportunities and cultural experiences.
- Discussions on how tourism contributes to Israel's economy and global cultural exchange.

Goal: Promote tourism to Israel by showcasing its cultural, historical, and natural wonders, and by building relationships with the global tourism community.

11. Empowering Women in Israel: A Partnership with Women-Led Israeli Organizations

Event Concept: Organize an event in collaboration with Israeli women-led NGOs or businesses focused on women's empowerment, gender equality, and economic development in Israel. Attendees could learn about the unique challenges and opportunities women face in Israel and how they can support Israeli women's initiatives. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- Israeli women's contributions to various sectors such as business, politics, and academia.
- Opportunities for international partnerships to support gender equality initiatives in Israel.

Activities:

- Panel discussions with Israeli women leaders in business, politics, and academia about gender equality and empowerment.
- Workshops on how international communities can support Israeli women's initiatives and projects.
- A networking event focused on forming partnerships to advance gender equality.

Goal: Highlight the achievements and challenges of Israeli women, encouraging international collaboration to empower women globally.

12. Virtual Book Club on Israeli Literature

Event Concept: Host a virtual book club focusing on Israeli authors or books about Israel. Partner with Israeli authors or publishers to discuss their works and explore how literature offers a window into Israeli society, history, and identity. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- How Israeli literature portrays life in Israel and the diverse perspectives within the country.
- The importance of literature in bridging cultural gaps and fostering global understanding.

Activities:

- Book discussions with Israeli authors or literary experts about works that explore Israeli society and identity.
- Virtual meet-ups for participants to reflect on and discuss the themes of selected books.
- Author interviews or live Q&A sessions with Israeli writers to delve deeper into the works discussed.

Goal: Inspire global cultural exchange through Israeli literature, deepening participants' understanding of Israeli identity, history, and society.

III. Foster Nuanced Conversations About Israel, Encouraging Open Dialogue and Diverse Perspectives on the Region:

1. Panel Discussion on Israeli-Palestinian Relations

Event Concept: Host a panel discussion with speakers representing a variety of perspectives on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including Israeli and Palestinian voices, as well as international scholars or peace activists. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The historical background and key events in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- Perspectives on potential solutions, including the two-state solution, grassroots initiatives, and alternative approaches.
- Personal stories from Israelis and Palestinians affected by the conflict.

Activities:

- A panel featuring diverse perspectives, with Israeli and Palestinian speakers, as well as international scholars or peace activists.
- Breakout discussions to allow attendees to engage in smaller, more intimate conversations on the issues raised in the panel.
- Opportunities for personal reflections or stories from attendees who have been personally impacted by the conflict.

Goal: Encourage open, respectful dialogue on the complexities of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, fostering empathy and understanding of differing viewpoints while exploring potential paths to peace.

2. Israeli Politics and Democracy: A Conversation Across Divides

Event Concept: Facilitate a conversation on Israel's political landscape, inviting people from different political ideologies, including right-wing, left-wing, and centrist perspectives, as well as Palestinian citizens of Israel. Explore how Israeli democracy operates within a complex, diverse society. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- How Israel's political system balances the needs of its diverse population, including Jews, Arabs and other represented groups in Israel.
- The role of the Israeli government in shaping domestic and international policies.
- The challenges of maintaining a democracy in a region comprised of many different religious and cultural groups.

Activities:

- Discussions with speakers from various political backgrounds in Israel (right-wing, left-wing, centrist, and Palestinian citizens of Israel) to discuss Israel's political system.
- Organize a series of small group discussions where attendees can reflect on how Israel's political system navigates its diverse society.
- Facilitate a debate on the challenges and opportunities of maintaining a democracy in such a multicultural society.

Goal: Provide a platform for understanding the diverse political perspectives within Israel and foster deeper conversations about balancing democracy, identity, and governance.

3. Israel and the Global Jewish Community: Diverse Views on Identity

Event Concept: Host a discussion about the relationship between Israel and the global Jewish community, inviting Jews from different cultural backgrounds (e.g., Ashkenazi, Sephardic, Mizrahi, Ethiopian, etc.) to share their perspectives. Explore how Israel represents Jewish identity and how Jewish communities worldwide perceive their connection to the State of Israel. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- How do different Jewish communities around the world relate to Israel and its politics?
- The debate over religious versus secular identities in Israel.
- The significance of Israel as a homeland for Jews in the diaspora.

Activities:

- Host a discussion with Jews from different cultural backgrounds (Ashkenazi, Sephardic, Mizrahi, Ethiopian, etc.) about their views on Israel's role in Jewish identity.
- Facilitate an interactive dialogue on the religious versus secular debate in Israel, including its implications on global Jewish communities.
- Encourage open sharing of personal experiences to illuminate the complexities of the Jewish Diaspora's connection to Israel.

Goal: Highlight the diversity of Jewish identity, exploring how different Jewish communities view their connection to Israel, and deepen understanding of the complex role of Israel in shaping Jewish identity.

4. Exploring Israel's Role in the Middle East: A Multinational Dialogue

Event Concept: Host a roundtable discussion with experts, journalists, and policy makers from Israel, the Middle East, and beyond, to discuss Israel's role in the broader Middle East region. Focus on Israel's relationships with neighboring countries such as Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Iran, and discuss the geopolitical dynamics at play. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- Israel's diplomatic relations with Arab countries and the significance of the Abraham Accords.
- The role of Israel in the Middle East's security landscape.
- How regional rivalries and alliances influence Israel's foreign policy and the stability of the region.

Activities:

- Design a roundtable discussion with experts, journalists, and policy makers from Israel, neighboring Arab countries, and international perspectives.
- Focus on Israel's diplomatic relationships and its role in the geopolitical dynamics of the Middle East, exploring alliances and rivalries.
- Facilitate debates on the significance of the Abraham Accords and Israel's evolving relationships in the region.

Goal: Foster a nuanced understanding of Israel's role in the Middle East, discussing its relationships with neighboring countries, and promoting conversations around regional security and diplomacy.

5. The Israeli Military and National Security: Ethics and Challenges

Event Concept: Coordinate a discussion on the ethical challenges faced by the Israeli military, focusing on issues such as the use of force, security operations in the West Bank and Gaza, and Israel's security strategy. Bring together Israeli military experts, human rights activists, and international scholars to present diverse perspectives. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The moral and ethical challenges of military operations in conflict zones.
- How Israel's security policy balances national defense with human rights considerations.
- The impact of security measures on both Israelis and Palestinians.

Activities:

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- Organize a panel featuring military experts, human rights activists, and scholars who will present differing viewpoints on Israel's military ethics.
 - Host a workshop or case-study session on the ethical dilemmas faced by Israel's military in security operations, particularly in relation to human rights.
 - Provide a space for open discussion about the balance between national security and human rights in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Goal: Stimulate critical conversations about Israel's security strategy and the ethical challenges of military operations, encouraging empathy and understanding of the human impact of security measures.

6. Israel and its Refugees: A Conversation About Migration and Asylum Seekers

Event Concept: Coordinate an event focusing on the issue of refugees and asylum seekers in Israel. Invite speakers from Israeli NGOs working with refugees, as well as individuals who have come to Israel seeking asylum, to discuss the challenges they face and Israel's policies on immigration. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The history of migration to Israel, including Jewish and non-Jewish refugees.
- Israel's immigration policies, particularly toward refugees from Africa and the Middle East.
- The humanitarian challenges Israel faces in dealing with refugees and asylum seekers.

Activities:

- Invite Israeli NGOs working with refugees to present on the challenges faced by asylum seekers in Israel.
- Host a discussion with refugees from Africa and the Middle East about their experiences and the policies they navigate.
- Facilitate a policy debate around Israel's immigration and asylum policies, discussing the humanitarian implications of Israel's refugee programs.

Goal: Encourage dialogue on Israel's immigration and refugee policies, while promoting understanding of the social, economic, and humanitarian challenges involved.

7. Interfaith Dialogue on Israel: Christians, Muslims, and Jews Share Perspectives

Event Concept: Facilitate a dialogue between Christian, Muslim, and Jewish leaders from Israel and the surrounding region to discuss the role of religion in Israeli society and its impact on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The aim is to create a platform for interfaith understanding and cooperation. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The role of religion in shaping Israeli identity and policies.

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- Common values shared by Jews, Christians, and Muslims in Israel.
 - The impact of religious tensions on peace efforts in the region.

Activities:

- Facilitate a panel with Christian, Muslim, and Jewish leaders from Israel and neighboring regions, discussing religious influences on Israeli society and policy.
- Lead small interfaith group discussions on shared values and the role of religion in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- Plan a collaborative workshop where religious leaders work together on peace-building strategies within the context of Israeli society.

Goal: Promote interfaith understanding by discussing the common values shared by Jews, Christians, and Muslims, and explore how these can contribute to peace in Israel.

8. Israel's Technological Innovation and Its Global Impact: A Critical View

Event Concept: Organize a discussion that explores Israel's reputation as the "Startup Nation" and its global impact in technology and innovation, while also examining the ethical and political implications of these advancements. Invite Israeli tech entrepreneurs, critics, and international experts to discuss both the successes and challenges. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The role of Israeli innovation in fields like cybersecurity, agri-tech, and health-tech.
- Ethical questions related to Israeli technological developments and their global use.
- The impact of Israeli technology on global markets and international *relations*.

Activities:

- Coordinate a discussion with Israeli tech entrepreneurs, critics, and international experts about Israel's innovations in fields like cybersecurity, agri-tech, and health-tech.
- Host a debate on the ethical and political implications of Israel's technological advancements and their global impact.
- Lead group discussions on the ethical implications of technology in security, human rights, and international relations.

Goal: Explore the complexities of Israel's technological innovation, addressing both the benefits and ethical challenges, and engage in meaningful dialogue on its global impact.

9. Debating Israel's International Image: Public Relations vs. Reality

Event Concept: Organize a discussion on how Israel is perceived globally and how its image is shaped by international media, political campaigns, and grassroots movements. Invite journalists, diplomats, activists, and scholars to share their insights on how Israel's image is portrayed abroad and how it impacts international relations. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The role of the media in shaping global perceptions of Israel.
- The challenges Israel faces in improving or defending its international image.
- The influence of global advocacy movements (pro-Israel and pro-Palestinian) on public opinion.

Activities:

- Organize a panel with journalists, diplomats, and scholars to discuss the media's role in shaping Israel's global image.
- Facilitate a discussion on how advocacy movements, both pro-Israel and pro-Palestinian, shape global perceptions of Israel.
- Breakout discussions where attendees analyze how Israel's international image is shaped by politics and public relations efforts.

Goal: Raise awareness of how Israel's international image is constructed and challenged, encouraging critical thinking on how public opinion is shaped and its influence on global diplomacy.

10. The Role of Israel in Global Jewish Education

Event Concept: Organize a discussion about how Israeli educational institutions contribute to Jewish education globally. Invite educators from both Israeli and diaspora Jewish schools to talk about the role of Israel in shaping Jewish identity and education.

Discussion Topics:

- The relationship between Israel and Jewish communities worldwide in terms of education.
- How Israeli education shapes Jewish identity and values.
- How Israel's educational approach differs from that of Jewish schools in the diaspora.

Activities:

- Discussions with educators from Israeli and diaspora Jewish schools about the role of Israel in shaping Jewish education and identity.
- Facilitate a dialogue on the differences between educational approaches in Israel and in Jewish communities worldwide.
- Provide a platform for educators to share their personal experiences and explore the significance of Israel's educational influence on Jewish identity.

Goal: Deepen understanding of Israel's role in global Jewish education, focusing on the ways it shapes Jewish values and identity within and outside of Israel.

IV. Strengthen Connections with Israel, REALITY, and the REALITY 2025 Journey by Engaging Alumni and Showcasing Diverse Personal Experiences:

1. REALITY Alumni Networking Event: Israel & the Upcoming Journeys

Event Concept: Plan an event that brings together REALITY alumni who have participated in past Journeys to share their personal experiences. Use this as an opportunity to network and discuss the upcoming REALITY 2025 Journey.

Activities:

- Alumni share personal stories from their time in Israel.
- Q&A sessions where prospective participants can ask alumni about their experiences.
- Brief presentations on the upcoming REALITY 2025 Journey and what to expect.

Goal: Strengthen connections between alumni and potential participants while highlighting the diverse ways REALITY alumni connect with Israel.

2. Israel Through the Eyes of REALITY Alumni: A Cultural Sharing Event

Event Concept: Host an event where alumni share how their Journey to Israel has shaped their understanding of the country and their identity. Alumni can showcase personal experiences through photos, videos, art, or even music. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The personal impact of visiting Israel on alumni's Jewish identity.
- How the REALITY experience shaped alumni's views on Israel's culture and history.
- Connecting Israel's modern-day realities to historical and cultural narratives.

Activities:

- Alumni-led workshops or talks on topics like "Israel's history through personal stories," "Building connections across cultures," or "Discovering Israel beyond the headlines."
- An interactive exhibit where alumni present their favorite places or memories from Israel, creating a deeper, more personal connection to the country.

Goal: Encourage prospective participants to connect with Israel's culture and history in a way that feels personal and relatable.

3. Israel Virtual Tour: REALITY Alumni Take You There

Event Concept: Create a virtual event where alumni guide attendees through their personal experiences in Israel, offering a tour of the country through their eyes. This could include virtual walk-throughs of significant locations in Israel, along with personal stories from alumni. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- The significance of specific Israeli locations from an alumni's perspective.

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- How visiting these places has shaped alumni's understanding of Israel and Jewish identity.
 - Insights into how Israel's culture, people, and landscapes influence personal growth and connections.

Activities:

- Alumni host live-streamed virtual tours of famous Israeli landmarks, cities, and less-travelled locations, sharing their own unique perspectives and experiences.
- Interactive Q&A sessions with alumni during or after the virtual tour, where attendees can ask about the culture, history, or any other aspect of Israel that interests them.
- Alumni discuss how the 2025 Journey will engage with these locations and what prospective participants can look forward to.

Goal: Create an immersive experience that brings Israel closer to potential participants and gives them a preview of the connections and learnings they can expect from the upcoming Journey.

4. Israel and Me: REALITY Alumni Personal Stories

Event Concept: Organize a series of storytelling events where alumni share personal stories of how their experience in Israel changed their perspectives on their work, relationships, or personal lives.

Discussion Topics:

- The impact of the REALITY Journey on personal identity and values.
- How alumni's experiences in Israel influenced their approach to community engagement and social activism.
- The role of Israel in shaping long-term personal and professional relationships.

Activities:

- Alumni present personal narratives that explore how their trip to Israel has affected their identity, values, and approach to community engagement.
- Group discussions about the diverse ways that alumni's experiences in Israel can help shape their work and personal lives.

Goal: Showcase the transformational potential of the REALITY Journey by allowing alumni to share deeply personal insights about their experience and what they gained from it.

5. REALITY 2025: A Preview with Alumni Experiences

Event Concept: Host an event where alumni discuss their experiences with previous REALITY Journeys and offer a preview of what the upcoming 2025 Journey will entail. Include multimedia presentations, such as video highlights from past trips, to offer a dynamic look at the program.

Discussion Topics:

- Alumni reflections on how the REALITY Journey shaped their personal and professional growth.

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- Key moments and takeaways from past REALITY Journeys that prospective participants can look forward to.
 - What makes the 2025 Journey unique and how it builds upon previous experiences.

Activities:

- A presentation by alumni of the highlights and key moments of their REALITY Journey.
- A "behind-the-scenes" look at what goes into the preparation of a REALITY Journey, shared by both the alumni and the REALITY Team.
- Open conversations where prospective applicants can ask questions and get insights directly from those who have been through the experience.

Goal: Generate excitement and provide clarity for potential participants about the REALITY 2025 Journey, highlighting the personal and professional growth that alumni have experienced.

6. REALITY Alumni Collaborative Event: Creating an Israel-Inspired Community Project

Event Concept: Create a collaborative event where alumni and prospective participants work together to design a community project inspired by their collective experiences of Israel. This could include creating educational content, organizing a cultural event, or developing an advocacy initiative.

Discussion Topics:

- **The Impact of the REALITY Experience:** How can the lessons, experiences, and inspiration gained during the *REALITY* program be applied to make a tangible impact in communities?
- **Building Bridges Through Israel-Inspired Projects:** How can alumni create projects that showcase Israel's diversity, culture, and innovation while fostering cross-cultural understanding?
- **Sustainability and Community Engagement:** Best practices for ensuring that community-driven projects inspired by Israel are sustainable, inclusive, and impactful.
- **Collaborative Leadership:** How can alumni and prospective participants collaborate effectively to build meaningful projects that engage and inspire local communities?

Activities:

- Brainstorming and planning sessions where alumni share their experiences and how they plan to bring a piece of Israel to their communities.
- Collaborative workshops on how to implement an Israel-related project, with guidance from alumni who have successfully carried out similar initiatives.
- Presentations of project proposals, where alumni and prospective participants can offer feedback and discuss how to make the projects a reality.

Goal: Encourage participants to take action based on their upcoming REALITY Journey, while fostering long-term connections between alumni and new applicants.

7. REALITY Alumni Film Festival: Israel's Influence Through Film

Event Concept: Organize a film festival featuring Israeli films or documentaries, with alumni discussing the themes and how they connect to their personal experiences in Israel. **Be sure to share about your REALITY experience, its impact on your life, and how it helped inspire this project!**

Discussion Topics:

- How Israeli films and documentaries reflect the complexities of Israeli culture, history, and society.
- The role of film and media in shaping perceptions of Israel, both locally and globally.
- Alumni's personal reflections on how the films resonate with their own experiences during their REALITY Journey.

Activities:

- Screen Israeli films that offer a unique perspective on Israeli culture, history, or society, followed by discussions with alumni about how the films reflect their experiences in Israel.
- Showcase short films or media projects created by REALITY alumni, sharing their interpretations of Israel and its impact on their lives.
- Discussions on how film and media shape perceptions of Israel globally.

Goal: Use the power of film to deepen connections to Israel, while offering a platform for alumni to share their creative projects and insights.