



The Knesset

Member of Knesset Stav Shafir

MK for Labor. Member of the Finance Committee in the 19th Knesset, founder and co-chair of the Lobby for the Advancement of Fair Rental Conditions, and founder of the Lobby for Social Justice. Led the social protests in the summer of 2011, journalist.

Stav Shafir was born in 1985 in Netanya but currently resides in Jaffa in an apartment with roommates. At the age of eight, Shafir was a young journalist for the children's and youth magazine Kulanu. As a teen, she volunteered at a hostel for Holocaust Survivors in Pardesiya and worked with children with disabilities. She grew up in and became an instructor in HaNoar HaOved VeHaLomed — The Federation of Working and Studying Youth. Upon graduation, she founded a group of independent mentors in conjunction with the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel and spent a year of service in Tiberias, where she was involved in education in schools and worked with at-risk youth. She also taught Hebrew to new immigrants.

In July 2004, Shafir enlisted as a cadet with the Israeli Air Force. After five months and 15 flight hours, she was transferred to the weekly IDF magazine Bamahaneh, where she served as journalist until the end of her service. Immediately after completing her military service, Shafir won a full scholarship to City University London from the Israeli-Palestinian project for Leadership in the Middle East. During her studies, she specialized in conflict resolution and worked in conjunction with the British parliament and with the Three Faiths Forum to prepare educational projects for young Jews, Muslims and Christians in London.

In 2009, Shafir graduated with honors, earning a BA in Sociology and Journalism, and returned to Israel. In the ensuing year, she began studying for a MA in History and Philosophy at the Cohn Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Ideas at Tel-Aviv University.

In July 2011, Shafir joined a group of activists she met on Facebook who wanted to protest housing costs. Two weeks later, on July 14, the first tents were pitched by the group on Rothschild Boulevard in Tel-Aviv, igniting the biggest social protest since the establishment of the country, which became known as the "Tent Protest," during which hundreds of thousands of Israelis took to the streets to demonstrate.

Towards the end of the summer of 2011, Shafir and several of her partners in the struggle founded an extra-parliamentary movement which led the social struggles in the periphery, including the struggle for the law for free preschool education and the fight for a social budget.

In November 2012, a year after the protest erupted, Shafir decided to run in the Labor primary elections and placed eighth on the party's list of candidates. In 2013 she was sworn in to the 19th Knesset and was the youngest parliamentarian.