

## 15 Achievements for 15 Years

Gisha was founded in 2005, on the eve of Israel's "disengagement" from Gaza. We continue to be guided by two fundamental principles: that control equals responsibility and that freedom of movement is a pre-condition for the fulfillment of a host of other rights, including the right to education, livelihood, health, and family life. Gisha has successfully challenged Israel's sweeping restrictions on movement to and from Gaza through a combination of direct legal assistance to Gaza residents and advocacy work in Israel and abroad.

We are proud to share some of Gisha's accomplishments over the last fifteen years:

1. Helping [thousands of people](#) overcome travel restrictions to access education, healthcare, professional opportunities and to reunite with family.
2. Reversing the ban on Palestinian students from Gaza [studying abroad](#).
3. Reversing the ban on Palestinian students from the West Bank [studying in Israel](#).
4. [Exposing calculations of caloric needs](#) and mathematical formulas used to determine food supply to Gaza for public scrutiny, ultimately bringing about the policy's end and contributing to [ending a ban](#) on the entrance of most civilian goods into Gaza.
5. [Highlighting the impact](#) of the closure on the lives of women in Gaza and [advocating for policies](#) that provide greater access to family, education and livelihoods.
6. [Ending the coercive practice](#) of Israel denying access to life-saving medical treatment for family of alleged Hamas members.
7. Removing [restrictions on the entrance](#) into Israel of Palestinian citizens and residents of Israel living in Gaza, including by successfully challenging a request for invasive genetic testing.
8. Overturning [stringent restrictions](#) that prevented Palestinian citizens of Israel married to Gaza residents from relocating to live with their spouses following marriage, which in turn also meant *all* Israeli citizens can now request immediate relocation for non-citizen spouses.
9. Successfully mainstreaming the legal principle that Israel's continued [control](#) over Gaza creates continued [responsibility](#), and promoting [the functional approach to Israel's obligations as an occupying power](#).
10. Obtaining [transparency](#) regarding military policies by compelling the defense ministry to comply with Israel's Freedom of Information Act and publish hundreds of previously unpublished directives, policies, and procedures.

11. Briefing the UN Security Council in both [2015](#) and [2019](#), providing information and analysis on the situation in Gaza, and advocating for increased movement of people and goods.
12. Overturning a 13-year [blanket ban](#) on the exit of processed foods from the Gaza Strip abroad.
13. Protecting religious freedom by helping [Muslims](#) and [Christians](#) to travel to East Jerusalem and the West Bank to worship at holy sites during major holidays and celebrate with family.
14. Creating [high-impact](#), [innovative](#) visual products to bring forward the [reality](#) and [voices of individuals](#) from Gaza, particularly for Israeli and international audiences.
15. Serving as a trusted source of [information and analysis](#) about Gaza for policy-makers, [journalists](#), civil society groups and individuals.