

04282026 NEWS SPECIAL Don't miss Lev U'Neshama NOTE at end!

**Please Note:**

I am now home from having triple bypass surgery. I will be sending news out 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

## The "Kill" Switch

When software and the government control our daily lives

DR. ROBERT W. MALONE APR 28

**Big brother at its worst.**

### **IDF blows up 2 vast Hezbollah attack tunnels built with 'direct guidance' from Iran**

Underground systems in Qantara, spanning 2 km and reaching depths of 25 meters, are demolished with 450 tons of explosives; terror group continues drone attacks on troops

By [Emanuel Fabian](#)

Today, 8:58 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-blows-up-2-vast-hezbollah-attack-tunnels-built-with-direct-guidance-from-iran/>

### **IDF soldier severely wounded as Hezbollah drones target troops in southern Lebanon**

Army fires interceptors at drones as ceasefire sees continued attacks on Israeli soldiers; IDF probing officer who let soldiers into combat zone to recite Kaddish

By [Emanuel Fabian](#)

Today, 12:31 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-soldier-severely-wounded-as-hezbollah-drones-target-troops-in-southern-lebanon/>

### **Twin brothers served in Lebanon; one seriously wounded by drone: 'They're very close'**

Cpl. Eliav seriously wounded in Hezbollah FPV drone attack that killed his friend Sgt. Idan Fooks and injured 6 others; twin brother Amitai keeps vigil by his bed: 'There are heroic warriors here'

Eitan Glikman|11:59

<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/syp0bwca11x#autoplay>

### **IRGC shores up wartime power in Iran, blunting supreme leader's role**

Experts assess it's the Revolutionary Guards, not Mojtaba Khamenei, who dominate deliberations, as 'painfully slow' process yields uncompromising stance

By [Samia Nakhoul](#), [Parisa Hafezi](#) and [Asif Shazhad](#) Today, 8:30 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/irgc-shores-up-wartime-power-in-iran-blunting-supreme-leaders-role/>

### **Keeping talks with US sputtering along, Iran may be looking for time, not a deal**

As negotiations persist despite missed meetings and parleys derided as pointless, some see IRGC effort to rebuild militarily while delaying dealing with intractable nuclear issue

By [Stav Levaton](#)

Today, 6:24 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/keeping-talks-with-us-sputtering-along-iran-may-be-looking-for-time-not-a-deal/>

**'Victory to the resistance': CAIR allegedly cosponsored event writing letters to terrorists  
CAIR Washington co-hosts an event supporting imprisoned terrorists, raising concerns as its executive director runs for state office.**

By [MICHAEL STARR](#) APRIL 28, 2026 21:21 Updated: APRIL 28, 2026 21:49

<https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-894505>

**Trump reportedly unhappy with Iran's proposal to reopen Hormuz but shelve nuclear issue**

**Vance said to express concern war depleting US arms stockpiles; Iran reportedly resorting to 'junk storage' for oil amid US blockade on exports, will soon run out of space for crude**

By [Reuters](#) and [ToI Staff](#) Today, 11:47 am

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/trump-reportedly-unhappy-with-irans-proposal-to-reopen-hormuz-but-shelve-nuclear-issue/>

**Trump claims Iran in 'state of collapse' as Iran expected to submit revised proposal to mediators**

**US President Donald Trump claimed that Iran has informed him that they are in a "state of collapse" as they figure out their leadership situation.**

By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#), [REUTERS](#) APRIL 28, 2026 16:39 Updated: APRIL 28, 2026 20:22

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-894477>

**Iranian embassies openly recruit for 'sacrificing life' campaign in the West**

**Iranian embassies in the UK, Germany, Australia, and Sri Lanka have openly sought recruits for a martyrdom campaign amid ongoing conflict with the US and Israel.**

By [DANIELLE GREYMAN-KENNARD](#) APRIL 28, 2026 14:10 Updated: APRIL 28, 2026 21:02

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-894453>

**Herzog opens mediation track in Netanyahu corruption cases**

**President's legal adviser invites attorney general, state attorney and Netanyahu's lawyer to discuss possible understandings, saying the move is a preliminary step before any review of the prime minister's pardon request**

[Itamar Eichner](#) | 13:41

<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/hjrbad0pbe>

**Mossad chief says agency's operations penetrated 'core' of Iran, Lebanon secrets**

**Barnea commends 10 operations and projects for outstanding achievements in 2025, notes that cooperation with the military had 'changed Israel's strategic posture'**

By [Stav Levaton](#)

and [ToI Staff](#) Today, 2:15 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/mossad-chief-says-agencys-operations-penetrated-core-of-iran-lebanon-secrets/>

**Negev governance crisis: Polygamy running rampant, contractors exposed to extortion**

**The comptroller noted that there is no coordinating government body that collects information, sets policy, resolves disputes between agencies, and oversees implementation.**

By [SARAH BEN-NUN](#) APRIL 28, 2026 16:10 Updated: APRIL 28, 2026 23:41

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-894474>

**Sydney concert to benefit Bondi terror victims canceled after choir opposes singing with Jewish group**

Over half of Australian Hellenic Choir votes against joining Sydney Jewish Choral Society on stage; choir head: 'Didn't realize the extent of antisemitism in the local Greek community'

By [Stuart Winer](#)

Today, 2:15 pm

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/bondi-benefit-concert-canceled-after-choir-opposes-singing-with-jewish-group/>

## Canadian Jewish schools hit with CRA complaint over alleged support for Israeli military

A CRA complaint accuses 11 Jewish schools of aiding foreign military recruitment and violating charity rules.

By [MATHILDA HELLER](#) APRIL 28, 2026 16:34 Updated: APRIL 28, 2026 18:52

<https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/article-894476>

## Former FBI director charged with threatening President Trump's life

In May 2025, Trump accused James Comey of calling for his assassination in a social media post depicting an image of "8647."

By [REUTERS](#) APRIL 28, 2026 23:41 Updated: APRIL 29, 2026 01:34

<https://www.jpost.com/international/article-894516>

### OP ED

## Europeans Dream of Throwing Themselves into the Jaws of the Russian Bear

by [Drieu Godefridi](#)

April 28, 2026 at 5:00 am



German industry is experiencing a severe depression. The cause, however, is not the loss of Russian gas. It is 100% internal — and 100% ideological. It is Germany's suicidal decision to phase out nuclear power in 2011, then coal in 2030, without a credible alternative.

*Pictured: One of the cooling towers of the decommissioned Gundremmingen nuclear power plant is demolished in a controlled explosion on October 25, 2025, in Gundremmingen, Germany. (Photo by Karl-Josef Hildenbrand/AFP via Getty Images)*

Some [ideas](#) refuse to die. One of these is the notion of a European "reversal of alliances" into the arms of Russia. The phrase [refers](#) to the unexpected decoupling from former allies, accompanied by an unexpected

alliance with former enemies. In 1756, Austria, which had always been an ally of Great Britain, instead allied with its longtime foe, France. Meanwhile, Great Britain and its old enemy, Prussia, became allies -- resulting in the Seven Years' War.

You hear it in Europe from the "new right" and the [far left](#) -- at [conferences](#) where people swoon over "multipolarity" and in the corridors of Germany's Bundestag, where desperate industrialists [plead](#) for Russia's Gazprom to reopen its taps.

If this reversal of alliances was possible in 1756, why not in 2026?

### Europe is economically dependent on the United States, not on Russia

In 2024, bilateral trade between the European Union and the United States [reached](#) €1.68 trillion (exports plus imports). For 2025, goods trade rose modestly; services (which tend to grow steadily) likely pushed the combined total to a similar or slightly [higher](#) level, though exact 2025 services numbers are pending.

Trade between the EU and Russia was at [€68 billion in 2023](#), then €67.5 billion in 2024. Full-year 2025 figures are not yet finalized, but trade continued to [decline](#) and hit record lows. In May 2025, [EU News wrote](#), "EU-Russia trade at an all-time low, imports plummeted 86 per cent since the start of the war."

Joel Hills, business and economics editor of ITV, has been [asking](#) for years, "Why Is Europe still buying Russian oil and gas?"

In other words, for the EU, the US alone represents 30 times Russia's trade weight. Even these figures understate reality because they exclude direct US investment in Europe, the role of the dollar as a reserve currency, and financing Europe's public debt.

Russia, for its part, mainly sold hydrocarbons such as oil and gas — 85% of its oil [exports](#) to the EU before

2022 — and bought almost nothing from Europe. Europeans have therefore been in a position of unilateral dependence -- not supposed "interdependence." Those in Europe who still [lament](#) the loss of "cheap Russian gas" conveniently forget that in 2021, Gazprom was [charging](#) more than \$1,200 per 1,000 m<sup>3</sup> at the peak of the crisis — *three times* the [price](#) of American liquefied natural gas today.

### **Russia never sought an "alliance" with Europe: It seeks Europe's subjugation**

People speak of an "alliance" as though Russian President Vladimir Putin were a potential partner. This is either childish or propaganda. Russia's recent history is telling: In 2008, the invasion of Georgia; in 2014, the annexation of Crimea and the start of the Donbass war, and in 2022, an attempt to erase Ukraine as a sovereign state; bombing a Ukrainian nuclear power plant, [deporting](#) thousands of Ukrainian children to Russia, and repeated nuclear threats.

Russia is not looking for partners. It is looking for vassals.

Putin's plan is [clear](#): rebuild the old Soviet empire by force, piece by piece. Yesterday Georgia and Ukraine; tomorrow the Baltic States (constantly [threatened](#)); the day after tomorrow Moldova, Poland or Romania, and so forth.

### **Without NATO, Europe is defenseless — and will remain so**

One may criticize NATO, its costs and its bureaucracy, or lament Trump asking for money, stationing troops or fly-over rights -- but one cannot deny a few stark military realities:

France and the United Kingdom together have around 500 [nuclear warheads](#) — respectable, but insufficient as a deterrent to defend a continent of 500 million inhabitants against a Russia that [possesses](#) more than 6,000.

Conventional European armies are "display" armies: Germany [struggles](#) to field 180,000 soldiers; some lack even functional firearms. France can at best [deploy](#) 20,000 troops for a few months. Most European states [possess](#) no aircraft carriers, no missile defense, and no supply fleet. Europe seems only to have funds for endless welfare benefits handed out to migrants who seem committed to transforming Europe into the extremist, third-world countries that they left.

Faced by Russia — and also by Turkey (which has NATO's second-largest army and pursues its own imperial ambitions), Algeria (which has just signed a strategic [partnership](#) with Moscow), Islamist militias in the Sahel, and weaponized migration flows — Europe without the US is an economic giant with feet of clay. It will take at least 10-15 years, even in the most optimistic [scenario](#), before Europe could hope for true strategic autonomy.

Until then, those in Europe who advocate "leaving NATO" or "neutrality" are either reckless or delusional. At this point, Trump is mulling leaving it first.

### **Germany's tragedy is real — and entirely self-inflicted**

German industry is experiencing a severe [depression](#): BASF is shutting factories, Volkswagen is eliminating tens of thousands of jobs, and the chemical and steel sectors are at the edge of collapse. The manufacturing giant Bosch just [announced](#) plans to cut 13,000 jobs in its mobility (auto) division in Germany by 2030 (on top of earlier cuts), representing about 10% of its German workforce. This aims to save €2.5 billion annually amid stagnating auto demand. Volkswagen [plans](#) to eliminate up to 50,000 jobs in Germany by 2030 (including ~35,000 at the core VW brand), following a sharp drop in profits (down ~44% in 2025 to the lowest level since 2016). The chemicals leader BASF is [closing](#) production facilities (e.g., a hydrosulfites plant in Ludwigshafen) and has already cut around 4,800 jobs as part of restructuring. The broader chemical industry faces its worst [crisis](#) in decades, with widespread plant downsizing and job losses in the tens of thousands.

The cause, however, is not the loss of Russian gas. It is 100% internal — and 100% ideological. It is Germany's suicidal decision to [phase out](#) nuclear power in 2011, then coal in 2030, without a credible alternative.

It is the dogma of forced "decarbonization," which has sent electricity prices [soaring](#) (€40-€60/MWh in the United States, €300-€500/MWh in Germany on certain winter [days](#)).

It is the closure of Germany's last nuclear plants in April 2023, just as France was expanding its nuclear power generation — and even as Swedish and [Finnish](#) Greens were applauding new reactors.

The solution exists and is within reach:

- Massively revive nuclear power. France is again proposing [collaboration](#) with Germany in the nuclear field, despite Germany's refusals in the past on ideological grounds.
- Import American, Norwegian, and Australian natural gas, already much [cheaper](#) than in the past.
- Exploit vast shale gas reserves in Poland, Romania and Ukraine (once the war ends).

- Above all, stop believing that Germany's €5 trillion [economy](#) can be "decarbonized" in ten years without causing an industrial, economic, and ultimately democratic collapse.

Russia is not the solution; it is part of Europe's problem. Those in Paris, Berlin, or Brussels who continue dreaming of a "Brussels–Berlin–Moscow axis" are not realists. They are dreamers.

Europe really has only one option: to reinvest heavily in its defense, which means scaling back the welfare state and embracing nuclear and fossil fuels. Europe needs to salvage what it can of the transatlantic relationship by stopping its objections whenever our American allies ask for the right to use their own military bases in Europe. Europe would do well to step up to the plate. Everything else is nothing but a pipe dream — or completely self-defeating.

*Drieu Godefridi is a jurist (University Saint-Louis, University of Louvain), philosopher (University Saint-Louis, University of Louvain) and PhD in legal theory (Paris IV-Sorbonne). He is an entrepreneur, CEO of a European private education group and director of PAN Medias Group. He is the author of [The Green Reich](#) (2020).*

<https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/22481/europe-energy-russia>



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

