

The submitted dissertation seeks to analyze the political process associated with the origins of the Israeli polity during the British Mandate over Palestine. Particular attention is given to the political turmoil within two rival blocks: the Zionist Labor movement and the Revisionist movement. The structure of the dissertation reflects the fact that Haim Weizmann, the long-serving president of the Zionist Organization, and his then dominant General Zionists were sidelined at the turn of 1920s and 1930s by the two activist trends of Zionist politics that came to dominate Israeli society from that time forward.