

## 04172026 NEWS SPECIAL Don't miss Lev U'Neshama NOTE at end!

### **Please Note:**

**I am now home from having triple bypass surgery. I will attempt to start looking at the news and sending something out in the near future but it will be very abbreviated with only titles and links You can also subscribe to one of the many Israel reviews that are mailed out daily.**

**Thank you for your patience. rdb**

### **Netanyahu: Long 'road to peace' begins, as Trump says Israel 'PROHIBITED' from bombing Lebanon**

**10-day ceasefire largely appears to hold even as Lebanese media report Israeli strike on motorcycle; Hezbollah says its 'finger on the trigger'; wartime restrictions lifted on public**

By [Lazar Berman](#), [Emanuel Fabian](#), [Nurit Yohanan](#)

and [Agencies Today](#), 7:48 pm <https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-long-road-to-peace-begins-as-trump-says-israel-prohibited-from-bombing-lebanon/>

### **Israel prohibited from 'bombing Lebanon any longer,' warns Trump**

**US President Donald Trump also confirmed that the US plans to work with Lebanon separately.**

By [ARIELLA ROITMAN](#) APRIL 17, 2026 17:24 Updated: APRIL 17, 2026 18:29

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-893371>

### **After Lebanon truce, Iran says Hormuz 'completely open'; US maintains naval blockade**

**Trump hails move but keeps naval blockade on strait, says mine-clearing operations underway; oil prices tumble, as shipping firms, US Navy and EU warn situation remains unstable**

By [Jacob Magid](#)

and [Agencies Today](#), 9:05 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/after-lebanon-truce-iran-says-hormuz-completely-open-us-maintains-naval-blockade/>

### **Opposition, northern mayors decry imposed ceasefires as Lebanon truce declared**

**Ministers said to fume at only learning about truce from Trump's announcement; Lapid, Liberman vow to remove Hezbollah threat when in government; Metula mayor says residents 'betrayed once again'**

By [Michael Horovitz](#) and [Stav Levaton](#)

6 April 2026, 10:32 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/opposition-northern-mayors-decry-imposed-ceasefires-as-lebanon-truce-declared/>

### **Syria's Sharaa: Israel has acted with 'brutality,' but talks not at dead end**

**Leader says talks now focused on restoring UN buffer zone, will later shift to future of Golan; all bases in Syria that hosted US troops now under state control, Damascus says**

By [Tol Staff](#), [Nurit Yohanan](#)

and [Agencies Today](#), 2:59 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/syrias-sharaa-israel-has-acted-with-brutality-but-talks-with-it-not-at-dead-end/>

### **IDF on high alert amid fragile, temporary ceasefires in Iran and Lebanon**

**Military ready to return to fighting with force on both fronts; officials assess Iran will quickly start to rebuild capabilities, despite estimated \$100 billion in damages**

By [Emanuel Fabian](#)

Today, 6:00 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-on-high-alert-amid-fragile-temporary-ceasefires-in-iran-and-lebanon/>

## Iran entered ceasefire talks 'naked,' senior defense official says

Official says Israel had inflicted deep military and economic damage on Iran ahead of US-Iran negotiations; military lays out demands for demilitarized buffer zone in southern Lebanon and says Hezbollah in its weakest position in years

By [Elisha Ben Kimon](#) | 11:46

<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/skevj1xa11g>

## Trump says US to recover uranium from Iran, meet for further negotiations 'very soon'

Iran's nuclear program, believed to possess more than 900 pounds of uranium enriched up to 60%, is one of the thorniest issues in negotiations between Washington and Tehran.

By [ARIELLA ROITMAN](#), REUTERS/APRIL 17, 2026 20:17

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-893375>

## Israelis upset by Iran ceasefire, pessimistic about war's outcome, poll shows

In days after start of truce, most picked either despair, anger, or confusion as a dominant emotion, and didn't believe claims that Iran is now very weak after bombing campaign

By [Tol Staff](#) Today, 4:14 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/israelis-upset-by-iran-ceasefire-pessimistic-about-wars-outcome-poll-shows/>

## Reeling from war after synagogue wrecked, Iran's Jews staying loyal to regime

Tehran synagogue said holding event Friday in honor of slain Iranians, as homes of some in small community suffer damage during weeks of US-Israeli strikes; Torah scrolls unharmed

By [Tol Staff](#) Today, 10:20 am

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/reeling-from-war-after-synagogue-wrecked-irans-jews-staying-loyal-to-regime/>

## IDF expects Hamas to enter disarmament process soon

The announcement was aspirational in that Hamas has not yet done so, and no one can really know whether the Gazan terror group will follow through.

By [YONAH JEREMY BOB](#) APRIL 17, 2026 18:00

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-893374>

## Kosovo approves troop contribution for Gaza stabilization force

Parliament unanimously backs sending demining and security units to international force being put together; state says move mirrors NATO support it received after war with Serbia

By [Zana Cimili](#) Today, 9:06 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/kosovo-approves-troop-contribution-for-gaza-stabilization-force/>

## War-delayed marathon-less Jerusalem Marathon takes over capital amid ceasefire

Freed hostage Rom Braslavski helps kick off 10km race, after full marathon scrapped due to sweltering weather conditions

By [Tol Staff](#) Today, 12:23 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/war-delayed-marathon-less-jerusalem-marathon-takes-over-capital-amid-ceasefire/>

## Dust cloud blankets Israel as haze, hail and rain hit parts of country

Dust storm sweeps into Israel and expected to persist into Saturday as haze thickens; heavy hail reported in Be'er Sheva and northern Golan; rain, strong winds and sharp drop in temperatures over next several days

## A Warning from Auschwitz

Sylvan Adams leads the fight against rising antisemitism at the March of Living “If we fail, we risk creating the next generation of survivors.”

By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) APRIL 16, 2026 16:10 Updated: APRIL 17, 2026 16:22

<https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/article-893258>

### OP ED

## Israel Records Lowest Number of Terrorist Attacks

Thu, 16 Apr 2026 7:20 AM PST by Daniel Greenfield



Terrorism in Western nations rose sharply last year with a recorded 280% increase from 2024. That’s the conclusion of the Institute for Economics and Peace’s [Global Terrorism Index](#) report.

According to the index, the driving cause was Islamic terrorism “including the New Orleans truck attack in the United States in January, and the Bondi Beach shooting in Australia in December” and “most of these deaths and attacks were caused by jihadist groups or affiliated individuals.”

In the United States, deaths from terrorism attacks hit their highest level since 2019 with 28 killings. This includes not only various Islamic terrorist attacks, but the assassination of Charlie Kirk by a radical leftist angry at his opposition to transgender identity politics.

America accounts for half the terrorism casualties in western nations, but these numbers pale compared to 5,582 people killed worldwide in 2,944 terrorist attacks.

70% of these worldwide terrorist attacks were carried out by four Muslim terrorist organizations including ISIS, Jamaat Nusrat Al-Islam wal Muslimeen (Group Upholding for Islam and Muslims), a West African terror group that has served as an affiliate for Al Qaeda and ISIS, the Pakistani Taliban (TTP), affiliated with Afghanistan’s Taliban and Al-Shabab, a Somali Islamic terrorist group that had allegedly benefited from Somali fraud in Minnesota.

What about Israel? There were only 5 deaths from terrorist attacks in the last year.

The index notes that “Israel experienced its lowest number of terror attacks in 2025 since the inception of the Index.” In early 2023, before the October 7 attacks, I [tracked how the number](#) of Islamic terrorist attacks in Israel rose when Biden reversed Trump’s aid cutoff and began sending massive amounts of money in ‘humanitarian aid’ to Islamic terrorists in Israel.

In Feb 2019, President Trump’s total cutoff of aid became official. That year, 10 Israelis or people in Israeli controlled areas were killed in stabbings, shootings, rocket and other attacks, down from 12 the previous year, and 15 in 2017, and 16 in 2016. In 2020 however only three Israelis were killed. This was likely an aberration due to the pandemic and the lack of easy targets. But by 2021, after the Biden administration restored aid, terrorist attacks quickly resumed with 17 dead, and then up to 32 killed in 2022. And 2023 became the worst year.

Israel has seen the lowest rate of terrorist attacks under President Trump. And it has shown that going on the offensive against Islamic terrorists works while pandering to them does not.

The Index reported that only five Western European nations had worsening terror scores: France, United Kingdom, Austria, the Netherlands, and Serbia. Four out of those countries, France, the UK, Austria and the Netherlands have governments that have bent over backwards for Islam and Islamic terrorism. They condemned Israel while encouraging Islamic migration.

Instead of making them more safe, it has made life in these countries more dangerous.

We have been told ever since 9/11 that fighting Islamic terrorism doesn’t work, that it just creates more terrorists and that the only thing to do is try and defuse their grievances.

But that hasn’t worked.

What has worked is cutting off their money and going after state sponsors of terrorism. Israel’s campaign against Iran has done far more to reduce terrorism than its disastrous efforts to improve life in Gaza that every other government and expert insisted was the only solution.

Islamic terrorism became a global crisis because during the Cold War, Western nations refused to hold the state sponsors of terrorism accountable and I instead played a senseless game of whack-a-mole with small bands of Jihadists whose leadership wasn't in caves, but in the heartland of the Muslim countries whom we insisted on pretending were really our allies.

Even finding Osama bin Laden living under Pakistani protection didn't stop us from pretending that the Islamic terrorist state whose leaders had praised the terrorist was really an ally.

When Israel moved from bombing Hamas to bombing Iran, it exchanged a proxy war for direct warfare. Much as when it struck Qatar, it sent a clear message. There are few Islamic terrorist groups that are truly independent. Most of them have state sponsors that fund and harbor them.

Islamic terrorism isn't about 'grievances'; it's about Muslim countries and wealthy clans funding terrorism with our own money. They invest millions into terrorist groups that we then spend billions fighting. If the Saudis, the Qataris and the Pakistanis had to fear real U.S. retaliation after September 11, they would have thought twice about their role in Al Qaeda.

After decades of playing that same game, Israel has decided to play a new game. And it's paying off not just in the destruction of Iran's nuclear and ballistic missile program, but in the diminishing number of Islamic terrorist attacks.

The rest of the world would be wise to learn from it. Fighting terrorists works.

Those trying to convince us that fighting Islamic terrorism is futile want them to win. And so they seek to convince us that Islamic terrorism can never be defeated and that trying will be much worse than surrendering to it. What frightens them is that we will actually try to defeat it and win.

Barack Obama tried to convince us that weakness was strength, President Trump has shown us that weakness is just weakness and strength is strength, and that if you want to stop terrorist attacks, you have to crush the terrorists. Israel has shown us that when terrorists die, terrorist attacks drop because most of the time the most obvious solution to a problem is also the right one.

*[Daniel Greenfield](#) is a [Shillman Journalism Fellow](#) at the [David Horowitz Freedom Center](#). This article previously appeared at the Center's [Front Page Magazine](#).*



BS"D

STEP BY STEP

STEP BY STEP: Good news is that many friends and supporters of Lev U'Neshama (Heart and Soul) donated towards the Education Fund project to provide basic school supplies for actually 350 children within our Lev

U'Neshama families.

We are grateful that the school supply part of our effort has been successful.

According to the Israel Population and Statistics office, Tzfat's population is about 40,000, and one third live at the poverty level. We do what we can so at least the children within our struggling LUN families can get the things they need.

Every week we are providing new sport shoes and eye exams/eyeglasses to the children on our request list. However, previous donations are rapidly dwindling. I am reaching out now before the fund has been emptied and we will have to say "no" to additional requests.

We work with two local shoe merchants who give Lev U'Neshama a discount but they advised us the cost of the shoes has increased. Also, we work with an accredited optician in town who also gives us a discount but his cost is stable.

Lev U'Neshama is an Israeli registered non-profit charity organization, volunteer run, no business expenses whatsoever and every \$ goes into our programs.

Shoes: \$45 per pair regular and \$60 for First Steps, baby shoes.

Eye Exam/Eyeglasses: \$60 per child.

Your support is urgently requested.

Or use the Zelle US to US bank transfer system (contact me at [mortsmo@aol.com](mailto:mortsmo@aol.com) for bank information).

US Donors may also send checks made payable to

Simcha Smolensky, my son, who is also a volunteer. Send to:

Rabbi Simcha Smolensky, 6739 N Mozart St Chicago IL 60645

**Your support will be appreciated.**

Yaffa Smolensky