The background features a complex, abstract network of thin blue lines and nodes, resembling a molecular structure or a digital network. The lines are interconnected, forming various shapes and patterns, with some nodes highlighted in a slightly darker blue. The overall effect is a sense of dynamic connectivity and complexity.

Constitution of Threads & Knots

A Proposal for the State of Israel

Executive Summary



Threads are the distinct strands in Israeli society.

Each would be welcomed to form their own non-geographic governments with power over welfare, civil law and education.

- By taking disputes over many aspects of a 'Jewish' state off the table, this would reduce tensions.
- Threads would enable people to realize their visions in ways that are compatible with others.
- In many ways, these already exist, but they are in constant conflict as each tries to define these issues for the others.



Knots are geographically-centered groupings of Thread members.

They form the 'districts' for Knesset voting.

- Politicians must win across Threads, creating 'big tent' politics that can both unify people and cool tensions.

Threads & Knots



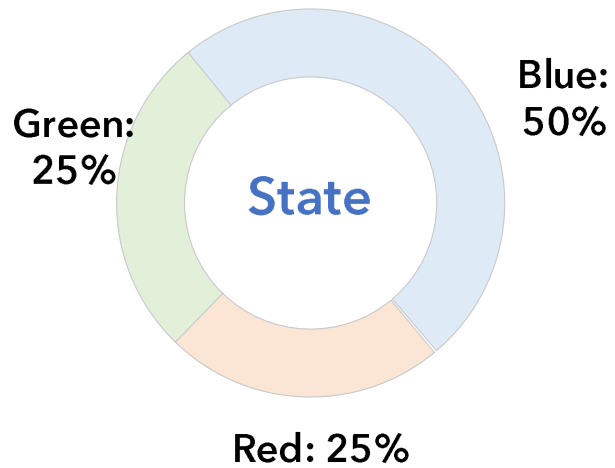
- People chose their own Threads
- A Thread must have a minimum of 100,000 members
 - There might be Haredi, Muslim, Druze, Liberal, Dati or even Secularist Threads.
 - Threads are *not* sects. They are fluid. For example, a Muslim can join any thread they desire. A Liberal thread is expected to attract many.
- Thread governments vote on the Constitutional Assembly, which has important, but particular powers.



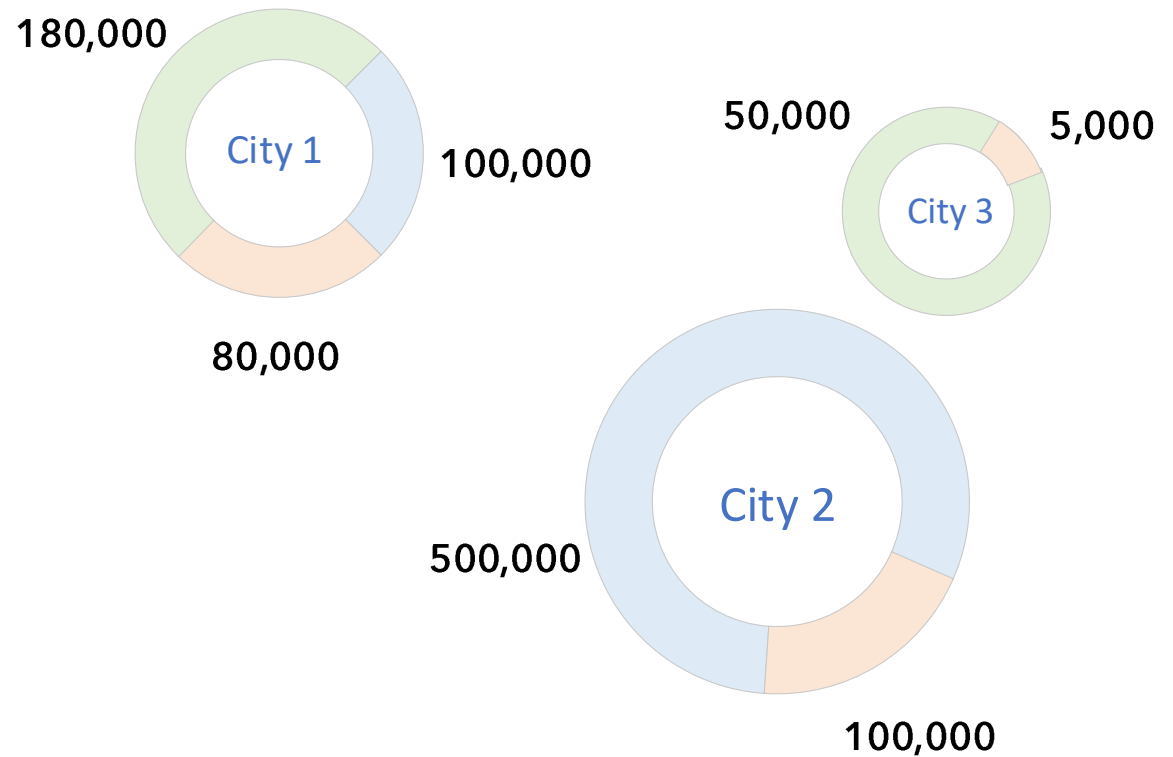
- Knots are assigned.
- Knots are geographically-focused and are comprised of the closest possible Thread members that can form voting blocks with the same balance of Thread members as the State as a whole.
 - A Knot in Tel Aviv might draw Liberals from Tel Aviv, Muslims from Jaffa, Haredim from Bnei Brak and Datiim from Ranaana
- Each Knot elects a single representative to Knesset, which conducts all the regular business of government.

Knots Formation

Assume the State has three Threads with the below population ratio.



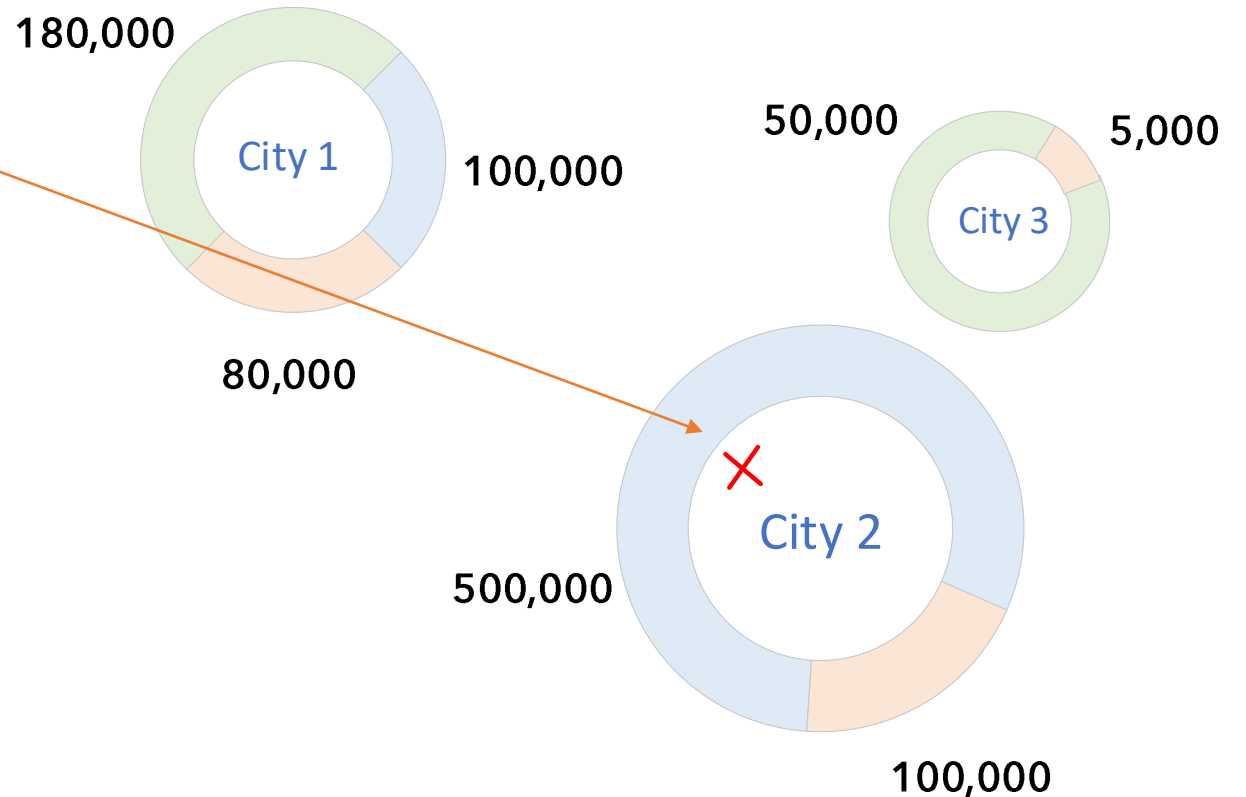
And there are three cities with different distributions of Thread members.



Knots Formation

Now, assume a Knot of 300,000 is to be formed around *this* point.

To match the ratio of Threads in the State, it will need 150,000 members from Blue and 75,000 from Green and Red:



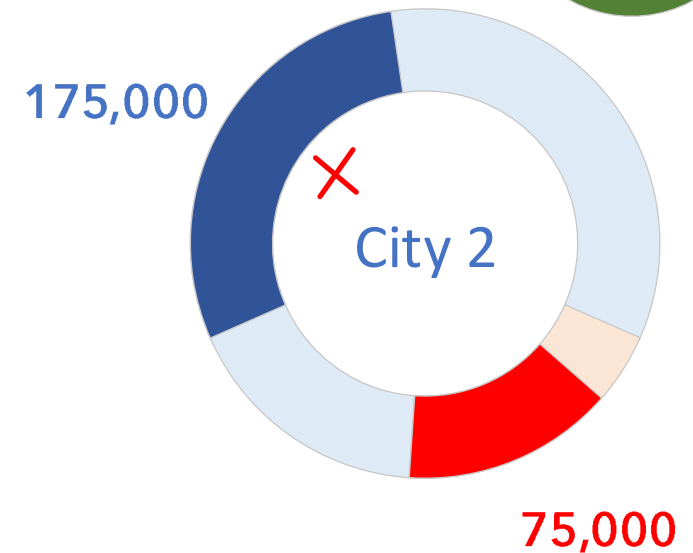
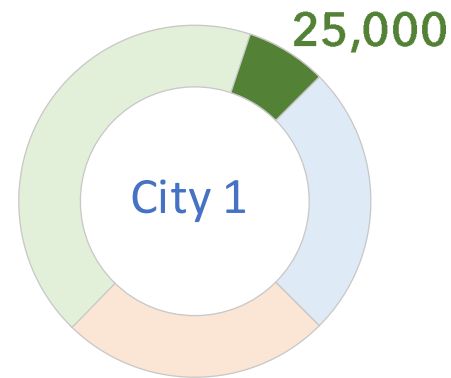
Knots Formation

These are the closest members of the different Threads that can be used make a representative Knot.

Other Knots, centered elsewhere, could then use unclaimed citizens from these cities to make up their demographic mix.

Every Knot would have the same Thread ratios as the State as a whole.

Those geographic areas with more mixed Threads would have more geographic concentration while those that are more homogeneous would have less concentration.



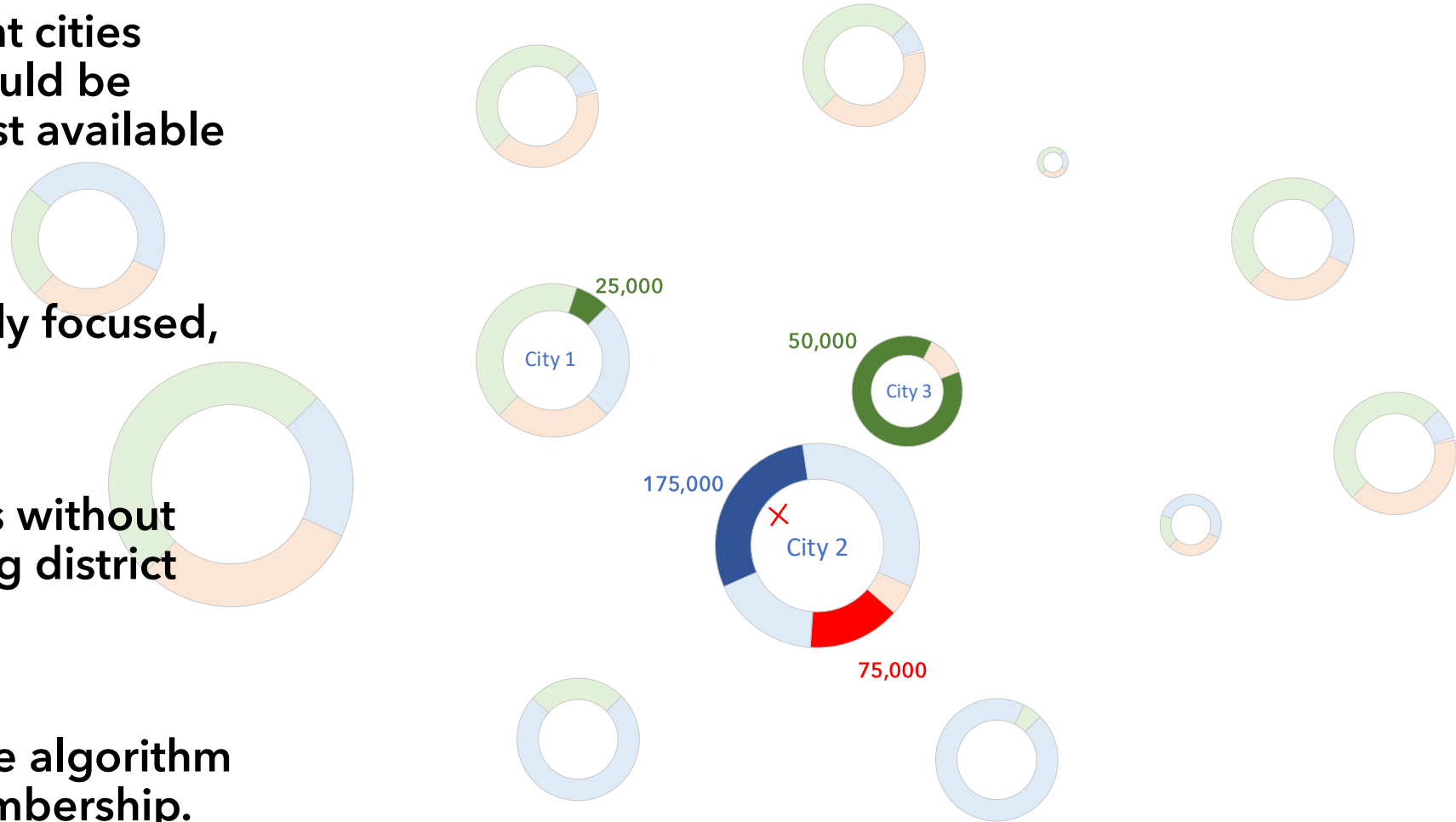
Knots Formation

No citizens from more distant cities would belong - the Knot would be populated only by the closest available members of each Thread.

Knots are thus geographically focused, but not entirely geographic.

This enables balanced Knots without the political fights of drawing district lines.

The Constitution contains the algorithm used to determine Knot membership.



Everyday Life



- As a Thread member, you'd be subject to the civil, welfare and educational aspects of your Thread's government.
- You could live anywhere, even surrounded by members of other Threads. Threads are *not* geographic.
- If your Thread has a democratic Constitution, you might vote for leadership or even on individual decisions.
- In any disputes between members of different Threads, or any other issues, State law would apply.



- You are assigned Knot membership based on your geography.
- As a Knot member, you would vote for your Knot's Member of Knesset.
- You could appeal to your Member of Knesset just as citizens in other constituent-based democracies do.

Constitutional Details



The Constitution spells out:

- How Threads are formed, how membership is managed and how special situations (like leaving a Thread) are handled.
- How many votes each Thread receives on the Constitutional Assembly - based on population and willingness to support the State through army or national service.
- What the powers of the Constitutional Assembly are and the thresholds needed for it to take specific actions
 - Removing members of Knesset, choosing judges, overturning court decisions...



The Constitution also spells out:

- How Knots are assigned.
- The powers of the Courts, Knesset, government and President.
- The fundamental rights of all citizens.

Constitutional Assembly

- The Constitutional Assembly can:
 - Approve judges (51% for lower-court judges, 66% for Supreme Court)
 - Change the Constitution (75% approval)
 - Dismiss members of Knesset (75%)
 - Select the President (51%)
 - Override the Supreme Court (66%)
- Because the Assembly overrepresents minorities, minorities are protected in this forum. This gives greater power to future minorities - so the Jewish people can protect their Constitution *even if they are a minority*.

Jewish Protection

- **The text of the Constitution says:**
 - "As the State of Israel has been established to protect the Jewish people from persecution, and in reaction to genocide in the Christian majority world and ethnic cleansing in the Muslim majority world, Jewish Cultural Identity shall provide for two specific rights."
- **Those rights include:**
 - The Right of Return
 - The exclusive right to head Tzahal, Mossad and Shabak.
- **These rights exist purely to protect the Jewish people. They do *not* result in greater representation in the Constitution Assembly or Knesset or the reservation of any other position including Prime Minister, President or Supreme Court.**

Who is a Jew?

- For *State* purposes, the Constitution takes this question out of the hands of the religious courts.
- For *State* purposes, the definition of a Jew is handled by a special committee with rolling membership elected by those recognized as having Jewish Cultural Identity.
- This has *no* religious bearing.
- If the Committee decides to extend Jewish Cultural Identity, the only impact is to indicate who is eligible for immigration and the most senior Army and Intelligence service roles.
- Threads can have their own definitions for their own purposes.



Israel-Palestine

- This Constitution opens a path for Palestinian integration.
- Municipalities and their territories (whether Palestinian or Israeli) can choose to join the State of Israel after a three-year probationary period if:
 - 80% vote to do so.
 - They hand over those suspected of crimes against the State, Threads or the Jewish cultural identity for criminal prosecution.
 - Their education system eliminates incitement against the State, Threads or the Jewish cultural identity for criminal prosecution.
 - They establish borders.
- As part of the State, Palestinians can join Threads most appropriate to them.
- Municipalities can also *leave* the State of Israel. If Umm El-Fahm wants out, they can elect to leave simply through an 80% vote.

Summary



Threads give us the chance to express our distinct societal aspirations



Knots tie our Threads together, unifying a truly multi-cultural society

To learn more (or read the entire Constitution) visit:
<https://www.josephcox.com/proposed-constitution-of-the-state-of-israel/>