

## Preface

The first edition of the *Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem*, published by the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies (JIIS) and the Municipality of Jerusalem, appeared in 1982. The JIIS is an independent, non-profit think tank that produces updated and reliable data on Jerusalem, comprehensive background materials, position papers and professional analyses for all – from policy and decision makers to the general public. The Institute's research emphasizes practicable aspects, recommendations for policy consolidation and methods of action. The fields covered by the Institute range from economics and society, primarily pertaining to contemporary Jerusalem; environmental policy; and the many angles of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Indeed, research on Jerusalem's myriad faces has stood at the center of our work since the Institute first opened its doors. In that time, JIIS has built, expanded and enriched its databases. We have produced scores of books and policy papers, as well as drafting master plans, that address all aspects of life in Jerusalem.

The 2015 work plan includes comprehensive research regarding the development of the higher education in the city; the monitoring and assessment of the high-tech and biotech industries in the city; an examination of the tourism sector; the preparation of a forecast for Jerusalem that looks ahead to 2040; a close look at the situation in the neighborhoods of East Jerusalem; a detailed study of the ultra-orthodox [haredi] sector in Israel; development of financial tools for moving Jerusalem forward; research on Jerusalem's young population; development of models for urban sustainability and much more.

This, the 29th *Statistical Yearbook*, offers the reader detailed information on a wide range of topics: demography, economics, municipal services, infrastructures, tourism, education and culture, health, public order, and so on.

The *Yearbook* is the result of months of intensive work by the JIIS team. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Maya Choshen, who deftly leads the project, and the entire *Yearbook* team: Yair Assaf-Shapira, Yoad Shahar, Alon Kupererd, Michal Korach, Dafna Shemer and Caroline Kahlenberg, for their high professional standards and their dedication in seeing the project to fruition.

The 2015 *Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem* is filled with data that will enrich our knowledge of Jerusalem. It is also our hope that it will assist in promoting projects for the city's development, advancement and status as the capital of the State of Israel.



Meir Kraus  
Director-General  
Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies