

Curriculum Vitae

Regina Tapoohi, LL.B., B.A (Melbourne University) Dip. Ed.(Victorian Teachers College), is a graduate of Melbourne University in Economics, Philosophy and Law, and a graduate of the Victorian State College of Education. Ms. Tapoohi is a Member of the Israeli Bar as well as a member of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists.

She began her working career as an English and Social Studies teacher in a number of Melbourne Technical High Schools, and upon the families move from Melbourne to Sydney Aust.in 1976, opened an import handicraft business that wholesaled to shops within the greater Sydney area.

In late 1979, Ms. Tapoohi moved with her husband, Izzy Tapoohi and their two children to Israel thereby fulfilling their Zionist dream. For the first ten or so years of her life in Israel, Ms. Tapoohi concentrated on bringing up her family, which had now grown to four children and a dog, and adapting to her new environment. However in 1992, she began the process of prequalifying as an attorney in Israel, working for a year as an intern to Judge Menahem Goldberg, President of the National Labour Court and then for six months as an intern in the International Department of the State Attorney's Office of Israel Ministry of Justice.

Ms. Tapoohi was admitted to the Israeli Bar in 1994. Initially Ms. Tapoohi worked in the International Department of the Advice and Legislature Office of the Ministry of Justice under the Attorney-General, responding to human rights issues raised by Amnesty International and other NGO's .After a number of years she transferred to the International Department in the State Attorney's Office dealing with trans-border criminal law, which included extradition to and from Israel, requests for legal assistance for investigatory and trial purposes, kidnapping of children under the Hague convention and the transfer of sentenced persons.

Ms. Tapoohi's case load involved all aspects of the work of the Department. However in 1998, with Israel accession to the European Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, Ms. Tapoohi was given responsibility for the implementation of the Convention within Israeli and the creation of the infrastructure necessary for its execution.

In the course of her work in the International Department Ms. Tapoohi represented Israel in a number of Forums and Working Groups on International Prisoner Transfers and Child Kidnappings in Cross Border Family Disputes.

As of September 2013, Ms Tapoohi volunteers as the Senior Delegate to the U.N. on behalf of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists. In this capacity she attends UN sessions involving Israel directly and/or sessions on issues impacting Israel and its image in the world. She liaises directly with the Israeli UN mission, attending and reporting to them on sessions which Israel boycotts. She was also involved in organizing a successful side event held at the UN on UNRWA, her summary of which appeared in Justice. She also coordinates the activities of two other volunteers to the UN on behalf of the organization, and has organized many breakfast and lunchtime events, in conjunction with

the AAJLJ, for lawyers within the New York area. In 2015 Ms. Tapoohi was elected to the Executive Board of the IAJLJ.