

BREAKING DOWN THE FACTS ON

BREAKING THE SILENCE

WHO THEY ARE

Breaking the Silence (BtS) is a largely European-funded¹ Israeli NGO devoted to demonizing the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) with allegations of "war crimes."²

BtS was ostensibly established "to expose the Israeli public to the reality of everyday life in the Occupied Territories" and to "demand accountability regarding Israel's military actions."³

WHAT THEY CLAIM

BUT WHAT DO THEY DO?

BtS allegations against the IDF mainly consist of unverifiable and anonymous "testimonies" by a fringe group of IDF veterans, based mostly on vague memories, feelings, hearsay or rumors.⁴



BtS accusers refuse to air their charges to the authorities, despite the IDF's call to provide specifics in order to follow up with investigation. Shrouded in anonymity, BtS accusers choose to withhold the details and the identities of those allegedly involved in their stories.⁵

BtS claims to be addressing Israeli society; however, they peddle their stories mainly in the US and Europe. A book of BtS allegations against the IDF was published in English alone.⁶



Leading members of BtS's board of directors, including the Chairman Miki Kratsman, have advocated for boycott and international sanction against Israel.⁷

THE REAL MISSION: LIBEL

BtS wraps itself in the mantle of "human rights" but offers neither evidence for its accusations nor solutions to the problems it alleges exist in the IDF. According to its co-founder Michael Manekin, the motivation for publicly testifying against Israel lies in its "political significance."⁸ For BtS, what this means is the political agenda of demonizing Israel.