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Burning Issues

Economy, Cost of Living, and Welfare Policy

The economic debate revolved around two contrasting worldviews to address the expanding fiscal deficit of that period:

- Social Justice and Expanding the Welfare State: Demands for raising the minimum wage, increasing elderly and disability allowances, massive investment in public housing, and providing free early childhood education (from birth).
- Free Market and Bureaucracy Reduction: A perspective advocating for lowering taxes, reducing regulation for businesses, opening the market to competition, and weakening the power of major labor unions.

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Burning Issues

Religion, State and the Status Quo

The debate over the Jewish and democratic character of the state was the most prominent civic issue:

- The Conscription Law: The question of whether and how to mandate ultra-Orthodox yeshiva students to enlist in the IDF or national service, and whether to impose financial sanctions for failing to meet targets.
- The Public Sphere on Shabbat: The debate surrounding the operation of public transportation and the opening of supermarkets and businesses on weekends versus preserving the national day of rest.
- Religious Monopoly vs. Civil Freedom: The question of the Chief Rabbinate's monopoly over marriage, divorce, and conversion, alongside demands for civil marriage

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Burning Issues

Healthcare and National Infrastructure

Civic issues that directly impacted the daily quality of life for every citizen:

- The Healthcare System Crisis: Dealing with overcrowding in hospitals, shortening waiting times, expanding the subsidized basket of medications, and the need to establish new hospitals (particularly in the periphery).

- The Transportation and Traffic Crisis: The urgent need to advance national public transportation projects (such as the metro and trains) as a solution to severe traffic congestion on the roads.

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Burning Issues

The Judicial System and Governance

A deep discussion on the boundaries between the branches of government:

- Balancing the Legislative and Judicial Branches: Proposals for changing the method of selecting judges, limiting the High Court's power to strike down laws (the override clause), and splitting the role of the Attorney General.

- Governmental Stability and Integrity: Proposals to limit a prime minister's terms in office and defining stricter ethical rules for public officials.

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Burning Issues

Security and Foreign Policy

The immediate security and geopolitical challenges on the table:

- Policy Regarding the Gaza Strip: The question of restoring deterrence against Hamas, the debate surrounding the authorization of Qatari cash transfers into Gaza, and the conditions for providing humanitarian aid.

- The Future of the West Bank: The question of applying Israeli sovereignty (annexation) over these areas, especially given the diplomatic backing from the U.S. Trump administration at the time.

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Burning Issues

The Arab Sector and the Periphery

- Crime in Arab Society: The demand for a comprehensive, well-funded government plan to combat violence and illegal weapons in Arab localities.
- Enforcement of Construction Laws and Funding: The issue of home demolitions and regulating construction laws (specifically the Kamenitz Law), alongside demands for equitable budgeting for local authorities in the periphery and Arab sector.