

Dr. Sharon S. Nazarian

Dr. Sharon S. Nazarian is the President of the Y&S Nazarian Family Foundation, with a regional office in Israel named the Ima Foundation. The focus on education and public policy is core to Sharon's philanthropic perspective. She is the founder of the Younes & Soraya Nazarian Center for Israel Studies at University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). The Center is housed in the International Institute at UCLA in order to provide a systematic and academic study of Israel.

In 2017, The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) appointed Sharon as its new Senior Vice President in International Affairs. In this role, Sharon acts as foreign minister of ADL meeting with heads of state, foreign

ministers, and leaders of Jewish communities across the globe and heads ADL's work fighting anti-Semitism and racial hatred globally. She also oversees ADL's Israel office.

Sharon's interests are reflected in the myriad of organizations she devotes her time, talent and energies to - she is the vice chair of the West Coast Board of the American Society of the University of Haifa, sits on the Board of Governors of Haifa University, has recently joined Berkeley Institute's inaugural Advisory Board, and is a member of the Chairman's Circle of the National Democratic Institute. She also sits on the board of the Crown Center for Middle East Studies at Brandeis University, and is a member of the Council of Foreign Relations (CFR).

Her undergraduate studies took place at the University of Southern California (USC), double majoring in Journalism and International Relations. She went on to receive her Master's and Doctorate of Philosophy degrees also from USC in the field of Political Science, specializing in Political Economy and Economic Development in newly industrialized countries.

She is the daughter of Younes and Soraya Nazarian and has three siblings, David, Shulamit and Sam. She is an integral member of Nazarian Enterprises, a thriving family investment office with a diverse portfolio of holdings across a broad spectrum of industries, including real estate, hospitality, manufacturing, technology and clean energy. Currently, she resides in Los Angeles with her three children.