

Career

In 2001, in parallel with her university studies in Israel, Wasserman Lande was chosen to participate in the prestigious Foreign Ministry training program, after which she was appointed to head the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' UK and Ireland desk. In January 2003, she was appointed to a diplomatic post at the Israeli embassy in Egypt.^[7] There she focused on promoting Israeli-Egyptian political and economic relations, including creating the platform for the QIZ – The qualified industrial zone trade agreement between Israel-Egypt and the USA.^[8] In 2006, her final year at the embassy, Wasserman Lande, was the de facto deputy chief of mission to Ambassador Shalom Cohen.

Following her diplomatic service in Cairo, Wasserman Lande began studying for a second M.A. in policy and government at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. That is, within the framework of the Wexner Scholarship.^[7] While at Harvard, she founded The Israel Caucus, an organization dedicated to showcasing the Israeli society's diverse facets, which still successfully functions today. In 2007, Wasserman Lande was seconded from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to work for two years as an adviser to former Israeli President Shimon Peres.^[9] She served as the liaison between the Office of the President and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and forwarded Israel-Jewish Diaspora affairs and foreign policy in general.

Public activities

In 2010, she completed the preparatory studies for a Ph.D in international relations at Oxford University's St. Anthony's College, returning to Israel to continue her research. Wasserman Lande lived for a decade in the Israeli Jewish-Arab city of Lod, where she and her ex-husband, Aviv, were the founders of the Lod Community Foundation,^{[10][11]} which was founded in 2008.^[12] Volunteering with the foundation, she was instrumental in developing tourism, culture, education, and employment in the city.^[11]

Upon returning to Israel, Wasserman Lande was appointed as the Deputy Director-General of the Federation of Local Authorities in Israel.^[13] She reached out to the international arena to identify foreign investors, empowerment opportunities, partners for cooperation, and people-to-people initiatives for local governments throughout Israel. Within this framework, she worked closely with cities in the periphery and the country's center, both Arab and Jewish, religious and secular, large and small. Here, she also set out-voluntarily- to create a model of emulation out of a Bedouin village in the North of the country, Shibli-Umm al-Ghanam,^[14] recruiting partners from the public and the private sectors-government ministries, philanthropists, the diplomatic core serving in Israel, businesspeople, both Jewish and Arab, the local leadership in the Bedouin village and the local community. All this was done with a group of volunteers, senior personalities from within the public service in Israel, which she recruited and led – during four years - towards the creation of game-changing initiatives and engines of growth within this municipality.

Wasserman Lande continues to closely follow and accompany the diverse Arab communities throughout Israel and the Middle East.

Since her return from Egypt and until now, she often lectures at many prestigious universities worldwide. She has addressed the British parliament, senior delegations of US members of congress and other dignitaries visiting Israel, as well as Israeli diplomatic, educational, and economic circles.

Since 2019, she has been writing a column in one of Israel's leading newspapers, *Maariv*,^[4] dealing with different angles of the Israeli Arab realm and the *Middle East*. She also often writes for the *Jerusalem Report* and the *Jerusalem Post*.

She is also a commentator on Egyptian and Middle Eastern affairs on foreign and Israeli television stations, including National Public Radio (NPR),^[15] the BBC, Israel's Channel 1, Channel 2, Hala TV, Bukra^[16] and Israel Plus. She is fluent in *Hebrew*, *English*, *Russian*, and *Arabic*.^[6]

She became an MK in early January 2021 as a replacement for *Meirav Cohen*,^[17] though she was forced from her seat when *Yizhar Shai* resigned his ministerial position and regained his previous Knesset seat.^[18] She regained a Knesset seat when *Ram Shefa* resigned.^[2] Placed tenth on the Blue and White list for the *March 2021 elections*, she lost her seat again as Blue and White was reduced to eight seats. She is an MK in the 24th Knesset as a result of the Norwegian Law.

References

1. Staff writer (16 June 2021). "Knesset to receive 16 new MKs after ministers resign through 'Norwegian law' " (<https://www.timesofisrael.com/knesset-to-receive-16-new-mk-after-ministers-resign-through-norwegian-law/>). *The Times of Israel*. Retrieved 16 June 2021.
2. Hoffman, Gil (31 January 2021). "South African MK Wasserman Lande returning to Knesset" (<http://www.jpost.com/israel-news/politics-and-diplomacy/south-african-returning-to-knesset-657299>). *The Jerusalem Post*. Retrieved 31 January 2021.
3. "A speech by Wasserman Lande in Rabin Memorial day" (<https://www.facebook.com/aviv.wasserman.3/videos/10100248796606771/?extid=0&d=w>). *Facebook*.
4. "Wasserman Lande columns at Maariv" (<https://www.maariv.co.il/ruth-wasserman-lande/Author-24812>). *Maariv*.
5. "Israel From the Inside Out" (<http://www.jpost.com/Blogger/Ruth-Wasserman-Lande>). *The Jerusalem Post*. Retrieved 25 July 2015.
6. "Ruth Wasserman Lande" (<http://www.herzlia.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Headline-Jun-2010.pdf>) (PDF). *Herzlia Headlines* (78). May 2010. Retrieved 25 July 2015.
7. "Ruth Wasserman Lande" (<http://wexnerfoundation.org/programs/wexner-israel-fellowship/alumni/profile/ruth-lande-wasserman>). *The Wexner Foundation*. Retrieved 26 July 2015.
8. Freedland, Jonathan (February 2011). "When Egypt shakes it should be no surprise that Israel trembles" (<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2011/feb/01/egypt-israel-democracy-arab-world-peace>). *The Guardian*.
9. "Wasserman Lande advisor to Shimon Peres" (<https://www.israeliamerican.org/conference/speaker/ruth-wasserman-lande>). 17 September 2016.
10. Wasserman Lande, Ruth (20 November 2009). "A Crying Shame" (<http://www.haaretz.com/print-edition/opinion/a-crying-shame-1.3765>). *Haaretz*. Retrieved 26 July 2015.
11. Hartman, Ben (17 October 2010). "Festival to Light Up Old City of Lod" (<http://www.jpost.com/Israel/Festival-to-light-up-Old-City-of-Lod>). *The Jerusalem Post*. Retrieved 26 July 2015.

12. Friedman, Ron (8 April 2010). "Pushing for a Better Tomorrow in 8,000-Year-Old Lod" (<http://www.jpost.com/Israel/Pushing-for-a-better-tomorrow-in-8000-year-old-Lod>). *The Jerusalem Post*. Retrieved 26 July 2015.
13. "Deputy Director General"s Speech to EU Congress for Small and Medium Size Enterprises in Poland" (http://www.en.masham.org.il/html5/ARCLookup.taf?_function=details&_ID=27048&did=8834&G=8965&SM=9030). *Federation of Local Authorities in Israel*.
14. "RUTH - GLOBAL INNOVATIVE ADVISORY" (<https://www.globalnpo.org/IL/Tel-Aviv/742501656201063/Ruth---Global-Innovative-Advisory>). *Global NPO*.
15. Harris, Emily (15 July 2013). "Israelis, Palestinians Keep Close Eye On Events In Egypt" (<https://www.npr.org/2013/07/15/202401660/israelis-palestinians-keep-close-eye-on-events-in-egypt>). *All Things Considered*. NPR. Retrieved 25 July 2015.
16. "Wasserman Lande on Bokra TV" (<https://bokra.net/Article-1445965>). *bokra.net*.
17. Hoffman, Gil (31 January 2021). "Minister Merav Cohen resigns, replaced by Ruth Wasserman Lande" (<https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/minister-merav-cohen-resigns-replaced-by-ruth-wasserman-lande-654459>). *The Jerusalem Post*. Retrieved 11 January 2021.
18. Hoffman, Gil (31 January 2021). "Former minister forces South African MK out of Knesset after four days" (<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/politics-and-diplomacy/millionaire-forces-south-african-mk-out-of-knesset-after-four-days-655212>). *The Jerusalem Post*. Retrieved 12 January 2021.

External links

- [Ruth Wasserman Lande \(https://main.knesset.gov.il/en/MK/APPS/mk/mk-personal-details/1052\)](https://main.knesset.gov.il/en/MK/APPS/mk/mk-personal-details/1052) on the Knesset website
-

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Ruth_Wasserman_Lande&oldid=1292293757"