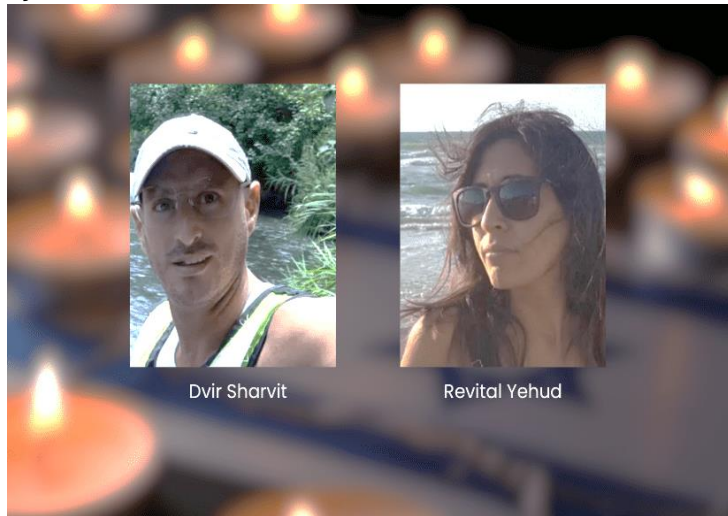


## Dvir Sharvit, Revital Yehud named as civilians killed in Kiryat Shmona rocket barrage

*Two years ago, Yehud recovered from cancer and decided to move from Eilat to Kiryat Shmona, following her partner, Sharvit.*

By SHAKED SADEH, [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) OCTOBER 9, 2024 23:44 **Updated:** OCTOBER 10, 2024 04:58



Dvir Sharvit

Revital Yehud

Dvir Sharvit and Revital Yehud were named as the two civilians killed in the Hezbollah rocket barrage fired at Kiryat Shmona. October 9, 2024. (photo credit: Via Maariv)

**Dvir Sharvit, 43, and Revital Yehud, 45, were named as the two individuals killed during Wednesday's Hezbollah rocket barrage toward Kiryat Shmona, Israeli media reported.**

**Two years ago, Yehud recovered from cancer and decided to move from Eilat to Kiryat Shmona, following her partner, Sharvit, who began working as a confectioner in the Galilee.**

**Despite being pressed by relatives to leave the city and evacuate to Beersheba, the couple decided to remain in the North, along with their three dogs who were also killed from shrapnel.**

### **Relatives mourn Yehud and Sharvit**

**Yehud's sister said of her sister, "Our hearts are broken. We can't believe that Revital is no longer with us. She was a woman that was all goodness."**

Meir Ben Shitrit, a relative of Sharvit, said, "We have lost an amazing person who had a huge heart. A person who loves to help and loves justice. We feel like we are in a bad dream, but unfortunately, this is our horrible reality."

**Israeli security and rescue forces operate where a direct hit was sustained in Kiryat Shmona. October 9, 2024. (credit: AYAL MARGOLIN/FLASH90)**

Sharvit is set to be buried in the cemetery in Kiryat

Arba, while Yehud will be buried in the cemetery in Beersheba.

The two sustained fatal wounds from falling shrapnel, and [Magen David Adom](#) paramedics were forced to pronounce them dead. <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-823997>



## IDF announces death of soldier Ronny Ganizate, killed in southern Lebanon

**Warrant Officer Ganizate, 36, from Givat Shmuel, served in the 5030th Battalion in the 228th Brigade.**

By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) OCTOBER 10, 2024 06:05 **Updated:** OCTOBER 10, 2024 07:55

Warrant Officer (res.) Ronny Ganizate. (photo credit: IDF SPOKESPERSON'S UNIT)

**Warrant Officer (res.) Ronny Ganizate was killed in battle while fighting in southern Lebanon, the IDF announced on Thursday.**

**Warrant Officer Ganizate, 36, from Givat Shmuel, served in the 5030th Battalion in the 228th Brigade.**

**In the incident in which Ganizate fell, an additional reserve soldier from the battalion was seriously wounded.**

He was transferred to the hospital for further medical care.

## Soldiers killed since beginning of war

According to [the IDF's](#) tally, the death of Warrant Officer (res.) Ronny Ganizate raises the total of soldiers killed on or **since October 7 of last year to 731**. <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-824021>

## 5 Israelis linked to ISIS arrested for plot to bomb Azrieli Mall in Tel Aviv

*Police and Shin Bet announce monthlong clandestine investigation culminating in arrests of Taybeh-based cell tied to fanatical terror group*

By [Tol Staff](#) Today, 1:50 pm

The Israel Police and the Shin Bet security service recently thwarted a plot by five Arab Israeli citizens to carry out a car-bombing attack at Tel Aviv's Azrieli Mall under the banner of the Islamic State terror group, according to a joint statement Thursday.

The five residents of Taybeh in central Israel formed a terror cell allied to ISIS, the fanatical terror group that originated in Iraq and Syria.

The five were arrested after a month-long clandestine investigation in collaboration with the Lahav 433 serious crime unit and were set to face charges in the coming days. The cell's leaders were named as Mahmoud Azam and Ibrahim Sheik Yousef.

They recruited three others — Sajed Masarwa, Abdullah Baransi and Abdel Kareem Baransi.

Police and the Shin Bet said that the five had studied footage of terror attacks in Syria and discussed the amount of explosives needed to bring down Tel Aviv's iconic Azrieli towers.

Azam and Yousef were in contact with foreign ISIS agents and planned to travel abroad to meet with operatives from the terror group, the statement added, noting that the plan was uncovered with the help of "precise and effective intelligence operations," and had been halted in its preliminary stages.



*The Azrieli towers in Tel Aviv, June 19, 2023. (Miriam Alster/FLASH90)*

The statement said that the arrests "prevented a major disaster and saved lives" and vowed that the police and Shin Bet would continue to "use all means at their disposal to thwart plots to harm the security of the State of Israel and its citizens."

The officers of the central unit, the Gideon's fighters and the Shin Bet thwarted a deadly attack in Azrieli Mall in Tel Aviv that was planned by 5 terrorists residents of the of Taybeh who established a terrorist infrastructure associated with ISIS.

Watch their arrest: [pic.twitter.com/T4mpAtIBoA](https://pic.twitter.com/T4mpAtIBoA)

— נועה מגיד | Noa magid (@NoaMagid) [October 10, 2024](#)

The announcement came after a Border Police officer was killed and at least 10 others wounded when an Arab Israeli terrorist opened fire in the Beersheba bus station on Sunday afternoon.

Then on Wednesday, an Arab Israeli man went on a stabbing spree in the central city of Hadera, wounding six people, one of whom succumbed to his injuries a day later.

The arrests also came days after the anniversary of Hamas's October 7 mass onslaught against southern Israel, which was the worst terror attack in Israel's history, and a week after a deadly [shooting attack](#) in Jaffa in which two Palestinian terrorists from Hebron opened fire at a light rail stop, killing seven people.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/5-israelis-linked-to-isis-arrested-for-plot-to-bomb-azrieli-mall-in-tel-aviv/>

## Several wounded in Nahariya in afternoon barrage on Israel's North

*Approximately 50 rockets were seen crossing from Lebanese territory into Israel in this barrage, the IDF reported.*

By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) OCTOBER 10, 2024 10:24 **Updated:** OCTOBER 10, 2024 16:30





*A view shows smoke and flames, amid ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, near Nahariya, Israel, October 3, 2024. (photo credit: REUTERS/Ammar Awad TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY)*

Four individuals were being treated by **Magen David Adom (MDA)** medics and paramedics, following the recent barrage to Israel's North, *Maariv* reported Thursday afternoon, citing MDA.

Starting at 3:45 p.m., rocket sirens sounded in localities such as Nahariya and Acre, with the military stating shortly after 50 rockets had been identified as crossing into Israeli territory from Lebanon.

MDA said it was transporting four individuals to the Galilee Medical Center in Nahariya. Among them are a 49-year-old man in mild condition with limb injuries sustained while on his way to a shelter and three individuals suffering from anxiety, aged 49, 19, and 17.

Earlier, approximately 40 rockets were identified crossing from Lebanon toward the upper Galilee on Thursday morning, the IDF reported.



*Israel's Iron Dome anti-missile system intercepts rockets launched from Lebanon towards Israel, amid cross-border hostilities between Hezbollah and Israel, as seen from Acre, northern Israel, September 26, 2024. (credit: REUTERS/Ammar Awad TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY)*

Some of the rockets were intercepted; however, the IDF also reported there were some impacts.

As of 4:00 p.m., Hezbollah has fired approximately 105 rockets into Israeli territory from Lebanon.

Drones crossed from Gaza

In a later report, the IDF stated that a drone had crossed from the Gaza Strip into Israeli

territory. The drone was monitored by air defense systems and was successfully intercepted.

Nobody was wounded and no damage was reported. An alert had not been activated per policy.

<https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-824047>

## A military intelligence unit is operating in southern Lebanon and it's ready to nab Hezbollah operatives

Members of Unit 504 are embedded with battalions in the field gathering intelligence from the combat zone, and they are also skilled in on-site interrogations of enemy combatants, including critically injured ones; In recent years, they have successfully recruited agents against Hezbollah without setting foot on Lebanese soil

[Yoav Zitun](#)|17:38

Two soldiers from Unit 504, part of the Military Intelligence Directorate, were injured on Tuesday – one moderately, the other seriously – likely from an explosion during a clash with Hezbollah terrorists in the western sector of southern Lebanon. These are the first casualties from the unit in the ground operation against Hezbollah.

As with the Gaza incursion, the IDF has deployed prisoner interrogators from Unit 504 alongside combat battalions operating in Lebanese territory. Their mission is to gather as much intelligence as possible from battle zones and military positions of Hezbollah's Radwan forces, to analyze enemy tactics in real-time, and, when possible, to interrogate captured Hezbollah terrorists or Lebanese civilians.



*IDF forces (Photo: IDF Spokesperson's Unit)*

**So far, after nine days of ground operations, the IDF has not disclosed whether any Hezbollah terrorists have been captured. However, reports suggest that close encounters with Hezbollah have resulted in their deaths**, contrasting with the capture and interrogation of thousands of Hamas terrorists in Gaza over the past year, which provided valuable intelligence, including on the issue of Israeli hostages.

**Although the IDF's ground operation in Lebanon is currently limited to Radwan's border**

**villages, Unit 504 is still working to extract human intelligence from the field in real time.** The unit's interrogators are trained in battlefield questioning, including extracting information from wounded Hezbollah terrorists on the verge of death, which could prove invaluable for ongoing operations.

**Unit 504 has not been as active in Gaza in recent years, where the Shin Bet and the Intelligence Directorate's technological capabilities have led efforts against Hamas.** However, the unit has maintained a presence in southern Lebanon and the Syrian Golan, even after the IDF's withdrawal from the security zone in May 2000. Over the years, it has managed to recruit agents and informants against Hezbollah without setting foot on Lebanese soil, helping to build a comprehensive intelligence picture of the Shiite terror army.



*(Photo: IDF Spokesperson's Unit)*

**Meanwhile, Major Roy Ofir, commander of the 71st Armored Battalion Tactical Command Post, described the fighting in southern Lebanon. "We just returned from one of the villages. We hit Hezbollah hard, destroyed their infrastructure, and neutralized several of their forces and enemy squads. We found a lot of weapons, some of which we've brought back for research in Israel. We crushed anyone who confronted us. We are here to protect our people," he said.**

**"We're coming in with significant force," Ofir added. "Hezbollah can't even lift its head.** They're taking hit after hit. The IDF has prepared for this. Ask any soldier in the last few years, and they'll tell you – we've been preparing for Lebanon and Hezbollah."

IDF footage inside Radwan Force terror tunnel

(קרדיט: IDF Spokesperson's Unit)

**Ofir, who began the war in the Gaza sector, continued: "In the end, we are dismantling the stranglehold Iran has built around us, piece by piece.** That is our mission – and we will be on the frontlines despite the difficulties. Those challenges pale in comparison to the larger purpose we're fulfilling this year."

<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/rjjzcv41jx#autoplay>

**IDF soldiers took their smartphones into Lebanon, making it easier for Hezbollah to track them** They violated protocol by taking their personal cellphones into enemy territory, where they took photos and videos and posted them online; The IDF has thus far settled for verbal warnings; Hezbollah has Iranian technology allowing them to use the phones to pinpoint troops exact location

[Yoav Zitun](#)|16:17

**IDF is currently investigating how soldiers once again disobeyed orders by bringing mobile phones into Lebanese territory. Over the past day, the 36th Division has been trying to understand why, like in previous operations in Gaza, officers and troops ignored the pre-operation briefings for the ground mission in southern Lebanon. They brought their mobile phones, took photos of the operational area within enemy territory, and even shared these images online.**





*Israeli flag in Maroun al-Ras*

**This relates to the recent ground operation in the village of Maroun al-Ras, where the Golani Brigade was active. The IDF has warned for years that Hezbollah possesses the capability to locate mobile phones, potentially exposing the exact positions of forces. This capability could facilitate mortar and rocket attacks or allow terrorists to be dispatched for direct assaults.**

This technological capability is considered state-level, implying the Shiite terror group's army likely received it from Iran, akin to its other sophisticated weaponry.

**Consequently, it was crucial to adhere to the directive of leaving mobile phones within Israeli**

**territory**, at a relatively safe distance from the border, to ensure the operation's success and the soldiers' safety.

**This time even officers, including battalion and company commanders, followed this directive and refrained from bringing mobile phones into Lebanese territory** to avoid real threats to themselves and their subordinates. Operational communication among forces was maintained using radios and secure, encrypted technologies.

Munitions factory bombed in Beirut

(Video: IDF Spokesperson's Unit)

**"It's a complete mess, but it's not surprising, given the IDF has only issued verbal warnings to many soldiers who brought phones, took photos and posted images and videos from operations in the Gaza Strip,"** an IDF source said about the soldiers' conduct and the response to it.

**"The officers are becoming complacent, opting for lax discipline and fearing to severely punish soldiers who disregard orders and operational discipline – no wonder this behavior persists in a place far more dangerous than Gaza."**

About a week ago, [Golani fighters arrived in Maroun al-Ras](https://www.ynetnews.com/business/article/hj91wmv11x#autoplay), a location that became a symbol during the Second Lebanon War, even in Israel. The IDF achieved relatively swift operational control in the village, allowing for convenient movement in the hostile village at the ridge's peak, extending to the nearby town of Bint Jbeil. Some commanders can move back and forth to Israeli territory due to the proximity — only about two kilometers away by air. <https://www.ynetnews.com/business/article/hj91wmv11x#autoplay>

## **American journalist disclosed secrets during Iran attack, police says**

***Jeremy Loffredo faces Israeli court after reporting Iranian missiles striking several Israeli air bases; U.S. fears possible diplomatic incident following reporter's actions***

*Liran Tamari* | 11:21

**Jeremy Loffredo, 28, an independent American journalist who also works with Fox News, was arrested by police on suspicion of endangering national security after reporting on where missiles landed in the attack launched by Iran earlier this month including in the IDF's Nevatim Air Base and an intelligence base in central Israel.**



**In his report, Loffredo said that attacks on Gaza were launched from the Nevatim base and said that government's private jet used by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was located there.**

***Iran's missile attack on Israel***

**The charges against him include aiding the enemy during wartime and providing information to the enemy.**

**His arrest has raised concerns of a potential diplomatic incident between Israel and the U.S. because of his status as a foreign journalist. Representatives from the U.S. Embassy attended**

**the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court for a hearing on the request of the police to extend his detention.**

Jeremy Loffredo (Photo: Screenshot)

**"He published the information openly and fully, without attempting to hide anything. If this information constitutes aiding the enemy, many other journalists in Israel, including Israeli reporters, should also be arrested, said Attorney Leah Tsemel who is representing him in his defense. "A spy would not have acted so publicly and transparently." <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/ryjxg00b1je#autoplay>**

## UN inquiry accuses Israel of crime of 'extermination' in destruction of Gaza health system

*International body's human rights says Israel commits war crimes, crimes against humanity and 3extermination; report to be submitted to the General Assembly at the end of October*

*Reuters*|09:46

**A United Nations inquiry said on Thursday it found that Israel carried out a concerted policy of destroying Gaza's healthcare system in the Gaza war, actions amounting to both war crimes and the crime against humanity of extermination. [This is really infuriating. Hamas uses Hospitals and schools as military headquarters and storage facilities which has been proven repeatedly and now the anti-Zionistic, antii-Semitic group from the UN is accusing Israel because they destroyed them. If you get down to where the rubber meets the road when you have mothers praising and indoctrinating their kids to kill Jews you essentially have the entire group of the Islamic population in league with the terrorists and they should all be eliminated. – rdb]**



report will be presented to the UN General Assembly on October 30.

**A statement by ex-UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay released ahead of a full report accused Israel of "relentless and deliberate attacks on medical personnel and facilities" in the war, triggered by Hamas terrorists' deadly cross-border attack on southern Israel on October 7, 2023.**

**Premature babies removed from Shifa Hospital to safety (IDF)**

**"Children in particular have borne the brunt of these attacks, suffering both directly and indirectly from the collapse of the health system," said Pillay, whose**



*Shifa Hospital in Gaza after an IDF raid (Photo: Mahmoud Issa ? Reuters)*

**Israel says that Gaza's terrorists operate from the cover of built-up populated areas including private homes, schools and hospitals and that it will strike them wherever they emerge, while also trying to avoid harming civilians. Hamas denies hiding terrorists, weapons and command posts among civilians.**

**The UN inquiry's statement also accused Israeli forces of deliberately killing and torturing medical personnel, targeting medical vehicles and restricting permits for**

patients to leave the Gaza Strip.

As an example, it cited the death of a Palestinian girl, Hind Rajab, in February along with family members and two medics who came to rescue her from under Israeli fire. **If the medical personnel are terrorists then they need to go. These idiots have no concept of war which both the UN and Geneve rules have tried to turn into a gentleman's game rather than a strategic operation to remove evil vile criminals. – rdb]**





*IDF forces in Gaza (Photo: IDF Spokesperson's Unit)*

**The World Health Organization says over 10,000 patients requiring urgent medical evacuation have been prevented from leaving Gaza since the Rafah border crossing with Egypt was shut in May. The Palestinian health ministry says nearly 1,000 medics have been killed in Gaza in the past year in what the WHO called "an irreplaceable loss and a massive blow to the health system". How many of the medics were packing a gun for Hamas or transporting**

**terrorists. This entire complaint is total stupidity showing no understanding of how these critters workd. L- rdb**

**The statement said the treatment of both Palestinian detainees in Israel and hostages seized by Hamas terrorists in the October 7 attack had been investigated and it accused both sides of involvement in torture and sexual violence.**

The Commission of Inquiry has a broad mandate to collect evidence and identify suspected perpetrators of international crimes committed in Israel and the Palestinian territories. It bases its findings on a range of sources including interviews with victims and witnesses, submissions and satellite imagery.

The COI has previously alleged that both Israel and Hamas committed war crimes in the early stages of the Gaza war, and that Israel's actions also constituted crimes against humanity because of the immense civilian

losses. The term is reserved for the most serious international crimes knowingly committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilians.



*Hamas terrorists in Gaza*

**Israel has not cooperated with the inquiry, which it says has an anti-Israel bias. NO KIDDING! RDB**

The COI has accused Israel of obstructing its work and preventing investigators from accessing both Israel and the Palestinian territories.

Sometimes, the evidence gathered by such UN-mandated bodies has formed the basis for war crimes prosecutions and could be drawn on by the International Criminal Court. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/h1vikdbjje#autoplay>

**This ought to really ruffle the UN feathers! rdb**

**Israeli forces fired tank shell at UN peacekeeper position in Lebanon, UN source reports**



**Vice President of the European Commission Josep Borrell Fontelles reacted on X/Twitter, calling the incident an "inadmissible act."**

By REUTERS, [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) OCTOBER 10, 2024 15:27 **Updated:** OCTOBER 10, 2024 19:25

**Members of the United Nations peacekeepers (UNIFIL) look at the Lebanese-Israeli border, as they stand on the roof of a watch tower in the town of Marwahin, in southern Lebanon, October 12, 2023. (photo credit: REUTERS/THAIER AL-SUDANI/FILE PHOTO)**

**Israeli forces reportedly fired a tank shell at a watchtower used by UN peacekeepers in south Lebanon on Wednesday, one of three cases in the last 24 hours of the peacekeeping force's positions coming under Israeli fire, a UN source told Reuters.**

**Two Indonesian peacekeepers with the UNIFIL peacekeeping force were injured, but not seriously,** after the watchtower at the force's main base in Naqoura was fired upon, the source said.

"Any deliberate attack on peacekeepers is a grave violation of international humanitarian law," UNIFIL said in a statement, adding that it was following up with the Israeli military. **[The "peacekeepers" were advised to leave and clear an area because it was going to be part of the military theater and they were told they wouldn't do it. The peacekeepers HAVE DONE NOTHING TO KEEP PEACE FOR 20 YEARS – USELESS TOADS. - rdb]**

"We remind the IDF and all actors of their obligations to ensure the safety and security of UN personnel and property and to respect the inviolability of UN premises at all times," the statement continued. **"UNIFIL peacekeepers are present in south Lebanon to support a return to stability under Security Council mandate.** Any deliberate attack on peacekeepers is a grave violation of international humanitarian law and of Security Council resolution 1701." **That is a total farce. If they were to maintain stability they would have prevented Hezbollah from firing all the rockets and staying behind the Litani river. Too late now to complain. - rdb**

**Israeli forces fired on two positions used by UN peacekeepers in Lebanon on Thursday and at a third one on Wednesday,** the UN force said, injuring two of its peacekeepers.



*Members of the United Nations peacekeepers (UNIFIL) stand together at the church square on Good Friday in the town of Klayaa, southern Lebanon, March 29, 2024. (credit: REUTERS/KARAMALLAH DAHER)*

**Israel is focused on fighting Hezbollah and recommends that the United Nations peacekeeping force (UNIFIL) in southern Lebanon move north,** Israel's UN Ambassador Danny Danon said on Thursday after Israeli forces fired on several UN positions.

**"Our recommendation is that UNIFIL relocate 5 km (3 miles) north to avoid danger as fighting intensifies and while the situation along the Blue Line remains volatile as a result of Hezbollah's aggression,"** Danon said in a

statement.

**He said that "Israel has no desire to be in Lebanon, but it will do what is necessary" to force Hezbollah away from its northern border** so 70,000 residents can return to their homes in northern Israel.

#### **International reactions**

**Italy subsequently protested to Defence Minister Yoav Gallant, Italian Defence Minister Guido Crosetto said on Thursday.** He summoned the ambassador to Italy to account for the incident, according to Politico reports that cited a government official.

Firing on UNIFIL bases was "totally unacceptable" and clearly flouts international law, Crosetto added in a statement.

Further, Vice President of the European Commission Josep Borrell Fontelles reacted on X/Twitter, calling the incident an "inadmissible act."

Another line has been dangerously crossed in Lebanon: IDF shelling of [@UN](#) peacekeepers whose positions are known. We condemn this inadmissible act, for which there is no justification. The EU reiterates its full support to [@UNIFIL](#), to its UNSC-mandated mission & its troops.

— Josep Borrell Fontelles (@JosepBorrellF) [October 10, 2024](#)

**The IDF has not commented at this time.**

**France said it was waiting for explanations from Israel after UN peacekeeping troops** were targeted in Lebanon on Thursday and that it was an obligation to ensure their safety.

"France expresses its deep concern following the Israeli shots that hit the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and condemns any attack on the security of UNIFIL," the foreign ministry said in a statement, adding that none of its 700 troops in the mission had been wounded.

"We await explanations from the Israeli authorities. The protection of peacekeepers is an obligation that applies to all parties to a conflict." <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-824099>

**UNRWA retains Nobel Peace Prize candidacy despite evidence proving its ties to Hamas**



**Approximately 12,000 people signed a petition urging the Peace Research Institute Oslo to reconsider UNRWA's candidacy for the Nobel Prize.**



By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) OCTOBER 10, 2024 10:44 **Updated:**  
OCTOBER 10, 2024 16:36  
Tzav 9 protesters outside of UNRWA Jerusalem offices, March 20, 2024.  
(photo credit: MARC ISRAEL SELLEM)

**Despite evidence collected by the IDF throughout the Israel-Hamas War proving that UNRWA workers included Hamas terrorists, the organization had retained its candidacy for a Nobel Prize award after being shortlisted in February. The winner of the prize will be announced on October 11.**

**After UNRWA workers were involved in the October 7 attacks and multiple instances were found where Hamas terror infrastructure was embedded within UNRWA**

**facilities, the Im Tirtzu organization sent a petition to the Nobel Prize committee to reconsider its decision,** the organization said on Wednesday. By Thursday morning, almost 4,000 additional supporters had signed the petition.

**According to Im Tirzu, approximately 12,000 people signed the petition urging the Peace Research Institute Oslo, the organization responsible for selecting the Nobel Peace Prize laureates, to reconsider UNRWA's candidacy.**

Shai Rosengarten, CEO of Im Tirtzu, emphasized that awarding the Nobel Peace Prize to UNRWA would tarnish its reputation and symbolize a moral failure.

**UNRWA sack containing explosives, August 22, 2024. (credit: IDF SPOKESPERSON'S UNIT)**

**In February, Henrik Urdal, Director of the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), released his shortlist for the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize, which included UNRWA, as The Jerusalem Post reported. UNRWA was nominated for its alleged humanitarian efforts in Gaza, despite numerous allegations of staff complicity in violence.**

**In addition to UNRWA, the ICJ was also nominated for its seeming contributions to peace through international law, including its rulings concerning Israel and Russia.**

**Israeli Peace Nobel Prize nominations**



Nevertheless, the *Post* reported in December 2023 **that two Israeli organizations were also nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.** EcoPeace Middle East, an environmental peacebuilding organization founded nearly 30 years ago by climate activist Gidon Bromberg, has also been nominated for the Prize.

The organization has offices in Tel Aviv, Amman, and Ramallah, with co-directors and staff working together to promote cooperation across the political divide in the region. Bromberg noted that the nomination highlights grassroots efforts to address the Arab-Israeli conflict through environmental projects.

Two related organizations, Women Wage Peace (WWP) and Women of the Sun (WOS), have also received nominations. WWP is the largest grassroots peace movement in Israel, while WOS is a Palestinian women's peace group that was established in 2021. These organizations have collaborated for several years, including events like the March of Hope in 2016, where thousands participated in the pursuit of peace. The group also created The Mothers' Call, a document outlining a shared vision for peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

The nomination follows the death of WWP member Vivian Silver during [the October 7 attack](#). Heiman Mina, a WWP volunteer whose mother was kidnapped during the attacks, stated that the nomination reflects the organization's commitment to increasing communication and peace efforts despite the ongoing violence throughout the region. Both groups continue to emphasize that a political solution is necessary to ensure peace and safety in the Middle East.

**Reactions and retaliatory nominations**

The **Hostages and Missing Families** forum said that the idea that **UNRWA** could win a **Nobel Peace Prize** was "unthinkable", despite the organization itself admitting that 9 of its employees were potentially involved in the **October 7 massacre**.

It is hosting a press conference on Thursday featuring Ayelet Samerano, whose 21-year-old son Yonatan Samerano was murdered on October 7. His body was taken to Gaza from Kibbutz Be'eri by a UNRWA social worker. It is still being held there.

The **conference** will also feature **Daniel Carmon, Deputy Permanent Representative at Israel's UN mission and Ambassador to India**, and Executive Director of UN Watch Hillel Neuer.

Given the depth of evidence against **UNRWA**, several other terrorists and organizations in direct violations of human rights abuses were nominated in retaliation by Israeli organizations.

The Regavim movement submitted names and organizations such as **Yahya Sinwar, the Muslim Brotherhood, Boko Haram, and China's Xingjian re-education camps**,

"If **UNRWA**, with its documented involvement in terrorism, is eligible for a prize meant to honor peace, it's only fair to consider other organizations with similar records," said Regavim's spokesperson.

"We urge the Norwegian Nobel Committee to reassess its candidate selection, and to issue a clear and unequivocal statement condemning the activities of Hamas and repudiating UNRWA's candidacy for any recognition or accolades – particularly not for a prize celebrating peace and human rights."

Maayan-Jaffe Hoffman contributed to this report. <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-824048> **This simply goes to show you how totally corrupt the Nobel group has become. The give a peace prize to the Obamanation who had done nothing and now they want to give another to a terrorist support organization. Utterly insane.** **Isaiah 5:20**

**<sup>20</sup> Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil;  
Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness;  
Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!**

- rdb]

## IDF kills 12 terrorists in Jabalya, Gaza Strip, some involved in Oct. 7

*Guided by precise intelligence information, an Israel Air Force aircraft struck the terrorists who were operating in a command center in Jabalya.*

By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) OCTOBER 10, 2024 18:39 **Updated:** OCTOBER 10, 2024 19:13



*The IDF and Shin Bet eliminated 12 Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad terrorists in Jabalya in the Gaza Strip, some of whom partook in the October 7 massacre. October 10, 2024. (photo credit: IDF SPOKESPERSON'S UNIT)*

**The IDF and Shin Bet (Israel Security Agency) killed 12 Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) terrorists in Jabalya in the Gaza Strip, the military said on Thursday, noting that some of them had been involved in the October 7 massacre.**

**An Israel Air Force aircraft struck the terrorists who were operating in a command center in Jabalya, which was previously used as a medical site.**

**Terrorists used the center to carry out terror activities**, the military noted, adding that in it were many weapons.

**The terrorists eliminated were the platoon commander in Hamas's Military**

**Intelligence Unit, Mustafa Abd Al-Aziz**; the deputy platoon commander of an anti-tank unit in Hamas's northern Brigade, **Mahmmud Khamis Suleiman Awad**; Hamas terrorists in the terror group's Eastern Jabalya Battalion, **Bilal Bashir Muhammad Al-Sharafi**.





Also killed were a Hamas terrorist in the eastern Jabalya Battalion of the terror group's military wing Saher Farid Muhammad Abu Rashed, who partook in the [October 7 massacre](#); an engineering operative in the Eastern Jabaliya Battalion, Karem Salaeh Hassan Abu-Daher; an additional terrorist in the Eastern Jabaliya Battalion, As'ad Yusuf Saeid Hazaa; a terrorist in Hamas's Military Wing, Saeid Hisar Saeid Sbaba; additional Eastern Jabaliya Battalion terrorist Ibrahim abu-aUalili.



**SUPPORTERS OF Hamas and Islamic Jihad take part in a rally last year in the southern Gaza Strip to celebrate a deadly shooting attack in Tel Aviv. (credit: ATTIA MUHAMMED/FLASH90)**

#### **Eliminating Nukhba terrorists**

**The military and Shin Bet also eliminated Nukhba terrorists in the Eastern Jabaliya Battalion who took part in the massacre, Nukhba platoon commander, Zakaria Hussein Abu-Habal and Nukhba platoon commander Muhammad Rabee Musbah Arini.**

Furthermore, the military and [Shin Bet](#) killed two PIJ terrorists, Muhammad Ibrahim Ali Bader, and Amjad Ziad Abed al-Rahman Aziz. <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-824142>

## **Fiscal deficit climbs to 8.5% as state continues to shell out for war effort**

**Deficit climbs for sixth month above 2024 government budget ceiling of 6.6%, as spending on the war with Hamas and intense fighting with Hezbollah tops NIS 103 billion**

By [Sharon Wrobel](#) Today, 6:14 pm

**Higher military and civilian spending to fund the yearlong war with Hamas and intensified fighting with Hezbollah have pushed Israel's budget deficit in September to 8.5 percent of national output, preliminary figures released by the Finance Ministry on Thursday showed.**

**It marks the sixth month the deficit is above the government's annual target of 6.6% of gross domestic product set for the end of 2024.** Israel posted a budget deficit of 4.2% of GDP in 2023 and is planning to [lower the deficit](#) to 4% in 2025.

The **deficit widened from 8.3% of GDP in August, 8.1% in July, and 7.6% in June**, amid growing **military and civilian spending** on the ongoing war which broke out after Hamas-led forces on October 7 invaded Israeli southern communities, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and taking 251 as hostages into the Gaza Strip.

Since **October 8, Hezbollah terror forces have attacked Israeli communities and military posts along the northern border on a near-daily basis**, with the group saying it is doing so to support Gaza amid the war there. The fighting in the north steadily escalated over the months, boiling over last month when Israel began a major offensive against the terror group by killing nearly its entire top leadership and launching a ground operation in southern Lebanon.

**Despite the extra funds needed to finance the fighting on multiple fronts, the Finance Ministry reiterated in recent weeks that it expects the deficit to reverse to a downward trend from October and converge to the deficit target of 6.6% of GDP by the end of 2024.**

Speaking at a Knesset Finance Committee meeting last month, **Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich echoed the commitment to meet the deficit ceiling and was even willing to bet a bottle of whiskey that it won't be breached.**

But on **Wednesday Bank of Israel Governor Amir Yaron said that the central bank raised its forecast for the deficit to 7.2% of GDP from 6.6%, due to "growth in the costs of the war** and the flows of special US aid that were partly shifted to 2025 and onward."

"Although the deficit in September has increased again, the rate of growth is moderating, as the revenue side is recovering every month, since the reversal of the downward trend four months ago in state income," said Mizrahi Tefahot Bank chief markets strategist Ronen Menachem. "The budget deficit target for 2025 is challenging and the uncertainty surrounding the forecasts on the revenue and expenditure side is high.

"However, if the trends continue, in the last quarter of the year it is likely that the starting point will be more favorable," Menachem said.

The **September figures showed that government expenditure increased to NIS 51 billion (\$13.5**

billion), taking spending since the start of the year to about NIS 450 billion, a cumulative increase of 31% compared with the same period in 2023. War costs since the outbreak of the fighting in October last year ballooned to NIS 103.4 billion.

**State revenues amounted to NIS 42.2 billion in September, up from the NIS 37.4 billion generated in the previous month.** Revenue from the beginning of the year stood at about NIS 357.3 billion compared to NIS 339.2 billion in the corresponding period last year, marking an increase of about 5.4%. Income from tax revenue rose by 9.6% in September year-on-year and is up 2.6% since the start of 2024, according to figures released by the Israel Tax Authority.

“There **has been a consistent improvement on the revenue side, in particular in revenues from indirect taxes,”** said Menachem. “This indirectly indicates continued growth in the activity of the business sector and the economy and for now does not raise fear of a possible moderation.”

Net **income from real estate taxation, which soared 46% to NIS 1.4 billion in September versus the same month in 2023, is still down 5% since the start of the year.** The collection from real estate purchase taxes jumped 34% in September year-on-year, while income from property betterment taxes leaped 52%. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/fiscal-deficit-climbs-to-8-5-as-state-continues-to-shell-out-for-war-effort/>

## Kremlin comments on reports Ukraine is ready for ceasefire

*Moscow has seen no signal from Kiev that it wants a truce despite a report from Corriere della Sera, Dmitry Peskov has said*

10 Oct, 2024 15:53



© Sputnik/Evgeny Biyatov

**Russia has not received nor seen any signals from Ukraine suggesting that it is ready for a ceasefire, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told RIA Novosti on Thursday. Earlier that same day, Italy's Corriere della Sera claimed that Kiev was leaning toward a truce along the current front line in exchange for Western security guarantees.**

**Dmitry Litvin, who serves as a communications adviser to Ukrainian leader Vladimir Zelensky, also denied**

**the allegation**, speaking to Ukrainian media. “We have the ‘peace formula’ which says clearly what Ukraine views as a just peace,” the official stressed.

**Ahead of the Ukrainian leader's upcoming visit to Rome, part of a tour of several European capitals, Corriere della Sera reported that for political reasons Zelensky cannot officially relinquish Kiev's claim to the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics, Zaporozhye and Kherson Regions as well as Crimea, which are all part of the Russian Federation and entirely or partially under Moscow's control.** However, the Ukrainian leader “*would be ready for a ceasefire along the current line - without recognizing a new official border - in exchange for some Western commitments,*” according to the Italian daily.

The **article alleged that Kiev could settle for US security guarantees**, similar to those provided to Japan, South Korea and the Philippines. As for Italy, Germany and France, Zelensky reportedly hopes to receive assurances from these countries that Ukraine will have fast-track accession to the European Union.

**Corriere della Sera attributed the supposed softening of the Ukrainian leader's stance to the accelerating Russian advance in Donbass in September**, as well as the fact that the Ukrainian military is currently outnumbered and outgunned.

On **Tuesday, Bloomberg, citing anonymous NATO officials, also reported that Zelensky could have adopted a “more flexible approach” recently.** The article suggested that Ukrainian officials had been more open to the idea of concessions to Russia, though it didn't specify what they might be.

The media outlet also named the provision of Western security guarantees as one of the prerequisites that would convince Kiev to cease hostilities along the current front line.

In his public statements, Zelensky still insists that any talks with the Kremlin can only start after the complete withdrawal of Russian forces from all the territories Kiev has lost to Moscow since 2014.

**Russia has dismissed Ukraine's ‘peace formula,’** with President Vladimir Putin saying in June that he was ready to declare a truce as long as Kiev recognizes the new “*reality on the ground*” and gives a legally binding



commitment to neutrality, which would preclude its accession to NATO. <https://www.rt.com/russia/605528-peskov-ukraine-ceasefire-readiness-report/>

## Russia reveals 'Nuclear Five' meeting plan

*The informal group is set to meet in New York in the coming weeks, Russia's deputy foreign minister has said*

10 Oct, 2024 16:09



Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov. © Sputnik / Aleksey Filippov

**A group of five nuclear-armed nations is expected to hold a meeting in New York later this month, Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov told reporters on Thursday.**

**The informal 'Nuclear Five' format brings together the permanent members of the UN Security Council – Russia, China, the US, the UK, and France, known as the P5.** Ryabkov noted that the rotating chairmanship of the P5 will soon pass from

Moscow to Beijing.

**"We wish China success in these difficult times. They can count on our support, and we hope that the Western trio of participants in this format will behave at least a little more constructively,"** the diplomat added.

**The group's discussions will be held during a session of the UN General Assembly First Committee – a body tasked with international disarmament and security issues,** Ryabkov said.

**"Currently, on the sidelines of the First Committee session, which is taking place in New York, the relevant contacts will take place. There we will learn more about China's plans for its chairmanship,"** Ryabkov stated, adding that the group's meeting is expected within the next two weeks.

The informal group last convened in July in Geneva, Switzerland, as part of preparatory work for the upcoming Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

The major international event is scheduled to take place in 2026. The Geneva talks were the last under Russia's current chairmanship, and the next round will be coordinated by China.

<https://www.rt.com/russia/605525-nuclear-weapons-nations-meeting/>

## Russia rubbishes Trump's nuclear arms claim

*No deal with China was "close" under the ex-US president and no talks are likely if he's elected again, a senior diplomat has said*

10 Oct, 2024 11:01



FILE PHOTO: Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov. © Sputnik / Kirill Kallinikov

**Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov has denied a claim that Moscow, Beijing and Washington were at one point close to reaching a denuclearization agreement, a claim made earlier this week by former US President Donald Trump.**

**"No, that is not true. It is well-known that attempts by the Trump administration to put a Chinese delegation at the negotiations table with us [Russia and the US] did not end in a success,"** the official said on Thursday. Any hypothetical nuclear reduction talks will have to involve *"nuclear allies of the US, meaning the UK and the French Republic, which, naturally, showed no desire to join the negotiations too,"* Ryabkov added.

Trump, who is running for a second term in office, has regularly raised –on his campaign trail– the existential threat posed by nuclear weapons. In an interview with comedian Andrew Schulz posted on X on Wednesday, the Republican candidate claimed that Russia, the US and China were *"close to a deal for getting rid of nuclear weapons,"* with *"everyone else"* potentially brought into it at a later time.

The US under Trump pulled out of a number of nuclear-arms-related agreements, including the bilateral

Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) with Russia, which it quit in 2018. Washington accused Moscow of violating its terms but Western press reported that the US was concerned that the agreement imposed no restrictions on its rising strategic rival, China.

The INF treaty used to ban the US and Russia from developing and deploying certain types of land-based nuclear-capable missiles. It was signed in the late 1980s and was meant to prevent an accidental nuclear war.

The scrapped weapons had flight times of mere minutes, which gave the rival sides of the Cold War a very short window to decide whether to disregard a detected launch as a false positive or to order retaliation, before any incoming weapons reach their targets and the ability to respond is diminished.

New START, the last surviving US-Russian bilateral agreement on nuclear reduction, is set to expire in 2026. Ryabkov told journalists that Moscow sees no basis for talks about its prolongation, or any other issues of strategic stability, as long as the US maintains its hostile policy towards Russia. This will remain the case “*regardless of who becomes the next president of the US*,” he stressed. <https://www.rt.com/russia/605510-ryabkov-trum-nuclear-reduction/>

## Ukrainian anti-corruption watchdog publishes damning findings

*In a sample of 392 mandatory disclosures audited by the body, just one was reportedly clean*

**Just one out of nearly 400 mandatory financial statements submitted by Ukrainian officials this year was completely free of discrepancies and violations when double-checked by the National Agency for Corruption Prevention (NACP), a consultancy reported on Wednesday.**

In almost a third of the sampled documents, investigators found serious deviations, according to Opendatabot, a firm which specializes in reporting on and interpreting government information disclosures for Ukrainian citizens and businesses.

Ukrainian anti-corruption laws mandate that public servants report on their property and income while in office. If authorities discover discrepancies totaling in excess of 500 times the minimum monthly cost of living – an adjustable metric used as a benchmark in various laws and regulations throughout the country – violators face criminal prosecution.

According to Opendatabot, the NACP selected 734 declarations from over 1.2 million submitted by mid-September and has audited 392 of them. Investigators found that only one was completely without issues.

Over half (54%) of the statements had less serious discrepancies with a value totaling less than roughly \$6,500. In another 30%, the sum involved exceeded the criminality benchmark of \$32,500, while the remaining 16% of statements fell in between the two categories. Among the worst violators, the “errors” averaged over \$363,000, Opendatabot said.

In **seven declarations, auditors found evidence of suspected embezzlement**, while in eight, officials had failed to explain the sources of their income, the report added.

**Ukrainian leader Vladimir Zelensky has allegedly pressured the domestic press not to dwell on the issue of corruption for as long as hostilities with Russia remain underway.** According to journalist Yulia Mostova, Zelensky told the press last year to “*shut up till our victory*,” claiming that otherwise “*there will be no victory*.”

His words came after the Ukrainian Defense Ministry was rocked by a major graft scandal, when journalists exposed procurement contracts where costs had been inflated. Then-Defense Minister Aleksey Reznikov was fired months later, in September 2023, but never accused of wrongdoing.

**NBC News reported in June that the issue caused a rift between the Zelensky government and US Ambassador Bridget Brink.** The American diplomat is demanding a more robust fight against corruption and – in the eyes of Ukrainian officials – has created “*unnecessary tensions*” instead of focusing on supporting Kiev in its struggle against Moscow.

An advisor to Zelensky interviewed by Time magazine in October last year told journalist Simon Shuster on condition of anonymity that people in Ukraine “*are stealing like there’s no tomorrow*.”

<https://www.rt.com/russia/605508-ukraine-income-declartations-errors/>



## BRICS working on own payment system – Russian finance minister

*The group's members want to bypass "politicized" Western platforms, Anton Siluanov has told RT*



Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov. © Sefa Karacan/Anadolu via Getty Images

**The BRICS countries are working to create their own international payments system as platforms which operate using Western infrastructure are becoming increasingly politicized,** Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov told RT in an exclusive interview with RT Arabic on Wednesday. The unprecedented sanctions campaign against Moscow

spearheaded by the US has forced Russia and other members of the economic group to look for ways to pursue trade despite the restrictions.

The new **cross-border payment infrastructure** will be based on new technologies and will enable faster and cheaper foreign trade transactions that are free from external interference, Siluanov said.

**"Our task is to create our own independent system, given the... largely political decisions of the West,"** said the minister, referring to the work undertaken by BRICS finance ministries and central banks.

*"BRICS...is beyond politics, beyond any pressures and restrictions. Its aim is to stimulate economic growth and boost the income of our citizens,"* the minister explained. The new system will use national currencies and digital currencies, added Siluanov.

**Russia's leading banks were excluded from the SWIFT** international payment system starting in 2022 as part of sweeping sanctions imposed on Moscow by the West over the Ukraine conflict.

Russian President Vladimir Putin announced last month that the BRICS member countries were jointly developing a payment and settlement framework to be used for trading within the bloc.

Russia is the current chair of BRICS; the other countries include Brazil, India, China and South Africa, as well as new members Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia and the UAE, which joined in January.

Russia will host the bloc's annual summit later this month. The members are slated to approve a new status within the group – that of a BRICS partner country. More than 30 nations, including NATO member Türkiye, have applied to join the economic bloc.

According to Siluanov, the BRICS countries will continue to reduce the share of the US dollar in mutual settlements in favor of national currencies, and also introduce digital financial assets in the future.

President Putin said in July that the pilot launch of the digital ruble, an electronic form of Russia's national currency, had been successful. The Central Bank expects to expand the circulation of the digital ruble in July 2025.

[READ MORE: Cuba wants to be part of BRICS – FM](#)

Russian media reported last month that the country's financial authorities were moving towards adopting crypto-currency for international trade. The head of the Russian Central Bank, Elvira Nabiullina, previously said that the regulator would conduct the first cross-border crypto payments by the end of the current year.

More than 95% of mutual settlements between Russia and its biggest trading partner, China, are carried out using national currencies (the ruble and yuan), Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin said in August.

<https://www.rt.com/business/605513-brics-payment-system-siluanov/>

## Top Exec Donated To Biden-Harris Campaign After Admin Cut Check To Her Chinese-Owned EV Firm, Records Show

Robert Schmad October 10, 2024 12:56 PM ET

The Biden-Harris administration gave a six-figure subsidy to a China-linked electric vehicle company in late 2022 and, roughly a year later, its president showered the Democratic presidential ticket with tens of thousands of dollars in donations, records show.

**BYD Americas received \$395,000 through the Biden-Harris administration's Clean School Bus program in October 2022, according to Environmental Protection Agency documents. Ke Li, the president of BYD Americas, then made four large donations to support President Joe Biden's**

reelection campaign on Nov. 14, 2023, funds that were transferred to Vice President Kamala Harris in July after the president dropped out of the election, campaign finance disclosures [show](#).

The **Biden-Harris administration has long touted its electric vehicle agenda** as a way to revitalize American manufacturing and to counter Chinese economic growth. Much of the government's spending to boost the industry, however, has been a [financial boon](#) for China as Chinese companies [benefit](#) from taxpayer-funded subsidies.

Li **gave \$33,400 to the Biden Victory Fund**, which has since become the Harris Victory Fund, and made two \$3,300 donations to the Biden Campaign, now the Harris campaign, on the same day, according to campaign finance records.

**Li's donation to the Democratic presidential ticket following the subsidy payment**, which the Washington Free Beacon [reported](#) Thursday, isn't the first instance of her donating to politicians who provide her company with taxpayer-funded contracts.

**Democratic California Gov. Gavin Newsom, for instance, awarded BYD a \$990 million no-bid contract to provide his state with masks during the COVID-19 pandemic. BYD had no history of manufacturing masks, or any personal protective equipment, but received the contract regardless.** BYD is BYD Americas' China-based parent company.

Li donated a total of \$50,000 to Newsom's 2018 and 2022 gubernatorial campaigns, [according](#) to state campaign contribution records. The BYD Americas president is [identified](#) by her company as a Chinese national with other company documents [indicating](#) she has a "right of abode" in the United States, the Free Beacon reported.

**While foreign nationals generally cannot contribute to political campaigns**, green card holders may do so, [according](#) to the Federal Election Commission.

**BYD, the parent company, is involved in China's Belt and Road Initiative, a massive global infrastructure project designed to boost China's influence in countries where it is present**, [according](#) to the Council on Foreign Relations. The company is also subsidized by the Chinese government, QZ [reported](#).

Congress **launched a probe into BYD and other Chinese automakers over espionage concerns** on Sept. 11, the Free Beacon [reported](#).

Other **BYD Americas executives, as well as the company itself, have poured campaign funds on Democrats and pro-Democratic groups as liberals expand the United States' electric vehicle infrastructure** and continue working to [phase out](#) gas vehicles, records show.

The **Biden-Harris administration spent hundreds of millions of dollars showering BYD Americas and other electric vehicle companies with cash to produce electric school buses** while American public schools continued to produce subpar academic outcomes.

The Harris campaign and BYD Americas did not immediately respond to the Daily Caller News Foundation's requests for comment. <https://dailycallernewsfoundation.org/2024/10/10/top-exec-donated-to-biden-harris-campaign-after-admin-cut-check-to-her-chinese-owned-ev-firm-records-show/>

## EXCLUSIVE: House GOP Presses Biden-Harris Admin To Disclose How Tax Dollars Are Funding Union Activism

Robert Schmad October 9, 2024 11:48 AM ET

**The Republican-led House Committee on Education and the Workforce sent a trio of letters Wednesday morning demanding that the Biden-Harris administration provide information on how government unions are using taxpayer resources to advance their interests.**

Federal **employees currently are allowed to use paid time during their workdays to engage in union-related business, like labor activism or filing grievances, in an arrangement called "official time."** The Biden-Harris administration has broken with historical precedent and failed to produce a report on how federal employees are using their "official time," even going as far as to allegedly pull down old reports. Now, Republican House Workforce Committee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx is requesting that [three federal agencies](#) **provide Congress with information about how much in taxpayer-funded wages employees have received to engage in union activism, how long employees spent on such activities and what they did with their official time** in a series of letters obtained exclusively by the Daily Caller News Foundation.

"The **Biden-Harris administration has also covered up the practice of 'official time,'** which



**permits federal employees to engage in union activities during work hours instead of focusing** on the public service they were hired to do,” the committee’s letter to the Department of Labor reads. “Federal agencies and unions negotiate over issues most taxpayers would consider a waste of time and attention. Examples include the addition of 14 inches in the height of cubicle desk panels, designated smoking areas on an otherwise tobacco-free campus; and federal employees’ right to wear shorts, sweatpants and spandex at work.”

**The House Workforce Committee has also requested that the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) disclose to Congress how their employees are using their official time.**

During the **2019 fiscal year, the last year for which data is available, on-the-clock union activism conducted by federal employees cost taxpayers \$135 million,** [according](#) to an Office of Personnel Management report. Federal employees spent 2.6 million hours, roughly 296 years, engaging in union-related activities instead of doing their jobs.

**“Taxpayers deserve federal agencies that spend every ounce of their efforts to fulfill their missions as created by Congress,” the committee’s letter reads.**

**Public unions, including those representing federal employees, overwhelmingly support the Democratic Party.**

The [top 20](#) recipients of public union funds this election cycle have been Democrats and virtually all public unions [give primarily](#) to Democratic or liberal causes, according to OpenSecrets. Roughly 60% of contributions from federal workers went to Joe Biden during the 2020 election, including 91% of donations from DOL workers and 85% of donations from people employed by the Department of Justice, [according](#) to Government Executive.

In addition to compensating federal employees for their union activities, the federal government is also on the hook to cover costs related to collective bargaining, according to the letters.

**The House Workforce Committee, for instance, is requesting that the trio of agencies disclose the total amount of taxpayer dollars that went toward retaining experts for use in union negotiations, travel, lodging expenses, administrative costs for collective bargaining and the market cost of government-owned office space provided to unions.**

The **agencies use “significant amounts of taxpayers’ money to promote the interests of federal employee unions” that could be** used to “implement programs that would benefit the American people,” according to the letters. The three government bodies have until Oct. 24 to respond to the committee’s requests.

“We have received the letter,” an EEOC spokesperson told the DCNF. “We will continue to work with our partners in Congress to prevent and remedy unlawful employment discrimination and advance equal employment opportunity for all.”

The DOL and NLRB did not immediately respond to the DCNF’s requests for comment.

<https://dailycallernewsfoundation.org/2024/10/09/exclusive-house-gop-presses-biden-harris-admin-to-disclose-how-tax-dollars-are-funding-union-activism/>

## **VP's husband, VP candidate walk into a coffee shop...**

***And leave cashier's stand without paying!***

By [Bob Unruh](#)

[October 10, 2024](#)



*Doug Emhoff, Tim Walz leaving a coffee shop's cashier's stand without paying*

**A vice president's husband and a vice presidential candidate walk into a coffee shop...**

**(Stop me if you've heard this one.)**

**And they leave without paying, leaving a daughter to explain to the cashier that "someone" is coming.**

Tampon Tim and Doug went to a coffee shop, walked away from the counter without paying, **and left Tim's daughter to inform the**

**cashiers that a handler will be coming to pay with a credit card.**

Just like every middle class person does lmfao. [pic.twitter.com/a95EK7gyU0](https://pic.twitter.com/a95EK7gyU0)

— Greg Price (@greg\_price11) [October 9, 2024](#)

**A report at the Gateway Pundit said it happened when, "Kamala Harris's multi-millionaire husband Doug Emhoff and Tim Walz walked away from a cashier at a coffee shop in Phoenix without paying."**

**"After the two left, Tim Walz's young daughter, Hope, scrambled to get a staffer's credit card,"** the report said. "Tim Walz and Doug Emhoff walked into Otro Cafe like they owned the place."

This scene of Timothy Walz and "Doug" ordering pastries couldn't be more awkward.

[pic.twitter.com/UIB1ZHDxo5](https://pic.twitter.com/UIB1ZHDxo5)

— Trump War Room (@TrumpWarRoom) [October 9, 2024](#)

"Doug" and Tampon Tim Walz walk away from the counter without paying, leaving Tim's daughter to inform the cashier that a staffer will soon be up with a credit card.

[pic.twitter.com/lue3VtTg4H](https://pic.twitter.com/lue3VtTg4H)

— Trump War Room (@TrumpWarRoom) [October 9, 2024](#)

**Walz reportedly ordered an iced tea and Emhoff ordered a coffee, got their drinks, and walked away.**

**"Thank you so much and someone will be up here to pay. He's coming," Walz's daughter said pointing at a staffer, the report explained.**

They didn't leave a tip, the report said.

**Social media's conclusion? "Trump would have paid everyone's bill and tipped like a boss."**

**With the explanation, "Wow! Stiffing that poor shop.** Trump pays for everybody and tips big. This is the difference between a stand-up guy like Trump and elitists who think they should get everything for free just because of who they are. PATHETIC." <https://www.wnd.com/2024/10/vps-husband-vp-candidate-walk-into-a-coffee-shop/> **[Character always comes out in the end.! NO character her. – rdb]**





(30) TPV Sean on X: "Japan Warns Bill Gates His "Days Are Numbered" After Abortion Drugs Found in Vaccines Japan has sent a clear message to Bill Gates - his time is running out. With the government's Covid Task Force swiftly uncovering his crimes, the walls are closing in on the globalist kingpin. <https://t.co/icMwZdlxzB>" / X **More criminal action by Gates. - rdb**

**OP ED**

## Inside The October 7th War

Wed, 9 Oct 2024 10:48 AM PST by Daniel Greenfield



**On Oct 7, 2023, thousands of Hamas terrorists invaded Israel. Their mission was to wipe out the Jewish population in the nearby towns, secure them and use them as forward operating bases for the next phase of the war. While the atrocities they committed in that initial assault, entire families burned alive in their homes, women raped and kidnapped, and babies killed, made it look like a terrorist attack on a large scale, Oct 7 had not been meant as a hit and run operation.**

Hamas had risked too much and put too many men in the field for it to be anything other than an invasion. Its plans to continue advancing into Israel appear unrealistic only out of context.

The thousands of terrorists from Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Fatah had been meant as the tip of a larger spear. Thousands of Hezbollah and allied terrorists had been in position on Oct 7. Had Hamas been able to hang on to Israeli territory, they would have invaded the Galilee, but after the initial shock and long delays throughout that first day, the Israeli military regrouped.

The Hezbollah invasion was postponed until it was briefly revived by the Islamic terror group around the time of the pager attacks and then shut down by targeted Israeli strikes.

Oct 7 had been Hezbollah's plan before it was executed by Hamas. Hezbollah had even spent years boasting about using its network of tunnels to invade and conquer the Galilee, but the funding and plans had come out of Tehran. Yet when push came to shove, Hezbollah hesitated.

Iran had planned for an Oct 7 that would have dealt a catastrophic blow to Israel. The original plot would have seen coordinated Hamas and Hezbollah invasions backed by heavy rocket campaigns not only by Hezbollah, but by the Houthis in Yemen and Iran's militias in Iraq targeting Israeli bases, military assets and infrastructure. Terror groups in the West Bank would have launched their own assaults creating a multi-front guerrilla war deep inside Israel. Even if Israel had beaten back the attacks, many of the Jewish communities would have been in ashes.

And seeing Israel's weakness, hostile Muslim major military forces from Egypt and Turkey might well have joined in leading to a conflict more on the scale of another Yom Kippur War.

The death toll would not have been over 1,000, but in the tens of thousands at the very least, and perhaps, unimaginably, even more than that on the scale of another Holocaust.

Iran had planned to break Israel on the final day of the Jewish High Holy Days. And to also break the United States with it by taking out a key American coalition partner in the region.

The Biden-Harris administration had overseen the two treacherous deals with Hamas and Hezbollah. The Israeli-Lebanese maritime deal had turned over parts of Israel's gas field to Hezbollah's puppet regime in Beirut and an 'understanding' had moved Qatari money to Hamas.

Both deals had been meant to assure quiet with Israel. And for a little bit they seemed to work.

The Biden-Harris administration's diplomacy however had been subverted by Iranian and other enemy agents. The deals did not assure an end to the fighting, but a planned campaign against Israel timed ahead of Iran's nuclear breakout and the upcoming presidential election.

The Iranian campaign however fell apart early due to bloodlust, scheming and cowardice.

The Iranian plan to take out Israel's defenses and communications worked. The Israeli army and air force wasted precious hours figuring out what was going on and how to respond. But Hamas had drugged its terrorists with Hezbollah's 'captagon' amphetamines. Whether it was the drug or their religion, the terrorists spent too much time glorying in their brutality, including the attack on the Nova festival, to execute the next part of their mission

and secure a foothold.

After some initial battles against outnumbered Israeli forces, the tide turned once the Israelis finally understood the scale of the attack they were dealing with. And Hamas was demolished.

The original plan to link up with elements in the West Bank was sidelined for the Hamas goal of displacing the Palestinian Authority and so it did not risk coordinating with anyone there. By the time anyone in the West Bank had a sense of what was going on, Hamas had already lost.

Iran had made sure that Hezbollah was ready and waiting on the border, but the Islamic terror group had already spent years taking a beating for Tehran in the Syrian Civil War. Nasrallah and the Hezbollah leadership had secured control over Lebanon and did not want to risk it in an operation that would decimate the terror group if Hamas could not deliver on Oct 7.

When Hamas failed to hold up its end, Hezbollah did not invade, but began a running war with Israel as prep for a potential invasion. Israel targeted Hezbollah positions while the Islamic terror group depopulated parts of northern Israel. Hezbollah was giving its Iranian bosses some of what they wanted without actually committing to a full scale war with the Jewish State.

The Biden-Harris administration's ceasefire agenda and rallies inside Israel for a hostage deal at any cost kept the Hezbollah campaign alive by transforming an invasion prep campaign into a pressure campaign to spare Hamas. Hezbollah would have likely stepped down once it was clear that Hamas had lost, if talk of a deal had not provided a lifeline to the terror group.

Hezbollah miscalculated that Israel was too weakened by Oct 7 and its engagement in Gaza to respond. It gloated over worried headlines in the Israeli media about its massive stockpile of rockets. Nasrallah and the Hezbollah leadership became convinced Israel was terrified of it.

But as Israel's large-scale confrontations with Hamas wound down and Hezbollah's attacks escalated, the war shifted over to Lebanon. In the year of fighting, Hamas had become too small to present a useful target for large scale military operations. The Israeli campaign in Gaza had fractured the Hamas terrorist operations back down to the cell structure where terrorist groups first begin. Hezbollah however was just the right size to take on. And it was thoroughly bugged.

Israel's campaign struck shattering blows to the morale of Iran's Islamic terror coalition.

Iran's ballistic missile attacks on Israel were not a sign of strength, but of weakness. Hamas and Hezbollah, Iran's local proxies, had become too weakened to do the job. The Houthis and Iraqi militias can contribute something to the attacks on Israel, but not nearly enough. What initially looked like a solid projection of force by an Iranian Shiite coalition is falling apart into chaos.

But the collapse really began on Oct 7 when Hamas faltered and Hezbollah did not invade. Hamas proved unable to control its urge to kill Jews long enough to secure military objectives. Hezbollah was unwilling to put everything on the line for Hamas. Iran was happy to see Hamas and Hezbollah bleed, but unwilling to take any major risks until they had delivered real results. Iran had exploited Hamas and Hezbollah, and Hezbollah had sold out Hamas on Oct 7.

And the result was that what was meant to be another Holocaust failed.

Many Israelis suffered unimaginably on Oct 7. Mothers were killed in front of children. Pregnant women were butchered. Families were burned alive in their homes. But Israel is still here.

And it's winning.

It's winning despite European arms embargoes and threats from the Biden-Harris administration. It's winning because Israel knows there is no alternative to victory.

Oct 7 shattered the complacency some Israelis had developed about their situation. The months since have made it clear that no amount of deals are a substitute for security. Threats as a deterrent cease to provide any leverage when the enemy stops fearing they will be carried out.

A year later, Israel is battered, but Israelis can envision a future in which they will not have to live in bomb shelters or appease terrorists in the hopes of being allowed to go on with their lives.

Last year, Israelis thought that life would mostly go on the way it had. Now they know it cannot.

December 7, 1941. 9/11. Oct 7. These are not just dates: they are wake up calls. A year later after a long day of terror and death on what was to be a joyous holiday, Israel is awake.

*Daniel Greenfield is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's [Front Page Magazine](https://bkdvk-zgpvh.campaign-view.com/ua/viewinbrowser).*

<https://bkdvk-zgpvh.campaign-view.com/ua/viewinbrowser>