

Shirit Keessen, ADV.
Born 1976, Israel and Dutch Nationality
keessenshirit@gmail.com

- **Cultural policy expert, in various cultural sectors**
- **Operational and management experience in regulation and legislation (Culture, Cultural heritage, museology, Visual Art, Cinema foundations, Provenance research policy).**
- **Vast Legal experience in various commercial aspects**
- **Projects Management, experience in development and implementation of strategy.**
- **Proven analytical, research and negotiating skills.**
- **Rich international experience, ability to work with high-level executives, key personnel and government authorities.**

Academic Background

2019 – present: PhD student at the Faculty of European Studies, Babes Bolyai University (UBB)

2004 - 2006: University of Amsterdam (UVA), LL.M, Specializing in Public International Law and International Criminal Law.

2003 Accepted as a member of the Israel Bar Association.

1998 - 2002: The College of Management Academic Studies, Rishon LeZion, Israel (L.L.B).

Boards of Directors:

Board member at ANU – Museum of the Jewish People

Board member at the Israel Film Council

Work Experience

July 2022 present days: Head of the Cultural Heritage Preservation Division at the Israeli Ministry of Culture and Sport

- **Assisting with policy formulating and writing sector-level cultural policies.**
- **Assisting in legislation and regulation specializing with Cultural Heritage preservation, national archives, museums, research facilities etc.**
- **Responsible for the development of the division working plans**
- **Responsible for all divisions bodies' budget and its distribution.**

December 2021 June 2022: Advisor to the Minister of Culture and Sport, Israel

- **Responsible of wide range of professional, business and legal issues related to culture and sport.**
- **Culture and Sport policy formulating and Responsible for its implementation.**
- **Advising and Developing Legislation and regulation procedures.**
- **Creating government cooperation and collaboration with other government branches, national and International.**
- **Working with public committees, assisting in shaping recommendation and oversee implementation.**
- **Coordinating between the Minister Office and policy institutions, as well as relevant committees, with regard to assimilation and implementation of culture policy, cultural heritage policy and its preservation.**

July 2020 – December 2021: Head of the Cultural Heritage Preservation Division at the Israeli Ministry of Culture and Sport

- **Assisting with policy formulating, legislation and regulation specializing with Cultural Heritage preservation, national archives, museums, research facilities etc.**
- **Responsible for the development of the division working plans**

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- Responsible for all divisions bodies' budget and its distribution.

2017 – July 2020: Director of Museums and Visual Art Department, Ministry of Culture and Sport

- Assisting with policy formulating, legislation and regulation specializing with Museums and Visual Art domains
- Responsible for the development of department working plans in order to promote and develop the museums and art domains in the country
- Responsible for all public Museums and Galleries governmental budget and its distribution
- Responsible for wide range of department projects, some international projects (for example La Biennale di Venezia Art/Architecture Exhibitions).

2012 - 2016: Ministry of Culture and Sport – Adviser to the General Director

- Responsible of wide range of professional, business and legal issues.
- Assisting with Culture and Sport policy formulating and Responsible for its implementation.
- Advising and Developing Legislation and regulation procedures.
- Creating government cooperation and collaboration with other government branches, national and International.
- Working with public committees, assisting in shaping recommendation and oversee implementation.
- Coordinating between the Minister Office and policy institutions, as well as relevant committees, with regard to assimilation and implementation of policy.
- Reporting and granting inputs as required to the General Director and the Minister of Culture and Sport.
- Promotion of general manager's initiatives, exploring and deepening in various fields.

2008 - 2012: Ace Tankers BV – Company Lawyer (Legal Adviser)

- Department Manager and Claim Handler working worldwide.
- Company Representation in demurrage and damages claims
- Establish and maintaining effective working relations with worldwide clients (different nationals and cultural backgrounds).
- Direct responsibility for developing an efficient work system in collecting payments from clients in order to reduce debts (forming negotiations).
- Direct responsibility for legal strategic planning.
- Developing contacts and fostering collaboration with other Ship owners and other company clients.

2006 - 2008: Head of the Protocol Department of the Embassy of Israel in The Hague,

- Embassy Representation (mainly to the Dutch Foreign Ministry Office) on various matters of the Diplomatic staff.
- Forming close relations with Dutch Ministries and various governmental branches.
- Knowledge of diplomatic formalities, experience in project management.

Languages

Hebrew: Native speaker
English: Fluent
Dutch: very good