**01/14/2022 NEWS**

**King David's Palace in the City of David**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sRaY8zv3Xc**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sRaY8zv3Xc)

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| **"Among those who dislike oppression are many who like to oppress." -- Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821) French emperor** |

**Read the Prophets & PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!**

**That is the only hope for this nation!**

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| **Please**  **Remember**  **These**  **Folks**  **In**  **Prayer-**  **Check often**  **They**  **Change!** | **Pray that the world would WAKE UP! Time for a worldwide repentance!**  **ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world**  **Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.**  **Pray for TS bat Y - Admitted to hospital with Covid not on vent yet**  **Pray for BB – Severe sciatic needing procedure.**  **Pray for TH - Knee and Blood pressure problems.**  **Pray for EL – Had clot embolized to brain – successful ‘clot buster’ but long road to go.**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 3:17And I have said: I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite, unto a land flowing with milk and honey. 18And they shall hearken to thy voice. And thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him: The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, hath met with us. And now let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God. 19And I know that the king of Egypt will not give you leave to go, except by a mighty hand.

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| **Vaccine Secrets – Reloaded – a docu-series concerning the Cov**  [**Trailer - Vaccine Secrets (vsecretscc.com)**](https://vsecretscc.com/)  **This is a rather long series of videos being released exposing the Cov JAB problems**  **Targeted Genocide: Deadly Vax Lot Numbers Identified**  [**https://www.brighteon.com/cc47526e-aadb-46db-adc7-7372f2dcdc1f**](https://www.brighteon.com/cc47526e-aadb-46db-adc7-7372f2dcdc1f)  **Morgan Wallace, RN BSN CCRN AGAC-NP slays it at NHCS School Board Meeting 1/4/22**  [**https://www.bitchute.com/video/SIgUnnncYK2W/**](https://www.bitchute.com/video/SIgUnnncYK2W/)  **David Martin Explains Why Forced Vaccinations Are ILLEGAL Under U.S. Law!**  [**https://rumble.com/vs9jrz-david-martin-explains-why-forced-vaccinations-are-illegal-under-u.s.-law.html**](https://rumble.com/vs9jrz-david-martin-explains-why-forced-vaccinations-are-illegal-under-u.s.-law.html)  **Dr. David Martin | Exposing the Coup D'Etat & the Plot to Steal America**  [**https://rumble.com/vql4ow-dr.-martin.html**](https://rumble.com/vql4ow-dr.-martin.html) |

**Initial IDF probe faults lack of coordination for ‘friendly fire’ that killed 2**

***Soldiers set out on patrol in two groups, without knowing about one another; officer apparently thought he came upon armed suspects when he opened fire, IDF general says***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 1:40 pm*

[A picture containing text, outdoor, person

Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/FotoJet-55-e1642073988157.jpg)

The area close to the base where two IDF soldiers were killed in a so-called friendly fire incident the night before, on January 13, 2022 (Yonathan Sindel/Flash90); Maj. Itamar Elharar, top right, and Maj. Ofek Aharon, bottom right (Israel Defense Forces)

Army chief Aviv Kohavi vowed on Thursday that the deaths of two officers on Wednesday night, in a case of so-called friendly fire apparently following a misunderstanding, would be thoroughly investigated.

Retired major general Noam Tibon would lead a probe, alongside another to be conducted by Military Police, who are required to open an investigation into every soldier’s death.

Kohavi also called for an immediate halt to all non-critical activities throughout the Israel Defense Forces in order to discuss the recent events.

According to the commander of the IDF Central Command, Maj. Gen. Yehuda Fuchs, on Wednesday night two patrols from the elite Egoz Unit set out from the shooting range next to the Nabi Musa base in the Jordan Valley, separately and unaware of one another, in order to find a person who had stolen night-vision equipment from the base the day before and to prevent further thefts.

One patrol consisted of three company commanders and a soldier, while the second was an officer acting alone. Other officers on the base were informed of the two patrols, but they did not know about each other, Fuchs told reporters on Thursday.

A picture containing outdoor, mountain, nature, dune

Description automatically generated Shortly before 11 p.m., the group of four commandos, using night vision capabilities, spotted the lone officer and believed he was an armed suspect.

IDF Chief of Staff Aviv Kohaviis part of a group at the scene where two IDF soldiers were killed in a so-called friendly fire incident on January 13, 2022 (Yonathan Sindel/Flash90)

They approached him and as they got within close range, he noticed them as well with his own night-vision capabilities.

Believing he had come upon a group of armed suspects, the officer apparently opened fire first, killing the two officers — Maj. Ofek Aharon and Maj. Itamar Elharar — before realizing that they were fellow IDF servicemen, according to the preliminary probe.

A picture containing person, sky, outdoor, person

Description automatically generated

Undated photographs of Maj. Itamar Elharar, left, and Maj. Ofek Aharon, who were killed in a friendly fire incident outside their base in the Jordan Valley on January 12, 2022. (Israel Defense Forces)

This contradicted the military’s initial report that Aharon and Elharar’s group had fired their guns into the air before the officer shot at them.

Fuchs said that many details of the incident were still being examined. He also stressed that this was still an initial assessment and that the issue of who fired first would be investigated more thoroughly by Military Police.

Asked if this accident was caused by a recent contentious change to IDF open-fire protocols, which allowed soldiers to use deadly force to prevent the frequent thefts from military bases, Fuchs denied a connection, since the officer saw that the group he fired at were holding weapons and believed his life to be in danger.

“It doesn’t matter if the rules of engagement were stricter or looser. This was a decision made in seconds, in less than a second,” Fuchs said.

Fuchs said the two groups didn’t have radios — which may have contributed to the deadly confusion — and called for help on their cellphones.

He described the two fallen officers as “incredible company commanders,” each of whom was expected to have a military career.

Elharar, 26, was set to begin a part-time university program while staying in the military, while Aharon, 28, was scheduled to be promoted next summer, either to a high position within the Egoz Unit or to the Golani Brigade where he would serve as a deputy battalion commander, Fuchs said.

Visiting the Nabi Musa base, IDF Chief of Staff Kohavi sent his condolences to the officers’ families and promised to investigate the incident “rigorously and to learn lessons” from it.

“The incident last night was incredibly serious and deeply upsetting. Preserving human life is at the top of our priorities,” Kohavi said.

“We must do whatever is in our power to prevent incidents like this,” he added.

Earlier on Thursday, IDF Spokesperson Ran Kochav said that in addition to consoling the families of the officers who were killed, the military would be compassionate toward the officer who mistakenly killed them.

“We will need to embrace the officer, to take care of him, to show that we are protecting him. He, of course, did this accidentally, resulting in the deaths of his friends,” Kochav said.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz expressed his condolences to the families of the fallen officers, promising a thorough investigation.

“The IDF is in the midst of a comprehensive investigation, and we will do everything to ensure that a tragedy like this does not repeat itself,” Gantz said in a statement.

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett also consoled the families, saying their loved ones had “devoted the best years of their lives to the security of Israel and the defense of the homeland.”

“The entire people of Israel mourns their passing,” he added.

The deaths came a week after two IAF pilots were [killed in a helicopter crash](https://www.timesofisrael.com/helicopter-crashes-off-haifa-coast-search-teams-sent-to-scene/) in the sea off the coast of Haifa.

Elharar was due to be buried on Thursday at 2:30 p.m. at the military cemetery in Kiryat Malachi, and Aharon’s funeral was scheduled for 4:15 p.m. at the military plot in Gan Yavne, the military said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/initial-idf-probe-faults-lack-of-coordination-for-friendly-fire-that-killed-2/> [Way too tragic. The officer who fired will never be the same. – rdb]

**Hundreds of Bedouins clash with police over controversial Negev tree planting**

***Demonstrators block highway; officers respond with tear gas, stun grenades; 3 hospitalized, 13 arrested during 3rd day of protests***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:01 pm*

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| [Bedouin protesters and Israeli forces clash during a protest in the southern Israeli village of Sawe al-Atrash in the Negev Desert against a forestation project by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), on January 13, 2022. (Menahem KAHANA / AFP)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/000_9W43CW.jpg)  Bedouin protesters and Israeli forces clash during a protest in the southern Israeli village of Sawe al-Atrash in the Negev Desert against a forestation project by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), on January 13, 2022. (Menahem KAHANA / AFP) | [Bedouin protesters and Israeli forces clash during a protest in the southern Israeli village of Sawe al-Atrash in the Negev Desert against a forestation project by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), on January 13, 2022. (Menahem KAHANA / AFP)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/000_9W42T6.jpg)  Bedouin protesters and Israeli forces clash during a protest in the southern Israeli village of Sawe al-Atrash in the Negev Desert against a forestation project by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), on January 13, 2022. (Menahem KAHANA / AFP) |

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| [Bedouin protesters and Israeli forces clash during a protest in the southern Israeli village of Sawe al-Atrash in the Negev Desert against a forestation project by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), on January 13, 2022. (Menahem KAHANA / AFP)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/000_9W434J.jpg)  Bedouin protesters and Israeli forces clash during a protest in the southern Israeli village of Sawe al-Atrash in the Negev Desert against a forestation project by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), on January 13, 2022. (Menahem KAHANA / AFP) | [Bedouin protesters and Israeli forces clash during a protest in the southern Israeli village of Sawe al-Atrash in the Negev Desert against an forestation project by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), on January 13, 2022. (Jamal Awad/Flash90)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/F220113JA16.jpg)  Bedouin protesters and Israeli forces clash during a protest in the southern Israeli village of Sawe al-Atrash in the Negev Desert against an forestation project by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), on January 13, 2022. (Jamal Awad/Flash90) |

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/000_9W43CQ.jpg)

Bedouin protesters and Israeli forces clash during a protest in the southern Israeli village of Sawe al-Atrash in the Negev Desert against a forestation project by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), on January 13, 2022. (Menahem KAHANA / AFP)

Hundreds of Bedouin protesters clashed with police on Thursday afternoon for the third day in a row over a controversial forestation project in the Negev Desert, despite reports indicating the government was seeking a compromise.

The demonstrators blocked the Route 31 highway near the southern village of Sawe al-Atrash, and some hurled stones at officers, according to police.

Video posted online showed officers using stun grenades and tear gas to disperse the demonstration.

At least 12 demonstrators were reportedly hurt during the clash, of whom three were hospitalized at Beersheba’s Soroka Medical Center.

Police said 13 people were arrested at Thursday’s protest.

Police said that due to the demonstration, the highway remained closed from Shoket Junction to Tel Arad Junction. “We will allow freedom of protest as long as it is done according to the law, and we will act with zero tolerance against disturbance,” the police statement read.

شاهد| لحظة قمع الاحتلال تظاهرة في النقب المحتل، نظمها الفلسطينيون رفضًا لمحاولات السيطرة على أراضيهم.[#انقذوا\_النقب](https://twitter.com/hashtag/%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%82%D8%B0%D9%88%D8%A7_%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%86%D9%82%D8%A8?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [pic.twitter.com/taEK0Qwvjg](https://t.co/taEK0Qwvjg)

— المقدسي للإعلام (@AlmakdesyMedia) [January 13, 2022](https://twitter.com/AlmakdesyMedia/status/1481621275260985353?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

The demonstrations came following a Jewish National Fund planting in the region, seen by the Bedouin communities as part of a government effort to expel them from their unrecognized hamlets.

Police said Thursday morning that 21 rioters were arrested during the night in Tel Sheva, Segev Shalom and Rahat. On the previous night, 18 people were arrested.

Citing unnamed sources with knowledge of the matter, the Kan public broadcaster reported Wednesday that an “unprecedented” plan was to be advanced by the government that would include recognition of 10 to 12 Bedouin villages that are currently illegal.

The report said that planned planting in the most contentious areas — where the Bedouin al-Atrash clan lives — won’t resume next week to give the negotiations a chance to progress, though it will resume elsewhere.

The planting and the ensuing violent clashes with police threatened to topple Israel’s nascent, motley coalition, with the Islamist Ra’am party vowing to boycott plenum votes as long as Keren Kayemet L’Yisrael-Jewish National Fund’s (KKL-JNF) work continued in the Negev, where they enjoy the largest bloc of support.

In response to the announcement from Ra’am chairman Mansour Abbas, Yamina MK Nir Orbach announced Wednesday that he too would not attend plenum votes so long as Ra’am refused to do so. And Meretz MK Yair Golan threatened to do the same too, after Housing Minister Ze’ev Elkin of the New Hope party vowed that the tree-planting would continue. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/hundreds-of-bedouins-clash-with-police-over-controversial-negev-tree-planting/>

**Bennett to Putin: World must stand firm against Iran’s nuclear progress**

***In phone call, Russian president invites PM and his wife to St. Petersburg, months after the pair met face to face in Sochi***

*By* [*Amy Spiro*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/amy-spiro/) *Today, 4:13 pm*

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett told Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday that countries negotiating with Iran in Vienna must stand firm against progress in Tehran’s nuclear program.

According to the Prime Minister’s Office, the two spoke via phone about regional security issues, and agreed on “continued close cooperation in this area” — a likely reference to Israeli Air Force activity in Syria, where Moscow maintains a military presence.

“Against the backdrop of the nuclear talks in Vienna, the prime minister stressed the importance of a strong and determined stance against Iran’s progress in the nuclear project,” the statement read.

The PMO said the conversation between the pair was “good” and that Putin invited Bennett and his wife to visit St. Petersburg, an invitation the prime minister indicated he would accept.

Russia is one of seven parties — along with China, France, the UK, the US, the EU and Germany — negotiating with Tehran in Vienna over its nuclear program. The talks restarted in November after taking a months-long break during which hardliner Ebrahim Raisi was elected president of Iran.

In recent days, Iranian officials have expressed more optimism than other parties to the talks about the possibility of reaching an agreement, but international leaders as well as Israeli officials are [increasingly convinced a deal is on the way](https://www.timesofisrael.com/expectations-grow-for-a-deal-to-emerge-from-iran-nuclear-talks/).

French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, however, [said Tuesday](https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-nuclear-talks-proceeding-too-slowly-france-says/) that talks are proceeding so slowly that they are unlikely to lead to any agreement “within a realistic timeframe.”

On Monday, Iran’s foreign ministry spokesman said that efforts by “all parties” to revive his country’s 2015 nuclear agreement with world powers had resulted in “good progress” during the Vienna talks.

Reports have [indicated that](https://www.timesofisrael.com/white-house-focusing-blame-on-reckless-trump-ahead-of-iran-nuclear-deal-decision/) the negotiations are expected to culminate by the end of January or early February.

Britain, France and Germany said last month that the window for concluding a deal was “weeks, not months,” due to the speed of Iran’s nuclear enrichment.

On Saturday, Foreign Minister Yair Lapid [spoke with](https://www.timesofisrael.com/lapid-speaks-to-macron-calls-for-pressure-on-iran-as-vienna-nuclear-talks-continue/) French President Emmanuel Macron about the talks, in a discussion centered on “Israel’s demand to put pressure on Iran,” said Lapid.

Bennett [met Putin in Sochi](https://www.timesofisrael.com/meeting-bennett-putin-says-he-aims-to-continue-warm-ties-forged-under-netanyahu/) in October, the first time they sat down face to face since Bennett became prime minister.

Putin had been seen as having a warm relationship with former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, but the Russian leader told Bennett he hoped to continue with him in the same vein. Putin also [spoke late last month](https://www.timesofisrael.com/herzog-putin-invite-one-another-for-visits-during-phone-call/) with President Isaac Herzog, and they each invited each other to visit their respective countries.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov was slated to visit Israel last month and meet with Bennett, Herzog and Lapid, but [canceled at the last minute](https://www.timesofisrael.com/russias-foreign-minister-cancels-trip-to-israel-north-africa/), without giving a clear reason. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/bennett-to-putin-world-must-stand-firm-against-irans-nuclear-progress/> [Good luck with this one because the US is hell bent on some kind of agreement to make it look like they are doing something and the EU group likewise just wants to be able to have trade with them even thought they haven’t the brains to understand that once Iran is nuclear the EU will be toast – rdb]

**Report: Prosecutors could close Case 2000, nix Netanyahu bribery charge in plea deal**

***Some reports say ex-PM willing to admit breach of trust, step down from politics for a few years; AG said not to be demanding jail term; gaps between sides said to be narrow***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 12:05 pmUpdated at 4:23 pm* State prosecutors are willing to significantly reduce the charges against former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu as the sides discuss a possible plea deal, according to a new report from Channel 12.  
 Over the past few days, a wide range of conflicting reports have emerged about details of a potential plea deal between Netanyahu and the state in his ongoing corruption trial in three separate graft cases.  
 According to a Channel 12 report on Thursday, the prosecution is willing to close one of the cases against Netanyahu — Case 2000, in which he is accused of attempting to reach a quid pro quo with Yedioth Ahronoth publisher Arnon Mozes for positive media coverage.  
 Prosecutors are also said to be willing to remove the bribery charge in Case 4000 — the most serious charge Netanyahu faces. In that case, he is alleged to have worked to illicitly and lucratively benefit the business interests of controlling shareholder of the Bezeq media company Shaul Elovitch in exchange for positive coverage on the Walla news site owned by Elovitch.  
 And prosecutors are also reportedly willing to soften the charges in Case 1000 to remove allegations of fraud and leave only breach of trust charges.  
 The prosecution is also prepared not to demand a jail term, Channel 12 reported, under an arrangement in which Netanyahu would quit politics now and stay away from politics for several years.  
 The network said the gaps between the sides are very narrow, with the central question being Netanyahu’s future in politics — whether he would immediately quit the Knesset or do so only once a verdict is given.  
 Channel 12 said it was a distinct possibility that a plea deal will be signed “within days,” before Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit leaves office at the end of the month.

The Maariv daily [revealed the existence of the talks on Wednesday](https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-held-talks-with-prosecutors-on-potential-plea-deal-report/), saying they had broken down over the dispute of a clause keeping Netanyahu out of office.  
 But both Channel 12 news and Channel 13 news reported later Wednesday that the talks were ongoing, with an “open channel” between the sides.  
 The Maariv report, citing sources familiar with the details, said the former prime minister has refused to budge in his demand that the agreement include neither an admission of moral turpitude nor, by implication, a prison sentence. The report said that the discussions have been held under strict secrecy, and have gone on for a number of weeks.  
 Channel 13, meanwhile, reported that Netanyahu is willing to admit to breach of trust — which could include a several-month prison sentence, or more likely community service — and to stay away from politics for a few years, in the hope of returning afterward. The station also said that Netanyahu is seeking to simply delay any ruling on moral turpitude, and resign from the Knesset, ostensibly negating the need for the court to rule on it.  
 Meanwhile, the Kan public broadcaster said Mandelblit was insisting on Netanyahu being kept out of politics for at least several years.  
 Channel 12 reported that prosecutors were demanding a suspended sentence that would be converted into at least three months of community service, and the deal would include moral turpitude and thus keep the 72-year-old Netanyahu away from public life for seven years, likely ending his long political career.

Channel 12 cited sources within the prosecutor’s office saying Netanyahu initiated the talks, and calling some of his conduct in the negotiations “insolent.” One source was quoted as carping that Netanyahu was seeking a deal in which he would actually come out ahead.

Several reports have said Netanyahu is trying to build on a recent plea deal prosecutors reached with Shas party leader Aryeh Deri, which downgraded the original bribery charge and saw him resign from the Knesset, though he may still be able to run for parliament again in the next election, with the issue of moral turpitude to be discussed in the future.

Netanyahu hasn’t publicly responded to the flurry of reports on the matter, possibly indicating that he sees potential in the negotiations. He has previously insisted that he would not seek a plea bargain, since the allegations against him are unfounded.

The State’s Attorney Office has also refused to comment on the flurry of recent reports, telling Maariv: “As a policy, we do not respond to questions about conversations with defense attorneys, whether they have occurred or not. This does not confirm or deny anything of what has been alleged.”

Wednesday’s reports were the first indication of discussions for a potential plea deal, but it is not the first time that Netanyahu has reportedly tried to reach some kind of agreement to prevent or end his trial. MORE -

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/talks-for-netanyahu-plea-deal-said-ongoing-with-sides-disagreeing-over-details/> [Never ending political corruption in most every Government throughout the world. Given any power and they abuse it, from presidents and prime ministers to local officials. – rdb]

**Thousands of right-wing activists rally in Jerusalem to ‘overthrow evil government’**

***Fearing more demolitions at illegal West Bank outpost, demonstrators and opposition MKs protest government policies outside PM’s office***

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/F220113OF126.jpg)*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *13 January 2022, 10:44 pm*

Right-wing activists protest the demolition of structures at the illegal West Bank outpost of Homesh, outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem, on January 13, 2022. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

Thousands of people turned out Thursday night for a right-wing demonstration against the government outside Prime Minister Naftali Bennett’s office in Jerusalem.

Religious Zionism MKs Bezalel Smotrich, Itamar Ben Gvir and Simcha Rothman, as well as Likud MK Shlomo Karhi, were among several opposition lawmakers and officials who spoke at the protest, organized by Samaria Regional Council head Yossi Dagan.

The demonstration was originally aimed at protesting the government’s attitude toward illegal outposts, claiming it was delegitimizing the settler movement.

But many participants held signs and chanted against the government as a whole, and specifically against any compromise with Bedouin demonstrators in southern Israel, following clashes over a [controversial tree planting](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hundreds-of-bedouins-clash-with-police-over-controversial-negev-tree-planting/) initiative in the area.

Some signs read: “We want a Jewish state” and “Bennett resign.”

Police estimated that thousands showed up to the protest, but did not immediately give a more specific number.

A group of people holding signs

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Right-wing activists protest the demolition of structures at the illegal West Bank outpost of Homesh, outside the Prime Minister’s Office in Jerusalem, on January 13, 2022. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

“A government that rewards terrorism is a dangerous government for the country. Bennett and his friends abandoned the State of Israel, only yesterday they decided to eliminate planting in the Negev following the Bedouin violence, and are now eliminating the Homesh yeshiva in response to the horrific murder,” Smotrich said, according to the Israel Hayom daily.

Smotrich was referring to structures erected illegally at the wildcat outpost of Homesh in the West Bank, near where an Israeli man, [Yehuda Dimentman](https://www.timesofisrael.com/one-killed-two-injured-in-northern-west-bank-shooting/), was shot dead in a terror attack in December.

After [several of those structures](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-forces-raze-structures-set-up-at-illegal-outpost-after-deadly-terror-attack/) — erected on private Palestinian land — were [razed a week after the attack](https://www.timesofisrael.com/border-cops-raze-buildings-at-illegal-outpost-as-army-girds-for-west-bank-clashes/), right-wing activists and settler groups fear more demolitions are to come. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/right-wing-activists-rally-in-jerusalem-to-overthrow-evil-government/>

**COVID czar: Non-essential medical treatment may need to be halted in Omicron wave**

***Salman Zarka says he cannot promise that a lockdown will not become necessary if hospitals are overwhelmed***

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/F220113YS38.jpg)*By* [*Amy Spiro*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/amy-spiro/) *Today, 6:40 pm*

Healthcare workers wear safety gear as they work in the COVID ward of the Herzog Medical Center in Jerusalem, on January 13, 2022. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Government coronavirus czar Salman Zarka said Thursday that as COVID infection rates soar and increasing numbers of medical staff are infected, non-essential treatments may need to be temporarily frozen.

During a live online briefing, Zarka said that the numbers of absent health workers, as well as rising numbers of COVID, flu and other patients, has placed immense pressure on the health system.

Rising infection “brings us immense challenges in terms of preserving essential services,” said Zarka, and health officials are therefore considering “minimizing non-essential treatments.”

Zarka said that such decisions are likely to be made on a hospital-by-hospital basis, depending on the availability of medical staff and hospital beds.

As of Thursday morning, there were 5,657 medical staffers nationwide in quarantine due to infection or exposure, according to the Health Ministry, including 767 doctors and more than 1,500 nurses.

As of Wednesday, 86% of hospital beds nationwide in all wards were occupied, an uptick from the same time last year, and close to 82% of beds in internal medicine wards across the country were occupied, compared to 74% at the same time last year.

Certain hospitals are already stretched past their limits, with Hadassah Ein Kerem in Jerusalem standing at more than 100% total occupancy and at 110% occupancy in internal medicine.

A person in a suit and tie

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Coronavirus czar Salman Zarka attends a press conference about the coronavirus, in Jerusalem, on August 29, 2021. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

Urging the public to get vaccinated or get booster doses, as well as wear masks and stay home if they feel unwell, Zarka said the Omicron COVID wave is expected to peak in the next few weeks.

He also said that, moving forward, at COVID testing stations nationwide, special lines will be set up for the elderly and high-risk, and their tests will be given preference at labs.

Currently, there are close to 260,000 active COVID cases in the country, with 879 of them hospitalized, and 283 of those in serious condition. The current rates of serious cases are still far from the peaks seen at the height of the Delta wave last year, when up to 1,200 people were seriously ill with the virus at one time.

But Zarka warned that those rates could continue to rise, in particular among the elderly and high-risk.

“We’re starting to see it, we’re starting to see more people hospitalized, some with Omicron, some with Delta,” said Zarka. “I’m worried that the wave, in terms of serious cases, will only start now, and we’ll see [a rise in] those seriously ill [patients] and those on ventilators.”

Zarka rejected allegations that the country is operating under a de facto policy of encouraging mass infection in order to forge some sort of herd immunity among the Israeli public.

“We have no policy like that, and it’s dangerous,” Zarka said. “Nobody knows what will be with those infected by Omicron months from now. We’re worried about long COVID, we’re worried about PIMS [Pediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome]… and nobody can promise that those infected with Omicron will not be infected in future waves.”

He said that the government is currently operating under the advice that limiting gatherings “won’t necessarily change the spread of the contagion.”

However, he said, he could not rule out the possibility that a lockdown will be instituted in the future.

“I can’t promise there will not be a lockdown,” said Zarka. “There is a rise in pressure on the health system… if we won’t have a choice, we will have to consider it.” <https://www.timesofisrael.com/covid-czar-non-essential-medical-treatment-may-need-to-be-halted-in-omicron-wave/> [Part of his comments are correct but the idea of lockdowns and only hospital treatment is a travesty. – rdb]

**Professor Ehud Qimron: “Ministry of Health, it’s time to admit failure”**

[A group of people posing for a photo

Description automatically generated with medium confidence](https://swprs.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/professor-udi-qimron.webp)Professor Ehud Qimron (center) at Tel Aviv University ([Haaretz](https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/health/research/.premium-1.4181216))

**Published**: January 10, 2022

***Professor Ehud Qimron, head of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Tel Aviv University and one of the leading Israeli immunologists, has written an open letter sharply criticizing the Israeli – and indeed global – management of the coronavirus pandemic*.**

**Original letter in Hebrew**: [N12 News](https://www.mako.co.il/news-columns/2022_q1/Article-dfd99ca599e2e71026.htm) (January 6, 2022); translated by Google/SPR. **See also:** Professor Qimron’s prediction from August 2020: [“History will judge the hysteria”](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/285341) (INN).

∗∗∗

Ministry of Health, it’s time to admit failure

***In the end, the truth will always be revealed, and the truth about the coronavirus policy is beginning to be revealed. When the destructive concepts collapse one by one, there is nothing left but to tell the experts who led the management of the pandemic – we told you so.***

Two years late, you finally realize that a respiratory virus cannot be defeated and that any such attempt is doomed to fail. You do not admit it, because you have admitted almost no mistake in the last two years, but in retrospect it is clear that you have failed miserably in almost all of your actions, and even the media is already having a hard time covering your shame.  
 You refused to admit that the infection comes in waves that fade by themselves, despite years of observations and scientific knowledge. You insisted on attributing every decline of a wave solely to your actions, and so through false propaganda “you overcame the plague.” And again you defeated it, and again and again and again.  
 You refused to admit that mass testing is ineffective, despite your own contingency plans explicitly stating so (“Pandemic Influenza Health System Preparedness Plan, 2007”, p. 26).  
 You refused to admit that recovery is more protective than a vaccine, despite previous knowledge and observations showing that non-recovered vaccinated people are more likely to be infected than recovered people. You refused to admit that the vaccinated are contagious despite the observations. Based on this, you hoped to achieve herd immunity by vaccination — and you failed in that as well.  
 You insisted on ignoring the fact that the disease is dozens of times more dangerous for risk groups and older adults, than for young people who are not in risk groups, despite the knowledge that came from China as early as 2020.  
 You refused to adopt the “Barrington Declaration”, signed by more than 60,000 scientists and medical professionals, or other common sense programs. You chose to ridicule, slander, distort and discredit them. Instead of the right programs and people, you have chosen professionals who lack relevant training for pandemic management (physicists as chief government advisers, veterinarians, security officers, media personnel, and so on).  
 You have not set up an effective system for reporting side effects from the vaccines, and reports on side effects have even been deleted from your Facebook page. Doctors avoid linking side effects to the vaccine, lest you persecute them as you did with some of their colleagues. You have ignored many reports of changes in menstrual intensity and menstrual cycle times. You hid data that allows for objective and proper research (for example, you removed the data on passengers at Ben Gurion Airport). Instead, you chose to publish non-objective articles together with senior Pfizer executives on the effectiveness and safety of vaccines.

***Irreversible damage to trust***

However, from the heights of your hubris, you have also ignored the fact that in the end the truth will be revealed. And it begins to be revealed. The truth is that you have brought the public’s trust in you to an unprecedented low, and you have eroded your status as a source of authority. The truth is that you have burned hundreds of billions of shekels to no avail – for publishing intimidation, for ineffective tests, for destructive lockdowns and for disrupting the routine of life in the last two years. MORE - <https://ussanews.com/professor-ehud-qimron-ministry-of-health-its-time-to-admit-failure/> [Thank heavens there are some that are willing to tell the truth and stand up. – rdb]

**Education minister, health officials butt heads over bungled school vaccination push**

***Shasha-Biton accuses ministry of neglecting to allocate sufficient resources to campaign, which saw just over 56,000 schoolchildren getting their COVID shots; Health Ministry retorts campaign has been postponed for weeks due to her opposition***

*Attila Somfalvi , Alexandra Lukash | Published: 01.13.22, 13:31*

Following Israel's decision to call quits on its coronavirus vaccination drive in schools, Education Minister Yifat Shasha-Biton and the Health Ministry on Thursday tried to pass the buck to one another over the program's low turnout.

The New Hope minister accused the Health Ministry of neglecting to allocate sufficient resources to the campaign, which saw just over 56,000 schoolchildren getting their shots.

"Had we had more resources, we could have vaccinated more children," she told Ynet. "They supplied us with only 50 mobile clinics to serve more than 5,000 schools."

Shasha-Biton also stressed that the campaign's windup was the Health Ministry's decision.

"We received a letter from [Head of Public Health Department in the Health Ministry] Dr. Sharon Alroy-Preis, requesting that all nurses taking part in the campaign return to a regular vaccination procedure and stop vaccinating in schools," she said.

The education minister also blamed parents' hesitancy for low vaccination turnout, along with inadequate efforts on the Health Ministry's part to educate children on the benefits of the vaccine.



Education Minister Yifat Shasha-Biton

(Photo: Motti Kimchi)

The Health Ministry hit back at Shasha-Biton's allegations with its own slings and arrows.

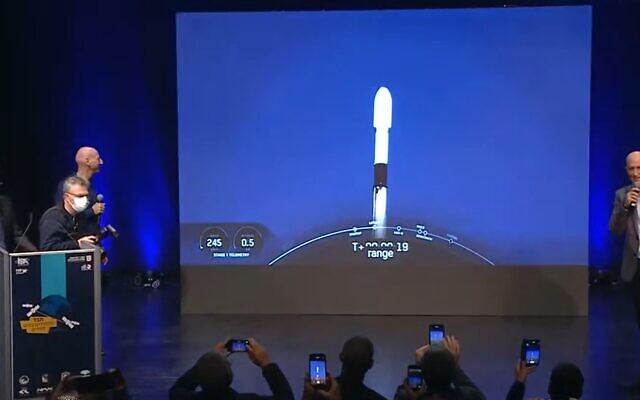
"It is baffling to hear how the education minister, time and time again, is seeking to smear and pass the buck instead of working together in tandem. The vaccination campaign in schools has been postponed for weeks due to her opposition. Once it kicked off, the ministry deployed all of its available mobile clinics to vaccinate schoolchildren," a statement read.

"Ending coronavirus vaccinations in schools was done in favor of returning to routine inoculations — especially the flu vaccine — given the season we are in and the duty to safeguard the public's health. Every child whose parents make an appointment to get vaccinated with their healthcare provider will be vaccinated that same week." <https://www.ynetnews.com/health_science/article/b1f16d6ny>

**8 tiny satellites built by Israeli students launched into space**

***SpaceX rocket launch marks culmination of three years of work for science-minded students at schools across Israel, who gathered to watch the Florida event from Herzliya***

*By* [*Amy Spiro*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/amy-spiro/) *Today, 9:06 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/space.jpg)

Israel Space Agency officials and students watch from Herzliya as the SpaceX Falcon rocket launches in Florida, on January 13, 2022. (Screenshot)

Eight tiny satellites built by Israeli students were launched into orbit on Thursday aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket that lifted off from Cape Canaveral in Florida.

Eight teams from junior high schools across the country spent three years working on the effort, known as the “Tevel” program, in collaboration with the Israel Space Agency and the Science and Technology Ministry.

The satellites will carry out various tasks and experiments and control of them will be possible through communication stations in several locations in Israel. Overall, the Falcon rocket launched with 105 satellites from a variety of different countries on board.

The students involved and officials from the Israel Space Agency gathered in Herzliya on Thursday to watch the live launch via video from Florida.

“I was fascinated by this incredible program,” said Science and Technology Minister Orit Farkash-Hacohen in a video address to the event. “To see groups of students from all across Israel — from Nazareth to Givat Shmuel, Jews and Arabs, from the south and the center — shows how much science and technology connects people.”

Students and audience members cheered with glee as the rocket successfully took off for space around 5:30 p.m. local time, which was 10:30 a.m. in Florida. The satellites were expected to begin being deployed about one hour after the launch.

“The project connects the best that is in science, the best in space and the best in you,” Uri Oron, director general of the Israel Space Agency, said at the event.

Oron said as space exploration accelerates, Israel is not just watching, but taking part, including with this program of “talented high school students led by the most professional staff of supervisors, proving this point.”

According to the Israel Space Agency, the students involved in building the satellites will continue to work on the project, receiving and monitoring the data transmitted by them once they are in orbit.

The students who took part in the project hailed from eight distinct localities across Israel: Sha’ar Hanegev, Ofakim, Yeruham, Taibe, Nazareth, Ma’ale Adumim, Givat Shmuel and Kiryat Ata. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/8-tiny-satellites-built-by-israeli-students-launched-into-space/>

**With most Gaza homes wrecked by war still in ruins, smiles for the lucky few**

***Only 50 of 1,650 houses damaged in 11-day war between Gaza terror groups and Israel are being restored, leading to frustration among Palestinians at slow pace of reconstruction eight months after conflict***

*Reuters | Published: 01.13.22, 13:48*

Palestinian Zeyad Abu Odah watched with a smile as his four-story house, destroyed in an Israeli airstrike in last May's fierce fighting, was slowly being rebuilt in Gaza's Beach refugee camp.

He is one of the lucky few. Only 50 of 1,650 homes wrecked in an 11-day war between Gaza militants and Israel are being restored, leading to frustration among Palestinians at the slow pace of reconstruction eight months after the conflict ended.



A Palestinian man walks outside a house that was damaged by Israeli strikes during Israel-Hamas fighting last May, in Khan Younis in southern Gaza Strip (Photo: Reuters)

"When things started to move, we began to feel better. In six to seven months we will return to our house with our children and families," Abu Odah, 60, said, as construction workers put the finishing touches to the first floor.

Abu Odah's extended family of 50 members has been living in four separate homes since the conflict. [“Extended family of 50 members” all living in one household? Good gravy what does he have a harem? The confusion and noise must drive you nuts. – rdb]

Gaza officials estimate that it will take $479 million to rebuild homes and infrastructure damaged in the war. Qatar and Egypt have each pledged $500 million for reconstruction in the Gaza Strip, which is run by the Hamas militant group.

Naji Sarhan, Gaza's deputy housing minister, said only $100 million had been made available so far and that, with Qatari funds, reconstruction had begun on 50 of 1,650 destroyed homes. Sarhan cited Israeli pressures, but did not elaborate.

"It is clear the Israeli occupation is exerting political pressure and making obstacles," he told Reuters.

COGAT, the Israeli Defence Ministry's liaison office to the Palestinians, did not respond to a request for comment.

Israel, which controls the main commercial crossing into Gaza, has said reconstruction would be linked to achieving a deal for the handover of two Israeli civilians and the bodies of two Israeli soldiers believed to be held by Hamas.

But in an apparent bid to lower tensions with the group, it recently allowed more construction materials into Gaza to rebuild homes destroyed or damaged during last year's war.

***Lack of Arab support***

Sarhan also pointed at the lack of broader Arab and international support for the reconstruction process beyond Qatar, Egypt and the United Nations.

"Reconstruction process is slow and doesn't meet our ambitions," Sarhan said.

Israeli airstrikes partly damaged another 59,000 homes during the conflict, according to Gaza's Hamas-run government. Some homes in Israel were damaged by rockets launched by the Islamist Hamas and by fellow militant groups.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency UNRWA, which aids two-thirds of Gaza's two million people, has also helped repair the damaged houses of refugees.

Hamas spokesman Hazem Qassem said the group had conveyed to Egypt, Qatar and the United Nations its displeasure with the pace of reconstruction, blaming it on Israeli restrictions.

"Continuing at this pace means the continuation of the suffering of the Palestinian people and therefore, there can't be a real calm as long as this continues this way," said Qassem.

Egyptian bulldozers and engineers have begun work in the northern Gaza Strip at the first of three large housing projects funded by Cairo.

Sarhan said the Egyptian "cities" would house nearly 4,000 families. There was no time frame for when construction would finish.

The cities would serve low-income people as well as hardship cases and some of those who had lost their homes in the conflict, he added.

Palestinian officials say 250 people, including 66 children, were killed by Israeli airstrikes on Gaza in May. Israeli officials say 13 people, including two children, were killed in Israel by Palestinian rockets. <https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/bky8e963t> [This is an example of the problems that the Israeli analysists face because everyone is afraid that when the final legal and international agreements are made, the number of “PA” people will grow enormously which will be a threat to Israel.- rdb]

**Large explosion reported in Hezbollah storage site in south Lebanon, cause unknown**

***Local media reports no casualties, while news outlets linked to terror group ignore incident; last month, 12 people were killed in a blast at a local Hamas weapons depot***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:17 amUpdated at 12:03 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/leb-explorom.jpg)

An explosion rocks southern Lebanon, early on January 13, 2022 (Screen capture/Twitter)

A large explosion rocked southern Lebanon early Thursday morning, local Lebanese media reported, adding that there were no casualties.

The cause of the blast, between the villages of Deir a-Zahrani and Khomin a-Fuqa, was not immediately clear.

Videos posted to social media showed a huge fireball rising into the night sky. The area is a stronghold of the Hezbollah terror group. [Another ‘work accident?’ – rdb]

Al-Arabiya reported that the area where the explosion took place isn’t populated and that it is used to store Hezbollah weapons.

Local media said Hezbollah activists were preventing reporters from accessing the areas.

Hezbollah-linked news outlets have been ignoring the incident.

כלי תקשורת בלבנון דיווחו על פיצוץ שנשמע בדרום המדינה בין הכפרים דיר א-זהראני לחומין א-פוקא. נסיבות הפיצוץ אינן ידועות. בסרטון: תיעוד שפורסם ברשתות החברתיות בלבנון[@kaisos1987](https://twitter.com/kaisos1987?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [pic.twitter.com/9JkUNtFeSe](https://t.co/9JkUNtFeSe)

— כאן חדשות (@kann\_news) [January 13, 2022](https://twitter.com/kann_news/status/1481424974757957633?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

In December, some [12 people were reportedly killed](https://www.timesofisrael.com/explosions-rock-alleged-hamas-weapons-cache-in-southern-lebanon/) when a weapons cache belonging to the Palestinian terror group Hamas exploded in the Burj al-Shemali Palestinian refugee camp in southern Lebanon.

Israel has carried out dozens of strikes against Iranian and Iran-allied targets in neighboring Syria, including against Hezbollah. However, strikes against Hezbollah inside Lebanon are exceedingly rare.

Israel accuses Hezbollah of storing vast amounts of arms and ammunition among the civilian population of southern Lebanon. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/large-explosion-reported-in-south-lebanon-cause-unknown/>

**Dr. Malone, Peter Navarro publish 'declaration of independence' from vax mandates**

***'Frantic madness' violates 'every scientific principle we know'***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published January 13, 2022 at 4:01pm*

Prominent vaccine inventor Dr. Robert Malone and former Trump economic adviser Peter Navarro have published a "declaration of independence" from the federal government's forced universal vaccination policy, contending the "quasi-vaccines" in use are significantly riskier than public health officials have disclosed.

They argue [in the Washington Times](https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2022/jan/12/just-say-no-to-biden-and-faucis-universal-vaccinat/) that, unlike smallpox and polio, a vaccine cannot eliminate a respiratory disease like COVID-19.

Yet, amid growing evidence the "leaky" vaccines don't stop infection or transmission and can make people even more vulnerable to COVID-19, "the Pied Pipers of forced vaccinations are demanding ever more 'booster' jabs" to fight the omicron variant, which while highly contagious generally produces mild symptoms, if any, they write.

"The virus is now so thoroughly embedded in global populations that, like the common cold and flu, it will be with us for the foreseeable future," Malone and Navarro say. "It is long past time to substitute Dr. Fauci’s increasingly frantic 'vaccine' as a silver bullet fantasy for this reality: The genetic vaccines and overall Fauci/Biden policies have utterly failed to meet their public health objectives — even as life insurance executives such as OneAmerica CEO J. Scott Davison are on fire concerning the overall high mortality rates they are observing in their data."

The reference was to [Davison's disclosure, as the head of a $100 billion insurance company, that all-cause deaths have spiked an astonishing 40%](https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/insurance-ceo-cause-deaths-jump-unprecedented-rate-covid/) among people ages 18-64 compared to pre-pandemic levels. It's an unprecedented rate that is four times higher than a once-in-200-year catastrophe.

Malone is the original inventor of the mRNA vaccine technology that forms the core of the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines. Navarro, in the Trump White House, assisted in the rapid development of the COVID vaccines through "Operation Warp Speed."

They reference the evidence that SARS-CoV-2 appears to be a "bioweapon genetically engineered at the Wuhan Institute of Virology using gain-of-function technologies transferred to China by Dr. Anthony Fauci’s National Institutes of Health bureaucracy."

"China’s virus has killed millions, undermined the economies of China's rivals and destabilized Western-style democracies through panicky authoritarian measures such as vaccine passports, economic lockdowns and mask/vaccination mandates," they write.

Malone and Navarro contend the "quasi-vaccines are significantly riskier than public health officials have disclosed."

"They can trigger serious cardiac and thrombotic conditions, menstrual cycle disruptions, Bell’s palsy, Guillain-Barre syndrome and anaphylaxis. Male children appear particularly prone to myocarditis, while, post-vaccination, individuals may have suppressed immunities that make them vulnerable to other diseases."

Fauci and Big Pharma executives such as Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla have exercised the "noble lie" to encourage universal vaccination," they write, which has been "disseminated by outlets such as CNN and MSNBC and reinforced by systematic Big Tech censors like Facebook and Google determined to hide reality from the public — even as drug company lawyers work to avoid data disclosure that would inform us otherwise."

They call for a strategy of building herd immunity by reserving vaccination for the most vulnerable -- the elderly and those with serious underlying conditions -- while "flooding our communities with cheap, safe and efficacious therapeutics freely prescribed in early treatment by personal physicians."

"It should go without saying that healthy normal children should not be treated with experimental medical products," they write. "This is particularly true given that over half the nation's children have already developed the enhanced natural immunity engendered by infection, and the risk of side effects of the Pfizer/BioNTech product is higher in those that have developed natural immunity."

They point to "abundant research" showing hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin, in particular, "can significantly moderate symptoms, reduce hospital stays, eliminate the need for a ventilator, and take death off the table when administered in 'early treatment' after symptoms begin."

"Both are not just far cheaper than the new antiviral pills approved by the FDA and pimped by Merck and Pfizer. They are safer and likely more effective."

Malone and Navarro warn, based on basic principles of virology, that universal vaccination could produce a "doomsday scenario."

"The more you vaccinate, the more likely you will spawn vaccine-resistant mutations; and the more likely those vaccinated will fall prey to the mutations," they write.

"If the Biden/Fauci doctrine were based on sound science and a workable strategy, and if omicron were causing severe disease and death, trading freedom for reduced risk might be barely tolerable," they argue. "But this current frantic madness cuts against the grain of both current data and every scientific principle we know."

**'Anti-vax misinformation'**  
 Malone and Navarro appeared Thursday morning [on former Trump chief adviser Steve Bannon's "War Room" broadcast](https://americasvoice.news/video/g3xFds7XYsSZYqH).

Bannon asked Malone about [the 270 scientists who wrote an open letter to Spotify](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10397693/Nearly-300-doctors-scientists-demand-Spotify-stop-Joe-Rogan-spreading-anti-vax-misinformation.html) calling for the platform to stop Joe Rogan from spreading "anti-vax misinformation" and "baseless conspiracy theories" after the [podcaster's interview with Malone](https://open.spotify.com/episode/3SCsueX2bZdbEzRtKOCEyT) drew more than 50 million views.

"If you're a doc that have been preaching 'give the jab to everybody,' and your patients are now coming in and saying, 'hey, I saw this Joe Rogan podcast,' you're in a bind, because you've been telling your patients a lie all the way along," Malone replied.

The easiest thing for them to do, he continued, is to "come up with some story that this guy is crazy and that it's all misinformation."

Malone said the letter will only serve increase the viewership of the Rogan podcast.

Early in his career, Malone was involved in the development of an AIDS vaccine. He then worked for the prestigious Salk Institute in gene therapy research, where he helped develop the mRNA vaccine technology, garnering 10 patents. He eventually transitioned from academics to working for a vaccine company that had contracts for all of the biodefense products for the Defense Department. He has run more than 100 clinical trials, mostly related to vaccines but also in drug repurposing.

He has won billions of dollars in federal grants and contracts, and he often is brought in by the National Institutes of Health to serve as a study section chairman for awarding $80 to $120 million contracts in vaccines and biodefense. [You can bet he won’t be anymore unless they try and convict the criminals in charge of the FED agencies pretty soon. – rdb]

In the interview with Rogan, he said he has spent countless hours at CDC meetings and has many friends at the agency and in the intelligence agencies.

"I know Tony Fauci personally. I've dealt with him my whole career," Malone said.

Fauci has been the director of the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases since 1984.

<https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/4974888/>

**Supremes block Biden's OSHA 'work-around' vax mandate**

***President had ordered tens of millions of workers to take experimental shots***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published January 13, 2022 at 3:32pm*

The U.S. Supreme Court, in a 6-3 decision, has suspended Joe Biden's nationwide workplace COVID shot mandate, which would have caught up tens of millions of Americans in a strategy to impose the experimental shots on those reluctant to take them.

The majority opinion, per curiam, explained the administration, through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, demanded the mandate, "which employers must enforce," for "roughly 84 million employees."

The mandate requires that workers gets a COVID-19 "vaccine" and it overrules state laws to the contrary.

"OSHA has never [before] imposed such a mandate. Nor has Congress. Indeed, although Congress has enacted significant legislation addressing the COVID-19 pandemic, it has declined to enact any measure similar to what OSHA has promulgated here," the opinion said.

"Many states, businesses, and nonprofit organizations challenged OSHA's rule in courts of appeals … the Fifth Circuit initially entered a stay. But when the cases were consolidated before the Sixth Circuit, that court lifted the stay and allowed OSHA's rule to take effect. "

Before the high court was a request for "emergency relief," on the basis that the requirement exceeds the government agency's authority.

"Agreeing that applicants are likely to prevail, we grant their applications and stay the rule."

The opinion noted that OSHA is allowed to create emergency rules, a provision that had been used nine times earlier. But of those challenged in court, only one eventually was upheld in full in court disputes. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/supremes-block-bidens-osha-work-around-vax-mandate/> [ YES,YES, YES! – rdb]

**Airline CEO reveals number of employees with Covid amid travel chaos**

***Thousands of staff absences have contributed to mass flight cancellations***

*13 Jan, 2022 20:59*

Delta Air Lines CEO Ed Bastian has revealed 8,000 of its 75,000 employees have tested positive for Covid-19 in a matter of weeks, and he predicts a “difficult” time ahead for travel.

Bastian revealed the numbers during an interview on CNBC on Thursday, and also predicted losses for the company for the first quarter of the year due to the unpredictability of Covid-19 and fast-spreading variants like Omicron.

In the past four weeks, roughly 8,000 Delta employees – approximately 11% of the company’s workforce – have tested positive for Covid, Bastian said, contributing to the cancellation of thousands of flights across the US during the holiday season.

United Airlines CEO Scott Kirby similarly announced 3,000 positive Covid infections among its 70,000 staff earlier this week, forcing reduced schedules for the company.

astian claims, however, that the situation is beginning to steady and no sick absences have evolved into anything more serious.

*“There were no significant health issues that we were seeing from it, but it knocked them out of the operation for a period of time at the same time that we had the busiest travel that we have seen in two years,”* he said. He later added only 1% of flights have been canceled by the airline in the past week.

elta was one of multiple airlines that canceled flights over the holiday season, as it struggled to comply with Covid health guidelines. Mass cancellations stemming from Covid and severe winter storms caused Delta to report a $408 million loss for the final quarter of 2021.  MORE - <https://www.rt.com/news/545984-delta-airline-covid-cancellations/> Just so there is no question as to what is causing all these delays and cancellations. Remember how they were all bragging about how many “vaccinated” employees they had? How they couldn’t work if they didn’t get JABBED. It seems that their JABS did nothing for them besides them losing employees and falling into a crisis. – rdb]

**Biden calls for tighter censorship of Covid-19 content**

***President urges social media platforms and news outlets to “deal with misinformation and disinformation”***

*13 Jan, 2022 22:14*

US President Joe Biden’s latest “surge response” to fight the spread of Covid-19 includes an appeal for Big Tech and media companies to block allegedly false pandemic-related claims.

*“I make a special appeal to social media companies and media outlets,”* Biden said on Thursday. *“Please deal with the misinformation and disinformation that’s on your shows. It has to stop.”* [HUMM? Sounds like a typical communist response to dissenting information. Stalin and Lenin would be proud. – rdb]

Biden made the comment as he announced a series of new measures to mitigate the spread of Covid-19, including plans for free masks, more free tests, and additional deployments of military medical teams to help hospitals cope with rising patient loads. He didn’t specify what constitutes misinformation or disinformation in the pandemic age.

NOW - Biden: "I make a special appeal to social media companies and media outlets — please deal with the misinformation and disinformation that's on your shows. It has to stop."[pic.twitter.com/NeVU74web3](https://t.co/NeVU74web3)

— Disclose.tv (@disclosetv) [January 13, 2022](https://twitter.com/disclosetv/status/1481661205949337604?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Biden urged a crackdown immediately after chiding people who have chosen not to get vaccinated by saying they were “standing in the way” of the fight against the virus.

Twitter, Facebook, and other platforms already have strict policies on commentary about Covid-19 if it clashes with the currently mainstream approach to dealing with the virus. Social media giants have also employed teams of fact-checkers, vigorously working to enforce those policies. But Biden’s administration is scrambling to find more ways to fight Covid *“misinformation”* after the fast-spreading Omicron variant pushed new infections and hospitalizations to record highs.

Biden’s apparent censorship appeal quickly sparked backlash on social media. This included claims that the president is among those spreading misinformation. Biden falsely said last month that *"*[*almost all*](https://www.rt.com/usa/543929-biden-unvaccinated-testing-boosters/)*"* Covid-19 deaths were among unvaccinated people, and he claimed last July that *“you’re not going to get Covid if you have these vaccinations.”*

Other critics blasted Biden’s statement on principle. *“Imagine calling for censorship of your own nation as the POTUS when you’ve taken an oath to uphold the Constitution, and the FIRST Amendment is freedom of speech,”* podcast host Barrington Martin II said on Twitter.

Imagine calling for censorship of your own nation as the POTUS when you’ve taken an oath to uphold the Constitution, and the FIRST Amendment is freedom of speech.Wow.

— Barrington Martin II (@\_BarringtonII) [January 13, 2022](https://twitter.com/_BarringtonII/status/1481666968532963336?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Many observers questioned the wisdom of letting gatekeepers decide which speech is misinformation, thereby blocking open discussion and independent truth-seeking. Still others suggested that Biden is trying to do damage-control after his failure to meet campaign promises on Covid-19 contributed to a [downward spiral](https://twitter.com/cdennisgolf/status/1481689077548261385) in his approval ratings. <https://www.rt.com/news/545986-biden-covid-misinformation-censorship/> [What would the MSM have said if The Donald would have said something like this? It would have been tar and feathers. – rdb]

**Campaign urges U.S. Olympics officials to keep athletes out of China**

***'Given the lies the regime has promoted from the moment it was caught disseminating COVID-19'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published January 13, 2022 at 1:07pm*

Of course there's the China virus, COVID-19, and not just its impact, but the known complications from shots intended to prevent it. And now there are new reports of an Ebola-like hemorrhagic fever. With death rates of up to 50%.

It's all resulted in a new campaign calling for protection for U.S. Olympic athletes who are scheduled to be in China in just weeks.

The [Genocide Games Task Force,](https://genocidegames.org/) a team sponsored by the Committee on the Present Danger: China and Women's Rights Without Frontiers, is asking that the public make a direct appeal to the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee encouraging the competitors to stay away.

"The object is to encourage America’s Olympians *not* to attend next month’s Winter Games in Beijing. The letter makes clear that the health – and *possibly the lives* – of these athletes may be in peril as a result of diseases currently raging in the People’s Republic of China," the task force has confirmed.

"We petition you and the other members of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee to appeal for your urgent intervention on behalf of our Olympians and Paralympians who now risk serious harm if they participate in the Winter Games in Beijing next month," the task force explains online.

"The International Olympic Committee has announced that there will be no change in the schedule for these games – despite the mounting evidence that China is experiencing dangerous outbreaks of Covid-19 and perhaps other deadly diseases."

It points out that Chinese assurances that athletes and support personnel will be projected ring hollow, "given the lies the PRC regime has consistently promoted from the moment it was caught disseminating the COVID-19 virus around the world."

After all, in just the past days, entire Chinese cities, including the 13 million or so residents of Xi'an, have been forcibly locked down, the task force documented.

"Their confinement is reportedly being enforced by 40,000 police officers and many thousands more undercover cops and informants. Some of those thus effectively imprisoned are said to be famished and starving," the report said.

"We call on the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee to act immediately to recommend that America’s premier athletes and their coaches, trainers, etc. not participate in the Beijing Winter Games," the campaign pleads.

The website offers sample email messages and petition forms.

An email proposal says: "I write to you and other leaders to appeal for your urgent intervention on behalf of our Olympians and Paralympians who now risk serious harm if they participate in the Winter Games in Beijing next month. The International Olympic Committee (IOP) has announced that there will be no change in the schedule for these games – despite the mounting evidence that China is experiencing dangerous outbreaks of COVID-19 and perhaps other deadly diseases."

It continues, "Chinese assurances that arrangements to protect foreign athletes and support personnel – and for that matter, sponsors – ring hollow given the lies the PRC regime has consistently promoted from the moment it was caught disseminating the COVID-19 virus around the world. What matters is what China’s government is doing."

[NPR,](https://www.npr.org/2022/01/13/1072676232/china-is-doubling-down-on-its-zero-tolerance-covid-policy-ahead-of-the-olympics) in fact, reported, "China is battling multiple coronavirus outbreaks in half a dozen cities, with the one closest to the capital driven by the highly transmissible omicron variant. With the success of the games and China's national dignity at stake, Beijing is doubling down on its 'zero-tolerance' COVID-19 policy."

The report noted China plans to allow "no contact" between those inside an Olympic bubble, and those outside.

"Officials, athletes, staff and journalists will travel between hotels and competition venues on specially designated vehicles in what is described as a closed-loop system. Chinese will have to quarantine for three weeks upon leaving the bubble," the report said.

"Even trash from within will be handled separately and Beijing's traffic police say anyone involved in a collision with a designated Winter Olympics vehicle should take care to not come into contact with those on board and wait for a special team to handle matters."

[Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/world/china/beijings-olympic-bubble-police-escorts-daily-covid-19-tests-robot-chefs-2022-01-13/) reported a section of the Beijing airport even has been barricaded off and incoming travelers to the Olympics are met by "staff in white protective suits." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/campaign-urges-u-s-olympics-officials-keep-athletes-china/> So how much are the lives of our people worth. The government has gone insane with all the rules and regulations and attempt at forced mandates of JABBS and Masks, closing down society but they are still willing to send our people to China where there could be an ebola type incident going on and then let them return to the states to potentially contaminate the entire population with something that is infinitely worse than the COV???? Brilliant just wonderfully brilliant o- rdb

**Court strikes down outdoor mask mandate**

***A French tribunal said a regional masking requirement infringes on personal freedom***

*14 Jan, 2022 02:31*

An outdoor mask mandate in France’s Paris region has been struck down by a judge, who called the rule a major violation of citizens’ liberties just two weeks after it was reimposed.

The Paris Administrative Tribunal ruled against the masking policy on Thursday, according to AFP, rejecting the mandate as “an excessive, disproportionate and inappropriate infringement ... of personal freedom.” The ruling applies not only to the city of Paris and its 2.1 million residents, but to seven other departments in the broader Paris region, or some 12 million people in total.

The outdoor mask rule was struck down less than a month after officials revived it in late December, citing the rapid spread of the Omicron variant, which has helped to drive a spike in Covid-19 cases across Paris in recent days. Though all of France has experienced a similar surge, Paris has seen its infections grow to some 3,899 infections per 100,000 residents over the last seven days, according to Reuters, compared to [3,002 per 100,000](https://graphics.reuters.com/world-coronavirus-tracker-and-maps/countries-and-territories/france/) for the whole country.

Though local officials have yet to respond to the ruling, Florian Philippot – a vocal critic of the government’s pandemic policies who chairs the right-wing Patriot Party – cheered the decision in a [tweet](https://twitter.com/f_philippot/status/1481709467985186824) later on Thursday, saying *“Live free”* and *“live happily!”*

Paris was not the only region to step up it’s Covid measures in the face of Omicron, with France as a whole recently imposing an indoor masking requirement for children aged 6 and up, ending a previous exemption for the younger age group. <https://www.rt.com/news/545998-paris-court-mask-mandate/> Hallelujah – Every one of them should be illegal in all countries. - rdb]

**Unvaccinated father stripped of visiting rights by judge**

***The man says he is not inoculated, but he follows other other Covid guidelines.***

*13 Jan, 2022 23:20*

A Canadian judge has temporarily stripped a father of his visitation rights, arguing it is not in the best interest of the child as the parent does not have a Covid-19 vaccination.

Quebec Superior Court Justice Jean-Sebastien Vaillancourt took note of numerous social media posts critical of the vaccine, saying this cast doubt on whether the father is actually following the health guidelines in place.

Vaillaincourt wrote in his decision that the lack of visitation is only temporary and in response to rising Covid cases due to the Omicron variant. The 12-year-old child lives with two half siblings who are too young to receive vaccination doses.

While it would *“normally”* be in the best interest of the child to see his father, the judge ruled, it is *“not in his best interest to have contact with him if he is not vaccinated and is opposed to health measures in the current epidemiological context.”*

The visitation rights have been suspended until February unless the father chooses to get vaccinated. The ruling came in response to the parent filing in mid-December for more visitation during the holiday season. However, the father then faced accusations of being an anti-vaccine conspiracy theorist when it was discovered that he was not inoculated against Covid, with the mother filing concerns with the court.

While the father has said in court that he has *“reservations”* about the vaccine, the child has reportedly received two doses of a vaccine, though the judge claimed this does not provide enough protection against the virus. In his ruling, he said the protection is essentially null and void due to Omicron being so highly contagious. <https://www.rt.com/news/545972-quebec-father-visitation-covid-vaccine/> That would seem to be a perfect case of coercion and a perfect violation of the Nuremberg code. Way to go judge – practicing medicine and ignoring the laws that Canada signed onto – rdb[

**Texas border crackdown ruled unconstitutional**

***Judge says state Texas effort to blunt illegal trafficking of people and drugs violates the law***

*14 Jan, 2022 01:23*

Texas Governor Greg Abbott’s effort to secure his state’s border with Mexico amid record migrant flows has been thrown open to legal challenges after a judge found the Operation Lone Star program to be unconstitutional.

The potentially pivotal ruling came on Thursday, when Travis County District Court Judge Jan Soifer dismissed criminal charges against a migrant who was arrested for trespassing last September. The judge, who formerly chaired the Travis County Democratic Party, found that the Texas border crackdown violates the Constitution by challenging federal control over immigration policy.

The Republican governor launched Operation Lone Star last March, blaming President Joe Biden for the border crisis and saying that in lieu of federal law being enforced, the state would combat smuggling of illegal aliens and drugs. Thousands of migrants have been arrested by Texas state troopers under the program. They have been charged under state laws, such as trespassing and criminal damage to property.

Kristin Etter, a lawyer who represents about 800 migrants arrested under Operation Lone Star, said Soifer’s ruling “sets a clear pathway” for all such defendants to get their charges dismissed. She told the Austin American-Statesman newspaper that she’s evaluating defense strategies for her clients, including citing the precedent set by Soifer’s decision.

Abbott has argued that by failing to do its job of securing the border, the Biden administration has endangered the lives and property of Texans. Just last month, he hailed the start of construction on a state border wall project, picking up where former President Donald Trump left off.

*“Open border policies are globalist policies that are destroying the United States of America, and that’s why we’re building the border wall,”* Abbott said. *“That’s why we have the National Guard on the border. That’s why we and are arresting and jailing these people who are coming across the border.”*

Illegal border crossings into the US [surged](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/22/us/politics/border-crossings-immigration-record-high.html) to a 61-year high in 2021. <https://www.rt.com/news/545995-border-crackdown-judge-unconstitutional/> [This needs to be appealed immediately and sent to a court where there is a judge with a brain, - rdb]

**Commentary:**

**Pull the Thread ...**[*Laura Hollis*](https://townhall.com/columnists/laurahollis/) *Posted: Jan 13, 2022 12:01 AM* The myriad apparati of the Left – blue state governments, broadcast, print and social media and academia – have exercised suffocating control over America and Americans for the past two years. Their unprecedented power grabs have been facilitated by massive propaganda campaigns and deliberate deceit, the reckless promotion of fear, and deprivation of fundamental rights.   
 But their stranglehold on the country is finally loosening,  
 You can certainly feel it. You can practically see it. It’s like a watching cracks form in a massive sea of ice, or tugging on the thread of a knitted piece of fabric to make the whole thing unravel. It’s not quite describable as a house of cards collapsing – yet - but it’s oh, so close.  
 So many metaphors, so little time.  
 The most recent examples are related to the COVID-19 pandemic. But the template we’ve seen play out with the virus and vaccines has been employed more times, and in other circumstances, with a brazen frequency that’s frankly astonishing.  
 As I wrote [last week](https://townhall.com/columnists/laurahollis/2022/01/06/the-covid-narrative-is-changing--why-n2601479), the national narrative on the COVID-19 virus – as well as the “vaccines” purportedly developed to ameliorate the virus’ impact on the population – has changed dramatically within the past three weeks. We’ve gone from panicking about the raw number of cases, to acknowledging that what *really* matters is how many cases result in hospitalizations, and fatality rates. This new approach attempts to soothe the nation’s raw nerves with assurances that omicron – while serious – is apparently a much milder variant. Similarly, lockdowns – once the go-to response to exploding infection numbers – are now calmly dismissed as largely unnecessary.  
 In the week since my last column was published, even more of the “official” COVID story has dissolved. Government and public health officials tell us that we now need to [distinguish](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2022/01/07/us/covid-data-explained.html) between people hospitalized *with* COVID, and those hospitalized *because of* COVID – a significantly smaller number, given the prevalence of testing and weakening of the virus’ variants.  
 Some of us were calling for this kind of clarity in 2020. I wrote a [column](https://townhall.com/columnists/laurahollis/2020/10/29/obesity-the-american-health-crisis-we-should-be-talking-about-n2578981) in October of that year citing CDC data which showed that the single biggest comorbidity predicting serious illness, hospitalization and/or death from COVID-19, was obesity – and that obesity rates by race tracked illness severity and fatality rates from COVID.  
 This week, CDC Director Rochelle Walensky [announced](https://www.foxnews.com/media/cdc-director-remarks-comorbities) that 75% of those who died from COVID-19 had *four or more* comorbities. When headlines exploded, some tried to walk back the implications, reminding us that Dr. Walensky was referring to the deaths of *vaccinated* individuals.  
 True. But in early fall 2020 – well before vaccines were available – the CDC published data showing that 94% of those who died with COVID-19 had *at least one* co-morbidity; many had more than one. In other words, both pre- and post-vaccine availability, those most at risk from COVID were already in poor health  
 The collapse of the official narrative about the virus generally has taken the same trajectory as the story about the virus’ origin. Remember, we were told that COVID-19 mysteriously emerged in a wet market in Wuhan, China, The theory that the virus could have originated in the Wuhan Institute of Virology – especially because researchers there were working on bat viruses jumping species – was ridiculed as a “conspiracy theory.” At least until brave individuals like science writer [Nicholas Wade](http://cfr.org/podcasts/lab-leak-theory-covid-19s-origins-nicholas-wade) dared point out that despite everyone’s best efforts to defend the “wet market” theory, there was *no evidence* tending to show that COVID-19 had naturally jumped species.  
 This issue is in the news again, with Project Veritas’ release of DARPA documents which appear to show that EcoHealth Alliance applied for DARPA funding to do “gain of function” research on bat-borne viruses. When DARPA rejected the application, citing inadequate safety protocols, EcoHealth obtained funding from NIAID, run then -  and now - by Dr. Anthony Fauci. That research was conducted in the Wuhan Institute of Virology and other labs around the world.  
 Fauci has repeatedly denied that he funded “gain of function” research on bat viruses. That position looks increasingly untenable.  
 All of the “official” positions on COVID-19 – its origin, the universality of health risks, the safety of vaccines, the efficacy of natural immunity, the availability of inexpensive drugs to treat infected people – have played out the way Democrats’ Russia collusion narrative did. Uncertain statements, half-truths and outright lies were pitched by the Left and used to expand their political power and cripple their ideological opponents. These statements were relentlessly amplified and spread by a partisan and irresponsible media. Anyone who dared point out inconsistencies or call for evidence was mocked, denounced and eventually censored and silenced by social media/Big Tech companies.  
 We can expect other narratives to collapse, starting with the Left’s fave story that the January 6, 2020 protests at the U.S. Capitol were an “insurrection.” That lie still needs to be completely debunked, as last week’s hyperventilating idiocy by Joe Biden and Kamala Harris shows. Claims that January 6th was equal to Pearl Harbor or 9/11 warrant mockery and derision from all sane people.  
 On January 6th and in the year since, there have been those who claimed that the violence was a setup, prompted by federal agents “planted” for the purpose of fomenting chaos. Predictably, such claims have been dismissed by the elites as nonsense.   
 But they seem less ridiculous in light of Senior FBI Official Jill Sanborn’s answers to questioning by Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) earlier this week. Cruz asked Sanborn how many FBI agents or informants had “actively participated” in the events of January 6th. Sanborn said, “Sir, I can’t answer that. “ When asked if any FBI agents or informants had actively participated in the riots, committed, or encouraged crimes of violence on January 6th, Sanborn replied, each time, “Sir, I cannot answer that question.”  
 Consider that response. Could Sanborn not answer those questions if the truthful answer was “No”?   
 Right on cue, [here](https://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/2022/01/11/ted-cruz-promotes-conspiracy-theory-that-blames-fbi-provocateurs-for-jan-6-riot-at-capitol/) [come](https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/ted-cruz-tucker-carlson-ray-epps-conspiracy-theory-1282885/) [the](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2022/01/11/house-panel-debunks-jan-6-conspiracy-theory-touted-gop-senators/9178404002/) [usual](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/01/12/ted-cruz-uses-fox-newss-favorite-conspiracy-theory-redeem-himself-with-right/) [players](https://www.thedailybeast.com/jan-6-committee-knocks-down-bonkers-conspiracy-pushed-by-tucker-carlson-and-ted-cruz) to mock Cruz and anyone else who points out bizarre discrepancies in the official narrative about January 6. Whatever Democrats like Nancy Pelosi, Chuck Schumer and AOC say about January 6th must be the truth. Anything else is just a (wait for it) “conspiracy theory.”   
 There’s a reason versions of this joke have become popular on Twitter: “What’s the difference between a conspiracy theory and the truth?” “12 to 18 months.”  
 But the Left’s January 6th narrative isn’t the biggest one that still needs to be unraveled. That prize belongs to what really happened on November 3, 2020, for which the January 6 hysteria is merely a cover story. Which is why those who continue to dig for the truth about the last presidential election cannot relent until all the facts are known.

Melt the ice. Pull the thread. Collapse the house of cards. <https://townhall.com/columnists/laurahollis/2022/01/13/pull-the-thread-n2601786>

**Politicizing COVID-19 from the Start**

[*Victor Davis Hanson*](https://townhall.com/columnists/victordavishanson/) *Posted: Jan 13, 2022 12:01 AM*

From the moment COVID-19 appeared, the pandemic became inseparable from politics.  
 Political frenzy was inevitable since the SARS-CoV-2 virus may have escaped from a level-4 security virology lab in Wuhan, China.  
 The rapid-fire spread soon threatened to indict the Chinese communist government for nearly destroying the world economy and killing millions.  
 Western elites, in response, feared that their own lucrative investments in China would be jeopardized by such disclosures - and so acted accordingly in defending Beijing.  
 Nonetheless, one scenario that remains intriguing is that the escaped virus was birthed by gain-of-function research scientists, overseen by elements of the Chinese communist military. Worse, the lab was given subsidies by U.S. health authorities, routed through third parties. Hiding all of that damaging information warped government policy and media coverage.  
 Belatedly, a panicked China shut down all domestic travel in and out of Wuhan - but not flights abroad to Western Europe and the United States.  
 The rest is history.  
 From the outset, the World Health Organization simply spread false talking points about the outbreak from the Chinese government, delaying a robust global response.  
 Former President Donald Trump's political opponents initially told Americans to shop and travel as usual - only to pivot as cases mounted and they blamed the president.  
 The U.S. 2020 ban on travel from China was met with charges of racism and xenophobia from presidential candidates. Ironically, many were simply channeling racist and xenophobic China's propaganda.  
 Many doctors kept hammering the need for therapeutics, including taboo off-label use of cheap generic drugs. The use of hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin was widely ridiculed, despite continuing studies from abroad attesting to their usefulness.  
 Trump's Operation Warp Speed project to develop vaccinations was also pilloried. Candidates Kamala Harris and Joe Biden did their best to talk down the safety of the impending inoculations. But once in power, they projected their own prior harmful rhetoric onto so-called "anti-vaxxers."  
 Then they claimed credit for the initial success of the Trump vaccinations.  
 The Pfizer corporation had promised a major pre-election announcement about its likely rollout of a vaccine in October, just days before the 2020 election.  
 Then, mysteriously, Pfizer claimed the vaccine, in fact, would not be ready before November 3. A few days after the election of Joe Biden, the company reversed course and announced the vaccinations would soon be available.  
 Then-New York Governor Andrew Cuomo obstructed most all federal help with Trump's fingerprints on it. That way Cuomo became a media, Emmy-winning darling - before resigning in disgrace.  
 Cuomo's policies of steering infected patients into long-term-care facilities doomed over 10,000 of the elderly. New York is now illegally using race to grant preferences in the allotments of tests and new drugs.  
 The rhetoric of the media-progressive nexus that mandatory, massive lockdowns were necessary all but destroyed a booming Trump economy and denied critical medical care to millions. Emphasizing therapeutics, natural herd immunity, and the resilience of the youth to the disease were all pronounced "anti-science" by the demagogues on the Left.  
 Various celebrities and politicos - such as California Governor Gavin Newsom and failed presidential candidate Hillary Clinton - boasted the pandemic lockdown offered the perfect crisis that must not go to waste politically. Actress Jane Fonda even crowed that COVID-19 was a "gift from God to the Left" in helping to end Donald Trump.  
 In the waning days of the 2022 campaign, Biden went so far as to blame Trump personally for all the deaths from the virus.  
 Once the vaccinations had seemed to work in early 2021, an upbeat Joe Biden boasted that he would end the virus by summer 2021, by following "the science." He went so far as to claim that no one had been vaccinated prior to his inauguration even though 17 million, including Biden himself, had been.  
 Then Nemesis answered such hubris.  
 The unforeseen delta and omicron variants hit. A new phrase, "breakthrough case," revealed that the vaccinations often could only prevent serious illness, but not infection or infectiousness.  
 Suddenly the best and brightest people with three shots, who had blasted the red-state rubes as the ignorant un-vaxxed - got sick. More have now died from the virus on Biden's than on Trump's watch.  
 A warped economy amid renewed COVID-19 outbreaks helped to further destroy Biden's waning popularity.  
 In reaction, the Left now calls for realism, emphasis on treatments, and acknowledgment of the value of natural immunities. It is even newly curious about the origins of the virus, and the need to "get back to normal."  
 We are suddenly told that thousands had died "with" rather than "because" of COVID - the exact opposite of what we heard in the Trump era.  
 A skeptic might suggest terror over the impending midterms finally made the Left face reality.  
 Politicizing the pandemic is a euphemism. In truth, thousands of Americans have died needlessly because of weaponized disinformation about China's culpability, vaccines, useful drugs, lockdowns, racial preferences, and long-care facilities. <https://townhall.com/columnists/victordavishanson/2022/01/13/politicizing-covid19-from-the-start-n2601788>

**The Washington Post Accused Conservatives of Russian Disinformation, Is Boss Was Spreading Chinese Disinformation.**

[*Daniel Greenfield*](https://www.blogger.com/profile/13575285186581875356) [*January 13, 2022*](https://www.danielgreenfield.org/2022/01/the-washington-post-accused.html)

If there’s one newspaper that could have had “disinformation” copyrighted and then collected royalties from every Russian conspiracy theory, it was the Washington Post.

The Washington Post gained power and influence and its circulation and its profits grew as the paper spread lies, smears, and conspiracy theories that pandered to the prejudices and coup impulses of an angry base of D.C. Democrat government bureaucrats, politicians, lobbyists, and contractors who fancied themselves to be the “resistance” to the 2016 election.  
 The Post's opinion section filled up with headlines like, "The Republicans have become the party of Russia", but its news desk was no better with a false claim, later retracted, that Giuliani had been warned by the FBI that he was the target of a “Russian influence operation”.  
 Day after day, the paper built a case that Republicans were a “threat to democracy” by “spreading Russian disinformation”, and urgently needed to be deplatformed and censored.  
 Max Boot, a Washington Post columnist, cheered Big Tech's censorship of a New York Post story about Hunter Biden while insisting that it was "Russian disinformation".  
 "Sorry, Republicans. Social media companies aren’t obligated to spread your lies," he gloated.  
 We now know that there was no Russian disinformation, but that the Washington Post’s Big Tech boss was actually the one profiting from spreading Chinese disinformation to Americans.  
 The Washington Post [had been](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/10/china-using-companies-twitter-interfere-election-daniel-greenfield/) purchased by Jeff Bezos while Amazon’s federal contracts and lobbying expenditures [began to grow](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/10/china-using-companies-twitter-interfere-election-daniel-greenfield/). One of Amazon's biggest federal paydays was a $600 million cloud contract with the CIA. Then the Big Tech giant [set its sights](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2019/08/amazons-ceo-owns-terror-linked-paper-daniel-greenfield/) on a $10 billion military cloud contract known as JEDI. After the Trump administration noted favoritism toward Amazon, the contract was instead awarded to Microsoft, leading to an Amazon sore loser lawsuit. JEDI was then canceled and Amazon got a profitable piece of a new JWCC military cloud contract.  
 Meanwhile, Amazon was deep in bed with Communist China. Amazon’s marketplace is dominated by third party sellers and most of those third party sellers are [based in China](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/10/china-using-companies-twitter-interfere-election-daniel-greenfield/).  
 But a [recently leaked](https://www.cnbc.com/2021/12/17/amazon-partnered-with-china-propaganda-arm.html) internal Amazon document also revealed that the Big Tech giant was trading the Communist regime access to Americans in exchange for doing business in China.  
 While Amazon wanted the right to sell books to the Chinese, the Communist regime wanted to be able to push its propaganda through Chinabooks on the Amazon platform.  
 Jay Carney, formerly Obama's press secretary, now heading up Amazon's lobbying operation, was told before [he flew out to Beijing](https://www.cnbc.com/2021/12/17/amazon-partnered-with-china-propaganda-arm.html) that the key to persuading the Communist regime to allow Amazon to continue doing business was "the Chinabooks project.”  
 The China Books project is outwardly just another storefront, albeit stocked with books on Xi. The design may be crude but the agenda shows up at the beginning with a menu that highlights "Governance of China" and "Books on China's Battle Against the Pandemic". While the former category largely features Xi, the country’s Communist dictator, the latter is where the action is.  
 The various texts, political, personal, and even books on the pandemic for children, highlight the efforts of the Communist party and treat the battle against the virus as a vindication of the party.  
 The books often come through the Foreign Languages Press, an arm of the Chinese Communist Party that is used to spread disinformation and propaganda around the world. FLP is an imitation of the Soviet Union's Foreign Languages Publishing House. While the Soviet Union had shut down and freshened up its FLPH propaganda operation in the sixties, China, which copied it in the fifties, has kept FLP going with few changes to the operation.  
 Amazon sells a lot of books, but with the Chinabooks project it had partnered with an enemy nation’s propaganda campaign in order to be able to do business with the Communists.  
 And much of that propaganda campaign was aimed at Americans.  
 Even while Amazon’s CEO was partnering his company with [China’s state propaganda arm](https://www.cnbc.com/2021/12/17/amazon-partnered-with-china-propaganda-arm.html), his newspaper was accusing Republicans of being in bed with Russia. The Washington Post’s smear campaign was true, not of Republicans, but of its owner and his Big Tech monopoly.  
 Even as Amazon swallows up American retail, it’s become little more than a front for China. Its products come from China, but so do the third party sellers who dominate its platform.  
 And yet Amazon also wields enormous influence over American policy and politics.  
 Despite its close relationship to Communist China and other enemies, Amazon controls the CIA’s cloud and will have a chunk of the military cloud. Some of our most sensitive information is in the hands of a corporation that doesn’t think twice about collaborating with our enemies.  
 Amazon did not hesitate to give China’s Communist party the key to spreading their disinformation to American audiences. What other digital doors might it help China open?  
 Beyond the sensitive role that Amazon plays in our military and intelligence apparatus is the political role that it enjoys courtesy of its chairman’s ownership of the Washington Post.  
 The Post sets the policy agenda for the Democrats and columnists like Jennifer Rubin function as mouthpieces for the Biden administration. The partnership has been extremely profitable for the paper as lefty audiences ate up its Russiagate disinformation campaign, sending subscription rates sky high and making its articles trend on Big Tech social media platforms.  
 Qatar’s biggest foreign influence operation, involving the death of Jamal Khashoggi, a Qatari terror operative embedded as a columnist in the Washington Post, was enormously successful and quickly became part of the Democrat foreign policy agenda. The transformation of an old friend of Osama bin Laden into a political martyr would not have been possible without the unquestioning acceptance that the Post’s disinformation campaigns have achieved among the Democrats and even among some less sensible Republicans.  
 Even after stepping down as CEO to become Amazon's executive chairman, Jeff Bezos still commands $180 billion worth of Amazon stock. The intertwining of the key media outlet of D.C. Democrats and one of the most powerful Big Tech monopolies in the country still remains.  
 So does the disinformation threat posed by the combination of Amazon and the Post.  
 Leftists most often accuse their enemies of their own sins. While the Washington Post colluded to censor its conservative political opponents to protect Biden’s electoral chances, Amazon stood to profit from Biden’s win, renewed relations with China, and a military cloud deal.  
 And while the Post claimed that Republicans were spreading Russian disinformation, it was actually the money behind its machine that was spreading Chinese disinformation.  
 The paper manufactured a threat by Republicans to cover up the threat that it poses to America.  
 As long as China calls the shots at Amazon, and the Big Tech monopoly and its paper call the shots in our retail sector and our nation’s capital, America remains in the grip of China.

[*Daniel Greenfield*](http://sultanknish.blogspot.com/)*is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's*[*Front Page Magazine*](https://www.frontpagemag.com/)*.* <https://www.danielgreenfield.org/2022/01/the-washington-post-accused.html>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Belgium revokes imam's residency due to 'national security threat'**

***Head imam of mosque in Brussels has right to residency in Belgium revoked due to “signs of a serious threat to national security.”***

*Ben Ariel י"ב בשבט תשפ"ב 04:35 14.01.22*

The head imam of a mosque in Brussels has had his right to residency in Belgium revoked by State Secretary for Asylum and Migration Sammy Mahdi, the Brussels Times reported on Thursday.

According to the report, the imam, Mohamed Toujgani, had his residency withdrawn in October of last year with Mahdi citing “signs of a serious threat to national security.”

Toujgani heads the Al Khalil mosque in the Brussels neighborhood of Molenbeek, the largest mosque in Belgium.

“We want to send out a signal: those who sow hatred, divide our society and threaten our security, are not welcome in our country – not today, but also not in the years to come,” Mahdi was quoted as having said.

“In the past we have given too much leeway to radical preachers. This man was probably the most influential preacher in Belgium. With this decision we make a difference,” he added.

Mahdi based his decision on information from the security services and said he did not take it lightly. Specifics are not yet known.

Toujgani, who has Moroccan nationality, was ordered to leave the country and has to comply with an entry ban for the next ten years.

The imam had been facing criticism for quite some time prior to the ban, noted *TheBrussels Times*.

In 2019, [a ten-year-old video of him surfaced](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/257397) in which he called for burning Jews.

The Brussels district of Molenbeek has a high concentration of Muslim immigrants. Several terrorists who carried out attacks in Europe came from Molenbeek, including [Abdelhamid Abaaoud](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/190081), who was the mastermind behind the Islamic State (ISIS) [attacks in Paris](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/203362) in November of 2015. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320462> [Great. So glad that some of these European countries are starting to wake up. – rdb]

**Subvariant of Omicron detected in Israel**

***Subvariant known as BA2 has already been discovered in several countries including China, Denmark, Canada and Singapore.***

*Israel National News י"ב בשבט תשפ"ב 00:06 14.01.22*

A subvariant of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, known as BA2, has arrived in Israel and 20 cases of it have already been detected in the country, Kan 11 News reported on Thursday.

According to the report, BA2 is currently known to have even more mutations than the original Omicron, and as such, some scientists around the world have speculated that it may be more violent. However, at the moment this is only a hypothesis, and it is important to note that there is no absolute certainty and knowledge about this.

The subspecies was first seen in China a few weeks ago. The suspicion is that it originated in India. It has also been located in Denmark, Australia, Canada, and Singapore. Israeli scientists told *Kan 11 News* that they are concerned by the variant because of its changes, and because of its more mutations.

The Ministry of Health said that "the BA2 variant is a variant that is being developed alongside the Omicron and is being monitored by the Ministry of Health and other countries in the world. At this stage, there is no evidence that it is behaving differently from the Omicron."

"The Ministry of Health will update the public on any relevant development," the ministry added. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320452> [The more they keep JABBING the more variants they will get and you can’t be sure they will all be of the lower morbidity as the Omicron is. – rdb]

**Rockets fired at US Embassy in Baghdad**

***At least four rockets target US Embassy in Baghdad’s Green Zone. Iraqi army says girl and woman injured.***

*Elad Benari י"ב בשבט תשפ"ב 02:10 14.01.22*

At least four rockets targeted the US Embassy in Baghdad’s heavily fortified Green Zone on Thursday, two Iraqi security officials said, according to *The Associated Press*. Three of the missiles struck within the perimeter of the American Embassy, the officials said. Another hit a school located in a nearby residential complex. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

An Iraqi military statement said a girl and a woman were injured in the attack, without providing more details. It added the rockets had been fired from the Dora neighborhood of Baghdad.

The US Embassy in Baghdad said in a statement that its compound had been attacked by “terrorists groups attempting to undermine Iraq’s security, sovereignty, and international relations.”

[Rocket attacks](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/309470) have regularly targeted Iraqi bases as well as [the fortified Green Zone](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/291467) in Baghdad since the US elimination of Soleimani in January of 2020.

Last July, an explosive-laden drone [attacked Erbil airport](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/309380) in northern Iraq. The drone reportedly targeted the US base on the airport grounds.

The incident came a day after a [drone was intercepted and shot down](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/309324) near the US embassy in Baghdad.

Last week, the US-led coalition fighting the Islamic State (ISIS) group [came under fire in Iraq and Syria](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/319955), but did not report any injuries.

The surge of attacks targeting bases used by the coalition came as Iran held commemorations marking the second anniversary of the elimination of Soleimani and his Iraqi lieutenant. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320459>

**Russia threatens to deploy military to Cuba and Venezuela in response to tensions with US**

***Talks between Russia and US break down over Ukraine and NATO expansion, with Russian demands being rejected by Washington and allies.***

*Israel National News י"א בשבט תשפ"ב 19:31 13.01.22*

As tensions continue to simmer between Russia and the United States over Ukraine, Moscow said on Thursday that it would consider sending military deployments to Cuba and Venezuela in response, the Associated Press reported.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov would “neither confirm not exclude” a future Russian contingent of troops being sent to Cuba and Venezuela if American talks do not prove successful and the US continues to put pressure on Russia over Ukraine.

Ryabkov headed the Russian delegation that met with its American counterpart in Geneva on Monday. The sessions ended without a resolution of Russian’s insistence on a pause on the expansion of NATO close to its boarders, as its troops remain stationed near Ukraine. The demand has been rejected outright by the White House and American allies.

The high level diplomat told the *RTVI TV* network that the talks “depend on the action by our US counterparts.” He noted that Russian President Vladimir Putin said that if NATO deployed missiles in Ukraine that could reach Moscow, Russian warships with similarly capable Zircon hypersonic cruise missile could be sent to neutral waters.

Putin said that Zircon missiles fly at nine times the speed of sound with a range of over 620 miles, and can also be fitted with nuclear warheads.

The missile system is planned to be fitted into Russian frigates and submarines in the coming months.

Ryabkov added that if Washington and its allies did not take seriously Russian’s concerns over NATO’s expansion into Ukraine and several other ex-Soviet countries, it would be hard pressed to continue discussions on arms control and other pressing geopolitical issues.

“The US wants to conduct a dialogue on some elements of the security situation [and] to ease the tensions and then continue the process of geopolitical and military development of the new territories, coming closer to Moscow,” he said. “We have nowhere to retreat.” <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320441> [The cold war is definitely on and keep watching because it cold become a very hot war. – rdb]

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**Virtual Reality Experience in the Tower of David's Kishle**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sz\_iR-Z\_OwY**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sz_iR-Z_OwY)

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| **"The American people will never knowingly adopt Socialism. But under the name of 'liberalism' they will adopt every fragment of the Socialist program, until one day America will be a Socialist nation, without knowing how it happened." -- Norman Thomas (1884-1968) six-time U.S. Presidential candidate for the Socialist Party of America** |

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**That is the only hope for this nation!**

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| **Please**  **Remember**  **These**  **Folks**  **In**  **Prayer-**  **Check often**  **They**  **Change!** | **Pray that the world would WAKE UP! Time for a worldwide repentance!**  **ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world**  **Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.**  **Pray for BB – Severe sciatic needing procedue.**  **Pray for TH - Knee and Blood pressure problems.**  **Pray for EL – Had clot embolized to brain – successful ‘clot buster’ but long road to go.**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 3:14And God said unto Moses: 'I AM THAT I AM'; and He said: 'Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel: I AM hath sent me unto you.' 15And God said moreover unto Moses: 'Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you; this is My name for ever, and this is My memorial unto all generations. 16Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, hath appeared unto me, saying: I have surely remembered you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt.

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| **Vaccine Secrets – Reloaded – a docu-series concerning the Cov**  [**Trailer - Vaccine Secrets (vsecretscc.com)**](https://vsecretscc.com/)  **This is a rather long series of videos being released exposing the Cov JAB problems.**  **David Martin Explains Why Forced Vaccinations Are ILLEGAL Under U.S. Law!**  [**https://rumble.com/vs9jrz-david-martin-explains-why-forced-vaccinations-are-illegal-under-u.s.-law.html**](https://rumble.com/vs9jrz-david-martin-explains-why-forced-vaccinations-are-illegal-under-u.s.-law.html)  **Dr. David Martin | Exposing the Coup D'Etat & the Plot to Steal America**  [**https://rumble.com/vql4ow-dr.-martin.html**](https://rumble.com/vql4ow-dr.-martin.html) |

**Cops, rioters clash for 2nd straight night in protests against Negev tree planting**

***12 arrested in Bedouin towns as unrest continues despite promised deal; Ra’am’s Abbas denounces violence, says his party ‘suffers every day to be partners in the coalition’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:31 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/pOJ6_FPoOHfnd1wO-e1642014700262.jpg)

Tires are set on fire in the southern Bedouin town of Tel Sheva, January 12, 2022. (Screenshot: Twitter)

For the second night in a row, residents of southern Bedouin communities clashed with police over controversial tree planting in the Negev Desert that had concluded earlier on Wednesday.

Police said four residents of Segev Shalom, and another two from Tel Sheva, were detained for “disturbing the peace, throwing rocks and burning tires.”

In Rahat, another six “rioters” were arrested, police said.

“Calm has been restored,” a police statement said, which added that officers remained at the scene. “The Israel Police allows freedom of protest and deals with rioting and displays of violence with determination and with zero tolerance,” the statement added.

During Wednesday night’s violence, tires were reportedly set on fire and placed on the road near the entrance of Kibbutz Retamim, south of Beersheba. And on Route 25, a stone was hurled toward a civilian’s car, causing minor damage, police said.

In Tel Sheva, young men could be seen hurling stones at a local police station, in a video posted online.

תחנת המשטרה בתל שבע תחת התקפה: יידוי אבנים מאסיבי. המשטרה עצרה 5 חשודים [pic.twitter.com/0yrHqz6ErX](https://t.co/0yrHqz6ErX)

— almog boker (@bokeralmog) [January 12, 2022](https://twitter.com/bokeralmog/status/1481346780382040067?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Earlier, Jewish National Fund workers concluded forestation work on disputed land in the Negev after three days of planting that infuriated local Bedouin communities, who viewed the operation as part of a government effort to expel them from their unrecognized hamlets.

The planting and the violent clashes with police that it sparked turned into the latest crisis that threatened to topple Israel’s nascent, motley coalition, with the Islamist Ra’am party vowing to boycott plenum votes as long as Keren Kayemet L’Yisrael-Jewish National Fund’s (KKL-JNF) work continued in the Negev, where they enjoy the largest bloc of support.

Meanwhile, MKs from the right-wing Yamina and New Hope parties, who campaigned on clamping down on alleged Bedouin lawlessness in the Negev, pressed for the forestation work to continue, viewing it as part of a nationalistic effort to entrench Jewish presence in the area. Authorities deem the land as belonging to the state and have contracted KKL-JNF to plant there.

While the cessation of KKL-JNF’s work was described by right-wing critics as a “surrender to terror,” the forestation was only scheduled to last three days in the first place.

Welfare Minister Meir Cohen, the government point man on the legalization of unrecognized Bedouin villages, said Wednesday that he managed to negotiate an agreement between the sides to hold negotiations starting Thursday to reach a compromise on the matter.

Earlier this week, Ra’am chairman Mansour Abbas said that his four-MK party would not vote with the coalition until the matter was resolved. “We have no right to exist without the Negev. We suffer every day to be partners in the coalition,” he said on Wednesday to Channel 12 news.

In response, Yamina MK Nir Orbach announced Wednesday that he too would not attend plenum votes so long as Ra’am refused to do so as well. And Meretz MK Yair Golan threatened to do the same too, after Housing Minister Ze’ev Elkin of the New Hope party vowed to continue the tree planting.

With a narrow 61-seat majority in the Knesset, the absences threatened to prevent the coalition from passing any legislation so long as the crisis continues.

Indeed, with the coalition lacking numbers, opposition lawmakers began submitting legislation for preliminary approval before the plenum on Wednesday evening. To avoid the embarrassment, coalition MKs left the plenum and several pieces of legislation advanced overwhelmingly, including a bill from Joint List MK Ahmad Tibi which would require police officers to wear body cameras when securing protests. The opposition’s bills are still unlikely to pass subsequent readings, but the day’s events marked an embarrassing day for the coalition.

Sixteen suspects were arrested on allegations of stone-throwing and disturbing public order earlier in the day. Five officers were lightly injured, with four of them requiring brief hospitalization. Local Bedouin residents accused police of using excessive force against the protesters.

The clashes came hours after similarly violent protests on Tuesday night during which demonstrators set a reporter’s car ablaze and blocked a main highway by burning tires. Young rioters also hurled stones at a train, causing the southern line to cease operation for the evening.

A total of 18 people were arrested during those protests.

A picture containing outdoor, sky, ground, beach

Description automatically generated On Wednesday, Abbas denounced the violence: “Even if there is a subject that you are right about… it is not possible to understand violence, not setting fire to cars and not hurling stones. This weakens us,” he told Channel 12.

Mounted police stand guard during a protest by Bedouins in the southern village of Sawe al-Atrash in the Negev Desert against a forestation project, January 12, 2022. (Ahmad Gharabli/AFP)

Negev Bedouin have a contentious relationship with the state. For decades, the government has sought to move them into recognized, planned cities, but many still live in a constellation of illegal hamlets that sprawl across Israel’s southern desert.

Bedouins accuse KKL-JNF of seeking to displace them, but the organization says it is merely fulfilling a request by other government bodies on public land. KKL-JNF works across Israel on nature and conservation projects, but some charge the organization has a political agenda.

Foreign Minister Yair Lapid [said](https://www.timesofisrael.com/fm-lapid-calls-to-halt-tree-planting-amid-violent-negev-protests-coalition-trouble/) Tuesday that “politicians on both sides need to calm things instead of fanning the flames” and called for the planting to be halted until a solution could be found. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/cops-rioters-clash-for-2nd-straight-night-in-protests-against-negev-tree-planting/> The Bedouin community just never seems to be satisfied. They are nomads and refuse normal housing and then hijack all their needed services from the state. – rdb]

**As Syria warms to Gulf states, Israel sees opportunity to curb Iran – report**

***Senior diplomatic figure quoted saying 2022 may see reduction of Iranian threat near northeastern border, but adds IDF strike on Tehran’s nukes would bring Lebanese fire on Israel***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 11:40 am*

*[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/F190323BAFF09.jpg)*

Israeli soldiers guard the Quneitra Crossing, on the Israeli-Syrian border, in the Golan Heights on March 23, 2019. (Basel Awidat/Flash90)

A senior diplomatic official reportedly said Tuesday that Israel was taking a positive view of reconciliation between Syria and Gulf states, predicting it could help curb Iranian influence in the country.

The unnamed source, quoted by the Ynet news site, said that by drawing closer to Sunni countries, Syria may be indicating it wants to oust Iranian and other Shiite entities from within its borders.

Iran, along with Russia, has helped the Damascus regime of Syrian President Bashar Assad quell a civil war that has dragged on for nearly ten years. Although the government has regained control of most of the country, rebels still hold some territory. Israel is concerned that Iran is using its support for Assad as a cover for gaining a military foothold along the Syrian-Israeli border, something the Jewish state has vowed to prevent.

Israel has staged hundreds of strikes on Iran-linked targets inside government-controlled Syria over the years but rarely acknowledges or discusses the specifics of such operations. Some of the strikes reportedly [targeted shipments](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-airstrikes-said-to-hit-key-syrian-port-of-latakia-causing-massive-damage/) of advanced weapons or military technology that Iran was transferring to its Lebanese proxy, the Hezbollah terror group.

“During the coming year there will be opportunities to reduce the Iranian presence in Syria,” the source was quoted as saying.

Syria is facing a serious economic crisis due to the civil war. Foreign investment could help prop up the economy and Gulf states have over the past months indicated to Damascus they are prepared to talk, according to the report.

The source also discussed a possible Israeli strike on Iran’s nuclear facilities, which Jerusalem has threatened to carry out if the international community doesn’t succeed in curbing the Iranian program through diplomacy. Talks in Vienna between world powers and Iran are aiming to save a faltering 2015 nuclear deal.

The source said that if Israel went ahead with an attack, Hezbollah in Lebanon would respond with a strike against Israel.

Hezbollah “has very significant attack capabilities that pose a challenge to us,” the source said. “We are conducting defensive preparations in the northern arena.”

However, Iran’s nuclear program is “a great threat to Israel, even an existential threat,” the source said, and a nuclear-armed Iran will “exacerbate the terror activities of its proxies in the area.”

Israel could also face fire from Lebanon if there is a conflict with Hamas in the Gaza Strip, the source noted. A Lebanese branch of Hamas, directed by senior officials of the terror group in the country rather than by its main leadership in Gaza, would likely join the fighting with permission, explicit or tacit, from Hezbollah, he said.

Hamas itself is losing popularity in Gaza, the coastal enclave it seized from the Palestinian Authority in 2007. Economic hardship in the Strip is driving support for its rival, Fatah, the political party that dominates the West Bank-based PA, the source said.

Confidence-building measures taken by Israel, such as [granting thousands of work permits](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-authorizes-3000-additional-entry-permits-for-gaza-workers/) for Palestinians in Gaza to enter for employment, have embarrassed Hamas, the source added, noting that defense officials were reviewing the option of increasing the number of permits.

Israeli figures are also in contact with Gulf states to encourage them to invest in the Palestinian Authority, “albeit so far without success,” he said.

On Monday, Prime Minister Naftali Bennett reportedly told the Knesset’s Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Israel [could soon face a military confrontation](https://www.timesofisrael.com/pm-said-to-tell-mks-he-expects-escalation-with-lebanon-or-gaza/) with Lebanon or Gaza.

The premier said Israel was waging a multifaceted war against Iran and its proxy terror groups in the region — including Lebanon’s Hezbollah and Gaza’s Hamas — adding that while Tehran is regarded as a regional power, it has many weaknesses, including having to invest its resources in controlling its own population and in transferring money to its proxies. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/as-syria-warms-to-gulf-states-israel-sees-opportunity-to-curb-iran-report/>

**Shin Bet arrests 5 Jewish Israelis suspected of spying for Iran**

***Suspects photographed sensitive sites in Israel, attempted to get their kids to join army intelligence units; Bennett tells citizens ‘to be vigilant’ against such online attempts***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 5:06 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/10406712_1514159748857422_9089605500812180561_n-1.jpg)

An undated Facebook profile picture that was used by an alleged Iranian intelligence operative, known as Rambod Namdar, to make contact with Israeli citizens, several of whom were indicted on January 12, 2022. (Shin Bet)

The Shin Bet security service has arrested five Jewish Israelis accused of assisting an Iranian operative in gathering intelligence and making connections in Israel, despite some of them suspecting that he was working for Iran, the Shin Bet said Wednesday.

The five suspects — four women and one man — are all Jewish immigrants from Iran or the descendants of Iranian immigrants. Their names were barred from publication under a court-issued gag order requested by their attorneys.

According to the Shin Bet, the suspects took photographs of strategically significant sites in Israel, including the US Consulate in Tel Aviv; attempted to form relationships with politicians; provided information about security arrangements at different sites; and committed other offenses — all at the direction of the Iranian operative, who went by the name Rambod Namdar, in exchange for thousands of dollars.

Two of the suspects also attempted to convince their sons to join an IDF Military Intelligence unit, the Shin Bet said.

However, as none of the suspects allegedly involved in the case had access to significant classified material, there was no indication that this spy ring seriously compromised national security. It did, however, reveal a potential weak point that could be used by Iran in the future.

“I call on the citizens of Israel to be vigilant about these attempts. It may be that the people behind the information you consume or share on the networks are Iranians,” said Prime Minister Naftali Bennett on Wednesday in response to news of the case. “There can be no doubt — the long arm of the defense establishment will reach anyone who tries to harm Israel’s security.”

The investigation and resulting indictments shed light on the rare and little-discussed phenomenon of Jews from Iran traveling to Israel to visit family. In one case, such a trip — by one of the suspects’ nieces — was used to transport funds from Iran to Israel in order to pay the Israelis working for Namdar, according to the charge sheet.

Namdar, who maintained profiles on Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp, pretended to be Jewish in conversations with some of the suspects.

In some cases, the suspects acknowledged that they were aware that Namdar may have been an Iranian intelligence operative, but continued their communications with him anyway, according to the security service.

“With their grave actions, those involved put themselves, their families and innocent Israeli citizens at risk, as their information was transferred to Iranian intelligence, in addition to the information that was handed over about Israeli sites and American sites in Israel, which would be used for terrorist purposes,” a senior Shin Bet official said in a statement on Wednesday.

The five suspects were indicted over the past month in the Jerusalem District Court.

Two of the suspects were a husband and wife, in their 40s, who lived in the Tel Aviv suburb of Holon. According to the Shin Bet, the wife, who worked as a presenter at a radio station — the name of which is also barred from publication under the gag order — was in contact with Namdar over the course of several years.

At Namdar’s direction, the wife allegedly took photographs of the US Consulate in Tel Aviv and the offices of the Interior Ministry in Holon and those of the National Insurance Institute. She also is accused of sending Namdar details about the security arrangements at a shopping mall in Holon.

However, she did refuse a number of his requests, including providing him with then-prime minister Benjamin Netanyhua’s email address, taking photographs of military bases and filming inside the Knesset and Supreme Court, according to the indictment.

During this time, Namdar also repeatedly asked her for nude photographs of herself, which she refused to send him and which eventually led her to block his number on her phone, prosecutors said.

The woman also tried to convince her son to enlist in Military Intelligence.

Her husband is accused of being aware of her connection with Namdar and of speaking with the Iranian operative himself, as well as transporting her to the US Consulate to take the photographs of it, despite “suspecting that this was an Iranian intelligence figure,” the Shin Bet said.

The two were charged with contacting a foreign agent, transferring information that could be of value to the enemy, and assisting in the transfer of information that could be of value to the enemy.

Another suspect, a 57-year-old woman from Beit Shemesh, is accused of performing a number of tasks for Namdar in exchange for $5,000. According to the Shin Bet, she attempted to become close friends with a female Knesset member at his instruction and sent him information about their relationship, including recordings of their communications. The name of the parliamentarian was barred from publication.

She also tried to convince her son to join Military Intelligence and sent photographs and videos of his enlistment and military documentation to Namdar, according to the Shin Bet.

The security service said she also formed a club for Iranian emigres in Beit Shemesh, took photographs of her polling box during the March 2020 election and attempted to photograph the US Embassy in Jerusalem, but was stopped by security guards before she could.

According to the charge sheet, Namdar also directed her to install a hidden camera in a massage parlor in her home, apparently to collect potentially embarrassing footage that could be used as leverage over her clients. She installed the camera and recorded one of her clients, but eventually stopped the camera when it made a noise and deleted the video.

She also purchased electronics and opened a business at Namdar’s behest. According to the indictment, the Iranian operative also tried to get the woman to download cryptocurrency software on her phone so that he could transfer her money, but the woman’s nephew, whom she asked to install the applications, told her it was too complicated and that she shouldn’t do it.

According to the charge sheet, the woman “knew that Rambod was working for the Iranian authorities and intelligence services” but agreed to help him anyway. For this she allegedly received $5,000 from him, some of which she received from a messenger sent by Rambod to Turkey, where she’d traveled in order to meet him.

She was charged with contacting a foreign agent and transferring information that could be of value to the enemy.

Some of the money that was allegedly paid to her by a fourth suspect, from the central town of Kfar Saba, who was given $1,000 and jewelry that her niece, who was visiting Israel from Iran, had been given by Rambod, according to the indictment.

The niece “warned [the defendant] that the person who gave her the money and the gifts was unknown by the Jewish community in Tehran, which raised her suspicions that Rambod was working for Iranian intelligence,” prosecutors said.

Despite this, the fourth suspect remained in contact with Rambod, who indicated he wanted a romantic relationship with her, according to the charge sheet.

She too was charged with contacting a foreign agent and transferring information that could be of value to the enemy.

The fifth suspect, a 50-year-old woman from Jerusalem who moved to Israel from Iran in 2001, gave “different pieces of information” to Namdar, the Shin Bet said without elaborating. In the indictment, prosecutors said the woman gave Namdar information about Iranian emigres living in Israel and that the two discussed the fighting in Gaza in May.

In exchange for the information she provided him, the suspect allegedly received $900. Throughout much of their relationship, the woman suspected Namdar, who claimed to be a Jewish contractor living in Tehran, was an Iranian intelligence official — having asked Jewish friends of hers still living in the Iranian capital if they knew anyone with his name and being told no — but continued speaking with him anyway, according to the indictment.

According to the indictment, he also directed her to start a number of businesses, which she refuse to do, and tried to get her to meet him in Turkey, Dubai or in Iran, by traveling there through Armenia. “The defendant told a friend in Iran about this, but he warned her against making such a trip,” according to the indictment.

She was charged with contacting a foreign agent.

In its statement, the Shin Bet warned that Iranian intelligence was constantly looking to recruit Israelis through the internet in order to collect information about the country and to “‘lure’ Israelis abroad in order to harm them.”

“We call on Israeli citizens to be aware of every attempt to make contact or irregular request that are made virtually, particularly with figures who identify as Iranian,” the agency said.

Last year, [an Israeli man was nearly tricked](https://www.timesofisrael.com/be-wary-of-online-contacts-warns-israeli-after-iran-tries-to-lure-him-to-uae/) into traveling to the United Arab Emirates by an Iranian operative, but called off his trip after hearing about Iranian efforts to kidnap or otherwise harm Israeli citizens.

In 2020, the Shin Bet [arrested another Israeli citizen](https://www.timesofisrael.com/shin-bet-nabs-israeli-citizen-accused-of-spying-for-iran/) suspected of spying for Iran. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/shin-bet-arrests-5-jewish-israelis-suspected-of-spying-for-iran/> [This is an interesting action by Shin Bet. Since Israel is such a melting pot of individuals from many nations, many who have fled Islamic strongholds, there is an unending problem of potential espionage. Most interesting is that the handler was seeming to focus on the US consulate/embassy in Tel Aviv. It might seem logical that this was a fact finding excursion to try to get some Americans as retribution for the Soleimani assassination. – rdb]

**Religious services minister unveils government plan to reform conversion system**

***Matan Kahana touts ‘historic opportunity’ to address problem of close to half a million Israeli residents of Jewish ancestry who are not considered Jewish by state***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 4:30 pm*

Religious Services Minister Matan Kahana on Wednesday unveiled his government-backed proposal to reform the state-sponsored process for converting to Judaism.

Submitting an official memorandum of the plan, Kahana called the proposal “a historic opportunity that we must not miss.”

He promised that the reform — which has drawn sharp criticism from ultra-Orthodox figures, including the chief rabbi — will address issues that are causing Jews within Israel to slip away from Judaism, a circumstance that is, he said, “unacceptable.”

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/11/unnamed-8.jpg)

Religious Services Minister Matan Kahana (Yitzhak Kelman)

Kahana said there are 450,000 people living in Israel who have Jewish ancestry but are not considered Jewish under Orthodox law, mostly immigrants from former Soviet Union countries. The proposed legislation, he said, “is the only way to deal with this challenge.”

Referring to the pushback the plan drew before it was even presented, Kahana said: “I try to be coordinated with the chief rabbis. Unfortunately, this coordination does not always go smoothly.”

The bill was drawn up with advice from several leading rabbis in the Modern Orthodox movement, including Rabbi Chaim Druckman, a top figure in religious Zionism, Kahana said.

Currently, state-recognized conversions to Judaism are controlled by the Chief Rabbinate, which is dominated by the ultra-Orthodox. There are only several dozen rabbis and four conversion courts in the country that can legally perform conversions to Judaism.

Converts to Judaism who move to Israel but whose conversions are not recognized by the Chief Rabbinate cannot marry in Israel, as the rabbinate controls marriages. Reform and Conservative conversions performed in Israel have not been recognized for years, and Kahana’s plan would not change that.

The new proposal will enable city rabbis to carry out conversions under the auspices of a central system and steering committee that will define the rules for conversion and monitor their implementation, making the process uniform across the country but transferring sole power away from the Chief Rabbinate.

“I trust the city rabbis,” Kahana said, noting that the plan also allows for the chief rabbi or a steering committee to fire a rabbi from a local conversion board if he is found to have violated any of the rules.

As part of plans to make deep changes in state-controlled Jewish religious services, Kahana [announced last week](https://www.timesofisrael.com/tzohar-rabbi-tapped-to-head-conversions-prompting-rage-from-haredi-leaders/) that conversions to Judaism will be headed by Rabbi Benayahu Brunner, who is affiliated with Tzohar, a group of relatively liberal Orthodox rabbis. The move prompted outrage from ultra-Orthodox lawmakers and religious leaders.

Kahana’s decision came despite a [threat from](https://www.timesofisrael.com/chief-rabbi-freezes-all-conversions-to-judaism-in-protest-of-planned-reforms/) Chief Rabbi David Lau that he would not approve any future conversions to Judaism if the government continues to advance the reform plan.

Last week a man was [indicted for a death threat against Kahana](https://www.timesofisrael.com/man-indicted-for-death-threat-against-minister-over-religious-reforms/) due to his reforms on religion and state, which also include a major shake-up of the kosher certification system. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/religious-services-minister-unveils-government-plan-to-reform-conversion-system/> [This will be a gigantic rhubarb before it is over. The power brokers while go wild. – rdb]

**Hosting Jordanian ambassador in J’lem, Zandberg vows to promote climate cooperation**

***Environmental protection minister says meeting with Ghassan Majali was ‘extraordinary opportunity to strengthen ties’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:42 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/Majali_zanberg-e1642007726870.jpg)

Environmental Protection Minister Tamar Zandberg (R) meets with Jordanian Ambassador to Israel, Ghassan Majali (L), in Jerusalem, January 12, 2022. (Courtesy)

Environmental Protection Minister Tamar Zandberg met on Wednesday with Jordan’s ambassador to Israel at her office in Jerusalem to discuss “cooperation between the countries in the fields of environment and climate,” the minister’s office said in a statement.

“This was an important meeting in which we discussed cooperation between the countries in the fields of environment and climate. The renewal of relations between Israel and Jordan brings with it a great and extraordinary opportunity to strengthen ties between the two countries,” Zandberg was quoted as saying after meeting with Ghassan Majali.

“We will promote cooperation and deepen regional cooperation in the fields of climate and the environment, for the common interests of the two countries,” she added.

The meeting comes after the two countries signed [the largest-ever cooperation agreement](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-jordan-sign-uae-brokered-deal-to-swap-solar-energy-and-water/), which will see the construction of a major solar power plant in Jordan to generate electricity for Israel, while a desalination plant established in Israel will send water to Jordan.

During Wednesday’s meeting, Zandberg told Majali the agreement was of “great importance, both in terms of regional cooperation, and a large part in tackling the climate crisis of the two countries,” the minister’s office said.

The two also discussed the restoration of water flow through the Jordan River and on to the Dead Sea, and removal of pollution on the Israeli side.

The Environmental Protection Ministry said the joint work between Zandberg and Majali is “in order to improve the environment and life of the residents of the two countries, as well as of the Palestinians in the West Bank.”

The recent deal comes after a period in which bilateral relations had cooled under Israel’s former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Naftali Bennett, who took over in June, has made strengthening ties with Amman a priority.

In July, Bennett met with King Abdullah II in secret at the crown palace in Amman, in the first summit between the countries’ leaders in over three years. Last week Defense Minister Benny Gantz [also met with](https://www.timesofisrael.com/gantz-meets-jordanian-king-abdullah-ii-in-amman-to-discuss-security-concerns/) Abdullah in Amman, their second meeting in the past year.

Experts say future cooperation could help improve relations, which Jordan’s King Abdullah has described as a “cold peace.”

Under their 1994 peace treaty, the Jewish state recognized Jordan’s oversight of Muslim holy sites in East Jerusalem, which was captured by Israel in the 1967 Six Day War. But there are often demonstrations in Jordan in solidarity with the Palestinians. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/meeting-jordanian-ambassador-zandberg-vows-to-promote-climate-cooperation/>

**Green Mediterranean diet can slow brain atrophy, Israeli-led study suggests**

***Ben-Gurion University trial shows consumption of green tea, duckweed and walnuts may significantly reduce age-related brain damage, especially among over-50s***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 2:13 pm*

Israeli researchers have discovered that age-related brain atrophy can be slowed with a green Mediterranean diet, high in polyphenols — a type of micronutrient naturally occurring in plants — and low in red and processed meat.

The results of the study were published on Tuesday in [The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.](https://academic.oup.com/ajcn/advance-article/doi/10.1093/ajcn/nqac001/6503596?login=true)

The trial was led by Prof. Iris Shai and Dr. Alon Kaplan from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, together with several international teams of brain experts.

The study saw 284 participants aged 31-82 — all employees at the Dimona Nuclear Research Center — randomly divided into three groups that would follow a diet based on set guidelines: a healthy diet, a Mediterranean diet, and a green Mediterranean diet.

A person with long hair

Description automatically generated with medium confidence Both groups following a Mediterranean-style diet were additionally given walnuts to eat, while those on the green Mediterranean diet were also given three-four cups of green tea daily and a shake made of Mankai, an aquatic plant. Shai has acted as an adviser to an Israeli company marketing the product.

All participants underwent a full brain MRI scan before and after the study. They also received free gym memberships and undertook daily physical exercise.

Prof. Iris Shai (Dani Machlis/BGU)

Researchers found a significant decrease in age-related brain damage among those who adhered to both forms of Mediterranean diet, with a greater slowdown in damage observed among the green diet group.

The most significant improvement was seen in participants over the age of 50 — an age group particularly prone to rapid mental atrophy.

Participants who followed those two diets also showed an improvement in insulin sensitivity, a further example of a slowdown in damage to brain activity.

“The beneficial association between the green Mediterranean diet and age-related neurodegeneration might be partially explained by the abundance of polyphenols in plant-based food sources which have antioxidant and anti-inflammatory metabolites,” Shai said in a statement, explaining that the micronutrients can reduce inflammation in the brain and increase brain connectivity.

“Our findings might suggest a simple, safe, and promising avenue to slow age-related neurodegeneration by adhering to a green-Mediterranean diet,” Kaplan said in the statement.

Shai led [similar research](https://www.timesofisrael.com/diet-said-to-bust-liver-fat-with-plant-goodness-unveiled-by-israeli-academics/), which developed a diet that significantly cuts liver fat by tweaking the traditional Mediterranean regimen to include special greens. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/green-mediterranean-diet-could-slow-brain-atrophy-israeli-led-study-suggests/>

**Jewish businessman offers to buy, destroy Nazi memorabilia from Nazi ship**

***A 6-foot-tall Nazi swastika and eagle crest were recovered in a private expedition in 2006.***

*By JUAN MELAMED/JTA Published: JANUARY 13, 2022 02:19*

A Jewish businessman has offered to buy an 800-pound eagle and swastika crest from a former Nazi ship that is sitting in a Uruguay warehouse and explode it into “a thousand pieces.”

A private expedition recovered the 6-foot-tall [Nazi swastika](https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-692252) and eagle crest in 2006. It had been affixed to the front of the Admiral Graf Spee Nazi warship, which was scuttled by British ships in a Montevideo harbor in December 1939.

After its recovery, the eagle was briefly shown to the public in Montevideo, sparking controversy. Germany criticized the display of “Nazi paraphernalia” and the eagle was moved to a naval warehouse. It was nearly put up for auction, but the head of the Uruguayan Jewish Committee and others objected, arguing that it could end up in the wrong hands. It was reportedly offered to Israel’s Yad Vashem Holocaust museum, which rejected it.

In 2019, a Uruguayan court ruled that the government must auction the crest, and that the proceeds must go to the investors behind the team that recovered it. Past reports claimed that buyers had floated offers in the tens of millions of dollars.

Argentine Jewish businessman Daniel Sielecki, 64, who now lives in Uruguay, told a local news site that he wants to buy the eagle — and subsequently destroy it — to keep it out of the hands of neo-Nazis. MORE - <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-692352>

**10% of Knesset absent due to virus as COVID spreads among lawmakers**

***6 coalition members — including two ministers — and 8 opposition MKs are isolating after testing positive, as UTJ’s Yitzhak Pindrus and Religious Zionism’s Ofir Sofer join list***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:32 pm*

At least 14 lawmakers and ministers infected with COVID-19 were absent from governmental work on Wednesday, as cases continue to climb to new records in both the country and the Knesset.

Six members of the coalition, including Foreign Minister Yair Lapid, his deputy Idan Roll (Yesh Atid), Public Security Minister Omer Barlev (Labor), and MKs Michael Biton (Blue and White), Yomtob Kalfon (Yamina) and Emilie Moatti (Labor), are self-isolating after testing positive for the coronavirus.

In the opposition, eight lawmakers were quarantined on Wednesday after testing positive, including three Likud MKs: Haim Katz, Ofir Katz and Etty Atia. Yoav Ben-Tzur (Shas), Yisrael Eichler (UTJ), Yitzhak Pindrus (UTJ), Osama Saadi (Joint List) and Ofir Sofer (Religious Zionism) were also infected.

Meaning, 10%, or 12 out of 120 MKs have the coronavirus as of Wednesday afternoon. (Barlev and Roll are not members of the Knesset.)

Wednesday’s Knesset sessions continued despite the missing lawmakers.

The rapid rise in coronavirus cases that has seen record caseloads every day over the past week continued Tuesday with 43,815 new patients confirmed, the highest number since the pandemic began in early 2020.

Health Ministry figures released on Wednesday showed that out of 360,038 virus tests carried out, 12.09 percent returned positive, the highest value since September 29, 2020, when it was 15.29%.

The number of seriously ill patients was given as 254, one fewer than the day before. Of those, 84 are considered critical and 63 are on ventilators.

With the death of a patient the previous day, the toll since the start of the pandemic reached 8,274.

The Omicron virus variant has raced across Israel over the past week, leaving the country with 222,877 active patients, 198,276 of whom were diagnosed over the past seven days — a rate three times higher than the previous week. The rampage has left 156,393 Israelis in quarantine due to infection or exposure to an infected person, ministry figures showed.

A Tuesday evening meeting of the coronavirus cabinet, a select panel of ministers who form virus policy, ended without any major decisions. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/10-of-knesset-absent-due-to-virus-as-covid-spreads-among-lawmakers/>

**COVID vaccine for Israeli babies, toddlers expected by April, says health official**

**This would make all Israelis over six months be eligible for vaccines; waiting on Pfizer trial, which has already indicated that shots are safe for under-5s**

By [Nathan Jeffay](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/nathan-jeffay/) Today, 5:18 pm

Israel is expected to roll out vaccines for babies and toddlers by April, says a senior health official.

“In Israel vaccines are available now for everybody aged five and over. I believe by April this will be expanded for any age above six months,” Dr. Asher Shalmon, the Health Ministry’s director of international relations, said in a briefing to foreign policymakers and journalists this week. [This is just sickening! Totally unnecessary pollution of children’s genetic material and immune systems. – rdb]

Pfizer is in the process of conducting clinical trials to lower the approved age for its vaccine from five years to six months. Pfizer [reported](https://www.pfizer.com/news/press-release/press-release-detail/pfizer-and-biontech-provide-update-ongoing-studies-covid-19) last month that, in its ongoing trial of children aged six months to five years, “no safety concerns were identified” and the vaccine “demonstrated a favorable safety profile.”

The company is currently checking responses to a regimen of three mini doses for under-5s, after finding that a two-dose approach provoked a strong response among children aged 6-24 months, but wasn’t as strong in children ages two to five years. [So how long was it good for? Three months or maybe 6 months? What is the morbidity figures for this age range? Essentially .01% or less. – rdb]

Government coronavirus adviser Prof. Nadav Davidovitch, a top epidemiologist, also noted in a press briefing on Wednesday that Israel was aiming to introduce infant doses soon.

Davidovitch made his comments as he discussed why he believes parents shouldn’t let their guard down against Omicron based on observations that it tends to cause milder illness than previous variants, and that children tend to experience the virus more mildly than adults.

“Children are often much less sick than adults, but they can have PIMS [pediatric inflammatory multisystem syndrome, an aftereffect of COVID-19] and long COVID, which is why vaccines are important, and there will be vaccines for children under fives.” [So what is the incidence of PIIMS? Very very low. So you risk the lives of all the children for this. The man should be flogged. – rdb]

Doctors are optimistic about the capability of vaccines to prevent PIMS, after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the United States [found](https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/pfizerbiontech-vaccine-protects-children-against-rare-covid-19-complication-cdc-2022-01-07/) that the Pfizer vaccine is highly protective against the syndrome. It concluded that the vaccine is 91% effective in preventing PIMS among 12- to 18-year-olds, a statistic based on comparison of its occurrence among unvaccinated teens. [This are purely fictitious numbers and totally hypothetical. -rdb]

A person wearing glasses

Description automatically generated with medium confidence Davidovitch said Omicron is far more infectious among children, especially compared to the original form of the virus, which was significantly less infectious among kids compared to adults. “It’s clear now that unlike with the original SARS-COV-2 that was not so relevant to children and they weren’t so infectious, now things are very different,” he said. “It’s probably related to biological characteristics — infection is now much more in your throat and in the upper respiratory areas. With children, whose anatomy is different from adults’, this seems to make them more prone to infection now.”

Nadav Davidovitch (courtesy Ben Gurion University)

Davidovitch, a leader of Israel’s doctors union and director of Ben-Gurion University’s School of Public Health, said he expected that in the future, once the pandemic was tamed and the virus was reduced to a low level — or in scientific jargon became endemic — coronavirus vaccines would be administered during childhood as a matter of course, pending parents’ approval.

“My prediction is when the disease is endemic we’re going to have COVID vaccines as part of a regular vaccine schedule like MMR, so people who are born will get the vaccination schedule along with other vaccines,” he said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/covid-vaccine-for-israeli-babies-toddlers-expected-by-april-says-health-official/> [A JAB that is actually ineffective and you are going to JAB babies. – rdb]

**Israel reports improvement of severe Omicron patients within a week**

***Health Ministry says condition of 140 out of 303 patients improved, with some even being released from hospital care; official say that though it is not clear if Omicron does cause milder illness, treatment of cases is easier than previous variants***

*Adir Yanko | Published: 01.12.22, 18:57*

[Despite the continued rampant spread of the Omicron variant of coronavirus across Israel](https://www.ynetnews.com/health_science/article/b1acxm23k), health officials on Wednesday reported the condition of nearly half of new serious coronavirus patients improved within a week.

According to the Health Ministry, some 303 severely ill COVID patients were hospitalized between January 5 and January 11 - of whom 74 have seen an improvement. The condition of another 67 had stabilized enough to warrant a release from hospital care.

Despite the encouraging numbers, officials in the healthcare system said it is currently too soon to say if the Omicron variant does indeed cause a shorter hospitalization period compared to previous coronavirus strains.

The officials added, however, that hospitalizations induced by the highly infectious strain do seem to be less prone to complications, and are generally considered easier to treat.

“It is difficult to talk about shorter hospitalizations because it is a process that requires comparisons, but the disease is easier,” said Dr. Dror Mevorach, the head of Hadassah Ein Kerem Medical Center's coronavirus ward.

“Those in our ward do not suffer from severe respiratory problems. There are patients in serious condition, but their issues do not reach the extremes we have seen with the Delta and Alpha strains of the virus,” added Mevorach.

Despite the optimism, some are worried about the increased rate of hospitalizations which seem to have increased during the current infection wave.

 "I have never seen so many patients at once. Forty patients are admitted a day, that's a lot," said Prof. Galia Rahav, director of the Infectious Diseases Unit at Sheba Medical Center.

“Fewer patients, however, require ventilation, and we also see fewer deaths,” added Rahav.

Galia Rahav, director of the Infectious Diseases Unit at Sheba Medical Center

(Photo: Yariv Katz)

“The last patients we lost - died with COVID but not because of it. However, it is too early to determine whether the duration of hospitalization is indeed shorter.”

Despite Israel logging over 43,000 new COVID cases Tuesday — a record high - only 38 verified Omicron patients have been hospitalized in critical condition thus far, while 39 have been hospitalized in mild or moderate condition. Of all hospitalized Omicron patients, one has died. <https://www.ynetnews.com/health_science/article/b1xiyd3hy> It these folks would learn that you actually provide a good effective treatment with HCQ and Ivermectin and the Vitamin D and C and Zinc the hospitalization rate would drop like a rock. – rdb]

**Elderly Palestinian said to die of heart attack during arrest by Israeli troops**

***Amr As’ad, 80, was allegedly violently detained in Jiljilya, near Ramallah; IDF says Military Police are opening investigation into the case***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 10:14 amUpdated at 3:31 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2016/01/qalqilya006.jpg)

A soldier stands guard in the light of an army jeep in Qalqilya on January 14, 2016. (Judah Ari Gross/Times of Israel/File)

An 80-year-old Palestinian man died of a heart attack on Wednesday morning after he was treated violently during a predawn arrest by Israeli soldiers, in a small town near Ramallah, the Palestinian Authority health ministry said.

Jiljilya resident Amr Abd al-Majid As’ad, 80, was allegedly detained in his hometown after returning home late at night.

“According to his family’s account, Israeli soldiers stopped him, tied his hands, and beat him, which led him to suffer a heart attack,” the health ministry said in a statement.

As’ad was taken to a local Palestinian health clinic before being transferred to the Palestine Medical Center in Ramallah, where he died, the statement said.

The Israel Defense Forces said Military Police opened an investigation into As’ad’s death. In a statement, the military confirmed that As’ad was arrested overnight, but did not comment on the Palestinian allegations of violence.

“The Palestinian was arrested during an operation by IDF troops after he refused a security search. The detainee was released later that night,” the military said.

“The Military Police have opened an investigation into the circumstances of the incident, after which the findings will be handed over to the Military Prosecution for consideration,” the IDF said.

The military conducts arrest operations on a nightly basis, often arresting tens or dozens of Palestinians on suspicion of involvement in terror activity.

أكدت مصادر محلية استشهد عمر عبد المجيد أسعد 80 عاما من قرية جلجليا شمال رام الله فجر اليوم.

وقال رئيس مجلس قروي جلجليا فؤاد مطيع لوطن ان المواطن عمر أسعد 80 عاما استشهد إثر احتجازه من قبل قوات الاحتلال والاعتداء عليه والتنكيل به. [pic.twitter.com/XJsPB7ljKv](https://t.co/XJsPB7ljKv)

— حركة فتح (@fatehorg) [January 12, 2022](https://twitter.com/fatehorg/status/1481151295750819840?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Tensions have been rising between Israel and the Palestinians across the West Bank and Gaza over the past month, including a wave of terror attacks that so far have taken the lives of two Israeli civilians and wounded several others. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/elderly-palestinian-said-to-die-of-heart-attack-during-arrest-by-israeli-troops/>

**Taliban Seeks Chinese Help for Aerial Combat Capabilities**

[Arie Egozi](https://gbp.com.sg/authors/arie-egozi) - : Jan 12, 2022 - : 12:47 pm

The Taliban administration that is controlling Afghanistan is trying to form an air unit with the helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft left behind by the U.S. forces  in some bases. [Isn’t this just ducky! The millions of dollars worth of US military equipment is being prepped for use by Taliban with the assistance of the Chinese. This administration is composed of wicked vile idiots. – rdb]

According to the MEMRI report, since the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (the Taliban organization) took over the country in August, media reports have indicated that they have taken control of military hardware left by the U.S. and other NATO member states.

“There have been concerns that Pakistan, a major patron of the Islamic Emirate, and China, which has trained Taliban fighters in Xinjiang province, would seek to obtain the military hardware left behind by the United States in Afghanistan”. [That was probably part of the negotiations by this government. – rdb]  
 According to the report, In November 2021, social media reports emerged that military hardware was being transported from Afghanistan to Pakistan. There is unease among Afghans about Afghan military equipment going to Pakistan.  
 “The smuggling of military tanks and weapons should be stopped. The equipment belongs to the people,” said Shukor Shah, a Kabul resident.   
 “However, Saeed Khosti, spokesman of the Taliban-led interior ministry of Afghanistan, dismissed these reports, saying: “We completely reject the smuggling of military equipment into Pakistan. No one will be allowed to do it.”   
 The report says that on August 15, the day Kabul fell, some Afghan pilots and maintenance workers, fearing for their lives, flew their planes out of Afghanistan into neighboring countries.   
 Ataullah Omari – the commander of Al-Fatah Corps in Balkh province, a jihadi specialist force under the Islamic Emirate – said on December 4: “Those aircraft transferred abroad have been returned to the country. As a result of continued efforts, some of the aircraft were brought back to Afghanistan.”   
 The MEMRI report says that while addressing a meeting of Kabul airport personnel on December 3, Mullah Mohammad Yaqoob, the Taliban’s acting defense minister and son of late Taliban founder Mullah Mohammad Omar, announced that the Islamic Emirate will establish an air force. “We will establish an air force that will not need the support of the U.S., India, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan,” Yaqoob said.   
 For the first time since the Taliban took power, the Taliban-led Afghan air force conducted a military maneuver in the northern province of Balkh on November 29, according to an Afghan media report.   
 Amanuddin Mansoor, a commander of the air force, said: “In the near future we will collect information from all the airports to see how many active and damaged choppers we have, and also how many pilots we have who are willing to work and how many are not. We request that those who have left the country return and serve their people.”   
 According to experts at the Israeli-based MEMRI institute the Taliban is seeking help from China to achieve aerial combat capabilities. One of the experts said that China will “be happy ” to assist this Taliban’s effort.   
 Dr. Mordechai Kedar , an Israeli expert on Islamic issues said that the Chinese want to  have a slice of the wealth of natural resources in Afghanistan.   
 Afghanistan has over 1,400 mineral fields, containing barite, chromite, coal, copper, gold, iron ore, lead, natural gas, petroleum, precious and semi-precious stones, salt, sulfur, lithium, talc, and zinc, among many other minerals. Gemstones include high-quality emerald, lapis lazuli, red garnet, and ruby.  
 Kedar added that the Chinese also want to have an influence on Afghanistan as neighboring country. “The Taliban may use the new air unit to attack American targets but they will weigh the retaliation expected from such attacks. The Chinese involvement in this country may also reflect on the Taliban plans to use this capability to attack U.S interstates,” Kedar added. <https://gbp.com.sg/stories/taliban-seeks-chinese-help-for-aerial-combat-capabilities/>

**Russia & NATO fail to find common ground – Moscow**

*12 Jan, 2022 16:27*

Discussions were ‘direct’ and ‘sincere’, but exposed fundamental differences in views   
 The US-led NATO military bloc has reverted to full Cold War strategy of “containment” towards Russia and seeks “full spectrum dominance,” Moscow's Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Grushko told reporters on Wednesday.  
 The diplomat added that Moscow believes NATO’s behavior is creating a “unacceptable” threat to Russia that it will have to counter.   
 Grushko also alleged that the bloc is responsible for ending any and all cooperation with Russia on key common security issues such as the fight against terrorism, drug trafficking and piracy. He called out the US over the *“collapse”* of the arms control agreements, bringing up Washington’s exit from the INF and Open Skies treaties and dragging its feet on extending New START.  
***At present, we have no unifying positive agenda. None at all.***  
 Russia has proposed de-escalation measures, but NATO has so far ignored them, the diplomat added. The bloc appears to recognize security as something that only applies to its members, in direct violation of numerous international treaties. Russia finds this unacceptable, Grushko said, adding that if NATO persists with the policy of containment, deterrence and intimidation, Moscow will respond in kind.  
 Earlier on Wednesday, NATO’s Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg told reporters that the two sides had a *“frank and open discussion on a wide range of issues, of course focusing on tensions in and around Ukraine.”* However, Stoltenberg ruled out any deal on NATO’s further expansion, saying that *“Russia does not have a veto”* over that process and that *“only Ukraine and 30 allies can decide when Ukraine becomes a member.”*  
 Moscow is adamant that Ukraine and Georgia must “never, ever” become NATO members, according to Grushko’s colleague Sergey Ryabkov. <https://www.rt.com/russia/545843-moscow-russia-nato-talks/>

**US consumer prices post biggest rise in nearly 40 years; inflation close to peaking**

***The high cost of living, the result of snarled supply chains because of the COVID-19 pandemic, is a political nightmare for President Joe Biden.***

*By REUTERS Published: JANUARY 12, 2022 19:32*

[US consumer prices](https://www.jpost.com/business-and-innovation/opinion/article-691986) increased solidly in December as rental accommodation and used cars maintained their strong gains, culminating in the largest annual rise in inflation in nearly four decades, which bolstered expectations that the Federal Reserve will start raising interest rates as early as March.

The report from the Labor Department on Wednesday followed on the heels of data last Friday showing that the labor market was at or near maximum employment.  
 Fed Chair Jerome Powell on Tuesday said the US central bank stood ready to do what was necessary to keep high inflation from becoming "entrenched," in testimony during his nomination hearing before the Senate Banking Committee for a second four-year term as head of the bank.  
 The high cost of living, the result of snarled supply chains because of the COVID-19 pandemic, is a political nightmare for President [Joe Biden](https://www.jpost.com/international/article-692259), whose approval rating has taken a hit.  
 "The Fed is going to be forced to begin raising rates in March and depending on the political pressure on them – from both sides of the aisle – they are going to have to raise rates four or more times in this year and potentially more than that next year," said Chris Zaccarelli, chief investment officer at Independent Advisor Alliance in Charlotte, North Carolina.  
 The consumer price index rose 0.5% last month after advancing 0.8% in November. In addition to higher rents, consumers also paid more for food, though the 0.5% increase in food prices was less than in the prior three months. There were big gains in the prices of fruits and vegetables, but beef prices fell 2.0% after recent sharp gains.  
 Consumers also got a respite from gasoline prices, which fell 0.5% after rising 6.1% in both November and October.  
 In the 12 months through December, the CPI surged 7.0%. That was the biggest year-on-year increase since June 1982 and followed a 6.8% rise in November.  
 Last month's inflation readings were in line with expectations. Rising inflation is also eroding wage gains. Inflation-adjusted average weekly earnings fell 2.3% on a year-on-year basis in December.  
 President Biden said virtually every nation was afflicted with inflation as the global economy recovers from the pandemic.  
 "This report underscores that we still have more work to do, with price increases still too high and squeezing family budgets," Biden said in a statement.  
 Inflation is well above the Fed's flexible 2% target. It is also being lifted by budding wage pressures as the labor market tightens. The unemployment rate fell to a 22-month low of 3.9% in December. Markets have priced in an about 80% chance of a rate hike in March, according to CME's FedWatch tool.  
 Economists say the broad nature of inflation appears to have caught Fed officials off guard. There are concerns that inflation expectations could become entrenched and compel the Fed to aggressively tighten monetary policy, potentially causing a recession.  
 "This is the first time the Fed has chased instead of trying to preempt a nonexistent inflation since the 1980s," said Diane Swonk, chief economist at Grant Thornton in Chicago. "Brace yourselves."  
 Stocks on Wall Street were trading higher amid relief that the increase in prices was as expected. The dollar fell against a basket of currencies. US Treasury prices rose.  
**BOTTLENECKS EASING** Economists believe the year-on-year CPI rate probably peaked in December or will likely do so by March. There are signs that supply bottlenecks are starting to ease, with an Institute for Supply Management survey last week showing manufacturers reporting improved supplier deliveries in December.  
 But soaring COVID-19 cases, driven by the Omicron variant, could slow progress towards normalization of supply chains.  
 Excluding the volatile food and energy components, the CPI increased 0.6% last month after rising 0.5% in November.  
 The so-called core CPI was boosted by rents, with owners' equivalent rent of primary residence, which is what a homeowner would receive from renting a home, rising a solid 0.4% for a third straight month.  
 Prices for used cars and trucks accelerated 3.5% after increasing 2.5% in each of the prior two months. The surge likely reflects Hurricane Ida in late August and early September, which destroyed thousands of motor vehicles among other property.  
 New motor vehicle prices rose 1.0%, marking the ninth consecutive month of gains. A global semiconductor shortage has undercut motor vehicle production.  
 Prices for furniture, bedding and housekeeping supplies increased. Apparel prices jumped 1.7%, the largest increase since January 2021. The cost of healthcare rose 0.3%.  
 There were also increases in the prices for airline tickets, personal care products and tobacco. But the cost of motor vehicle insurance fell again as did recreation. Communication prices were unchanged.  
 In the 12 months through December, the so-called core CPI accelerated 5.5%. That was the largest year-on-year gain since February 1991 and followed a 4.9% advance in November. The year-on-year core CPI rate is seen peaking in February.  
 Still, inflation is likely to remain above target this year.  
 "Inflation will slow in 2022 as supply chains reopen and prices for some items, like vehicles and energy, decline as supply catches up to demand," said Gus Faucher, chief economist at PNC Financial in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.  
 "But inflation for many other goods and services will be higher in 2022 than before the pandemic, due to higher labor costs and input prices. Housing will also contribute to high inflation in 2022." <https://www.jpost.com/business-and-innovation/banking-and-finance/article-692332> [Criminal actions again by this government. – rdb]

**'It's over, people': WHO warns AGAINST vaccine mandates, repeated booster shots**

***'We see mandates as a last resort ... in the face of a large epidemic'***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published January 12, 2022 at 7:36pm*

The World Health Organization said in a statement that a vaccination strategy based on repeated booster doses of the original COVID-19 vaccines is unlikely to be appropriate or sustainable.

Recognizing the inability of the shots to stop the spread, the U.N. health agency said future vaccines against COVID-19 must "be more effective in protection against infection thus lowering community transmission."

"It's over, people," was the response from Alex Berenson, a former New York Times reporter who has devoted his independent reporting to the pandemic, publishing several books on the subject.

"Aside from a few unlucky Israelis, no one is going to receive a fourth dose of the original vaccine; everyone with eyes can see it doesn’t work against Omicron," [he wrote on his Substack page.](https://alexberenson.substack.com/p/boosters-are-over/comments)

Separately, on Wednesday, the [WHO said vaccination status should not be used to disqualify people from traveling internationally](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/who-says-vaccine-mandates-should-be-last-resort-amid-djokovic-row-20220113-p59nub.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1642010830), advising governments to implement vaccine mandates only as a "last resort."

On Tuesday, [the European Union's top health agency warned that getting boosted ever four months could harm the immune system's ability to fight off the disease](https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/e-u-admits-frequent-booster-shots-weaken-bodys-immune-system/). The European Medicines Agency advised countries instead to mirror the seasonal influenza vaccination strategy tied to the onset of the cold season.

Berenson said a third does would be, at most, "weeks of marginally improved protection" from "potentially severe side effects."

But COVID has proved to be "faster than the scientists," and even the mRNA vaccines take too long to be developed.

The WHO's remarks about vaccine mandates comments came in response to [questions from the Sydney Morning Herald](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/who-says-vaccine-mandates-should-be-last-resort-amid-djokovic-row-20220113-p59nub.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1642010830) and The Age newspapers about Australia's ban of top tennis player Novak Djokovic because he is unvaccinated.

Dr. Mike Ryan, executive director of WHO's Health Emergencies Program, said vaccine mandates should be used "as a last resort ... in the face of a large epidemic."

"So yes, there are circumstances in which vaccine mandates are supported by WHO, but, again, it is subjected to the basic principle that the best way to get people vaccinated is to inform them, to educate, to have a dialogue and to address people’s genuine concerns," he said.

Ryan said the WHO always asks "that those mandates be clear, be explicit, be time-limited and at the same time ... governments continue to explain to people why they’re doing things and continue to try and convince people of the benefits of vaccine rather than reverting to mandates as a single approach."

Katherine O’Brien, director of WHO's Department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals, said no one should be denied access to international travel based on their vaccination status.

She argued that not everyone in the world has the same access to vaccines.

"Free and full access to safe and effective vaccines is the absolute precondition before a mandate is made and that is a grounding principle," she said. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/4974655/> [ HUMMMMM? So do you suppose that the WHO group finally woke up and realized that what has been going on for the past year +++ is a revolting violation of the Nuremburg accord and could get them all lined up in a row hanging from the rafters????? There are a number of individuals in legal groups who have been collecting rhemes of information and are prepared to take this through the court system either US or the ICC at the Hague. SEE BELOW --- rdb]

**UK Team File Complaint of Crimes Against Humanity With The International Criminal Court**

*By* [*Patricia Harrity*](https://dailyexpose.uk/author/patricia-harrity/) *on* [*December 10, 2021*](https://dailyexpose.uk/2021/12/10/uk-team-file-complaint-of-crimes-against-humanity-with-the-international-criminal-court/) *• (* [*193 Comments*](https://dailyexpose.uk/2021/12/10/uk-team-file-complaint-of-crimes-against-humanity-with-the-international-criminal-court/#comments) *)*

A complaint has been filed with the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court on December 6th, 2021 by a team from the UK on behalf of the people. They are alleging crimes committed by UK government officials and international world leaders of various violations of the Nuremberg Code, crimes against humanity, war crimes and crimes of aggression perpetrated against the peoples of the UK.

The team who are fighting for justice on behalf of us all state that:

“**The seriousness and extent of the crimes committed in the United Kingdom, highlighted by the scope of people that these crimes affect, that these crimes continue to be committed, the wide range of perpetrators, the recurring patterns of criminality and the limited prospects for accountability at the national level, all weigh heavily in favour of an investigation”.**

**The news of the legal complaint has come at a good time for many** ([source)](https://hannahroselaw.files.wordpress.com/2021/12/icc-complaint-7.docx).

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The perpetrators as listed on the document. below.

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The applicants state that they have tried to raise their case through the local English police and the English Court system without success. The team is represented by lawyer, **Hannah Rose,** with co-applicants including:

**Dr. Mike Yeadon**, who is a former vice-President and Chief Scientist of allergy and respiratory research at Pfizer n respiratory pharmacology, former Vice President and Chief Scientist of allergy and respiratory research at Pfizer.

**Piers Corbyn** – Astrophysicist and activist, retired police officer, **Mark Sexton** –**John O’Loony** – Funeral Director and activist, **Johnny McStay** – Activist and **Louise Shotbolt** – Nurse and human rights activist

**The International Criminal Court**

The applicant’s state that they have tried to raise their case through the local English police and the English Court system without success

This is exactly why the ICC has been addressed directly as if a state is unwilling or unable to carry out either an investigation or prosecution, the ICC is able to prosecute, not to replace national crime systems, but to complement them.

The team of applicants has provided the ICC with documentation detailing numerous claims which amount to violations of the Nuremberg Code, Crimes against humanity, war crimes, and crimes of aggression in the United Kingdom.

Within the complaint, the team argues that **“*based on the extensive claims and enclosed documentation, we charge those responsible for numerous violations of the Nuremberg Code, crimes against humanity, war crimes and crimes of aggression in the United Kingdom, but not limited to individuals in these countries”.***

The applicants state that “It is our intention to present to you and detail how, in the United Kingdom this year, the Government of the United Kingdom, with its Ministers and senior officials have violated the Nuremberg Code not only in a single aspect but in many aspects”. MORE - <https://dailyexpose.uk/2021/12/10/uk-team-file-complaint-of-crimes-against-humanity-with-the-international-criminal-court/> I never saw anything about this in the local news rags. I have not found anything as to whether the ICC has accepted or started to consider this or not BUT it really needs to and if this spreads around it could cause some real heartache for a large number of people who have gone insane with power. – rdb]

**Covid pass protesters attempt to breach parliament (VIDEOS)**

*12 Jan, 2022 15:36*

Demonstration against anti-coronavirus restrictions escalated into scuffles outside Bulgaria’s legislature

Bulgarian police have foiled an attempt by demonstrators protesting the enduring anti-coronavirus restrictions to breach the national parliament. The scuffles left four officers injured and saw several protesters detained.

Hundreds of people gathered outside the Bulgarian parliament building in the capital, Sofia, on Wednesday.

The protest, staged by the nationalist Vazrazhdane (Revival) party, decried the standing anti-coronavirus restrictions, including the green pass system put in place by the country’s authorities.

Bulgaria: Manifestantes contra el pase anti-Covid se reúnen frente a la Asamblea Nacional en la capital Sofía [pic.twitter.com/3ojIS4hr9X](https://t.co/3ojIS4hr9X)

— @Immune Truth (@ImmuneTruth) [January 12, 2022](https://twitter.com/ImmuneTruth/status/1481276167508434945?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

The protesters were seen carrying Bulgarian flags and placards reading “I want a normal lif*e,” “Hands off our children”* and so on. The crowd chanted *“Freedom, freedom,”* as well as other slogans.

The rally descended into scuffles against law enforcement officers as the crowd tried to breach the parliament building, pushing away the police line guarding it. Protesters were unable to enter, as its doors were locked and barricaded with tables from the inside by the parliament’s security.  
 The botched attempt to breach the legislature reportedly prompted minor scuffles inside the building as well. An MP with the Vazrazhdane party reportedly tried to remove the tables and unlock the doors to let the protesters in, arguing that the crowd was within its rights to enter the parliament.  
 The scuffles outside the building left four police officers injured, according to the country’s Ministry of Interior. Several protesters were detained during the incident, footage from the scene suggests.  
 The protest has been acknowledged by the country’s Prime Minister, Kiril Petkov, who said he would have been *“happy”* to go to parliament square to talk to the protesters. The official was unable to do so since he is currently in quarantine after coming into contact with somebody infected with Covid-19.  
 *“If there are people from their protest who are known to have professional qualities, we will be happy to hear their ideas for a more constructive way to manage the Covid crisis,”* Petkov said, adding, however, that the health pass system itself cannot be dropped.  
 Since the beginning of the pandemic, Bulgaria has registered nearly 800,000 Covid-19 cases including more than 31,700 deaths. While the figures are significantly lower than recorded by the worst-affected nations worldwide, the per capita rate is quite high for the nation of some seven million. Currently, the country is enduring a new wave of coronavirus, with new daily infections reaching a record high of 7,062 on Wednesday. <https://www.rt.com/news/545817-covid-pass-protest-parliament-bulgaria/> People are getting sick and tired of this and pretty soon there will be almost a universal revolt by the population and the worlds globalist group will get the Marie Antoinette treatment. – rdb]

**Cannabis could prevent Covid, study claims**

*12 Jan, 2022 14:57*

Scientists argue that hemp could hold the key to defeating new variants

The next breakthrough in stopping Covid-19 may come not from Big Pharma, but from the humble pot plant. Researchers in Oregon in the US discovered that two compounds found in the devil’s lettuce can stop the virus in its tracks.

Rather than attempting to smoke their way to immunity, a team of scientists at the University of Oregon isolated two compounds from hemp – cannabigerolic acid (CBGA) and cannabidiolic acid (CBDA) – and found that they bind to the coronavirus’ spike protein and in turn prevent it from binding to the outer membrane of human cells.

This latter binding process is normally how the virus enters the human lungs and other organs.

The two compounds are precursors to CBG and CBD, which are widely legal and available to consumers. CBG and CBD cannabis oils and extracts are commonly used to treat anxiety, sleep disorders, epilepsy, and a wide range of other ailments.

CBGA and CBDA *“are not controlled substances like THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, and have a good safety profile in humans,”* said Richard van Breemen, a researcher with Oregon State’s Global Hemp Innovation Center. Van Breemen added that these compounds *“can be taken orally,”* and *“have the potential to prevent as well as treat infection”* by the coronavirus.

Van Breemen and his team [published](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35007072/) their research in the Journal of Nature Products on Tuesday. However, they have a long way to go before doctors begin writing hemp oil prescriptions en masse. While the study found CBGA and CBDA effective against both the Alpha and Beta variants of the coronavirus, it was carried out on human cells in a laboratory, rather than actual human test subjects.

Still, the scientist sees these hemp compounds eventually being used alongside vaccines to create “a much more challenging environment” for Covid-19. One of the main criticisms of the current crop of vaccines is that they use the original spike protein of the virus as an antigen, meaning that when variants emerge with new spike protein mutations, they are more likely to evade the protection offered by the vaccine.

*“These variants are well known for evading antibodies against early lineage [Covid-19], which is obviously concerning given that current vaccination strategies rely on the early lineage spike protein as an antigen,”* said van Breemen. *“Our data show CBDA and CBGA are effective against the two variants we looked at, and we hope that trend will extend to other existing and future variants.”* [*https://www.rt.com/news/545824-cannabis-prevent-treat-covid/*](https://www.rt.com/news/545824-cannabis-prevent-treat-covid/)[HUMMM? New interesting study could come from this – are Pot smokers susceptible to The Cov? Wonder if I could apply to the government for a multimillion dollar grant for that study… it is probably as valid and many of their grants. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**While Biden Negotiates, Iran Keeps Trying to Kill Americans**

[*Daniel Greenfield*](https://www.blogger.com/profile/13575285186581875356) [*January 11, 2022*](https://www.danielgreenfield.org/2022/01/while-biden-negotiates-iran-keeps.html)

Six years after Obama signed off on the nuclear sellout deal with Iran, diplomats are once again meeting with representatives of the Islamic terror in Vienna's lavish Palais Saxe-Coburg.

1,500 miles away from the white columns of the former palace turned five-star hotel, American forces are under fire once again. On January 3rd, two suicide drones were aimed at the State Department’s Baghdad Diplomatic Support Center near the Baghdad International Airport.  
 Two more terror drones targeted American forces deployed to fight ISIS at the Al Asad air base. The base has been repeatedly hammered by Iran-backed rocket attacks over the past year, most notably when 14 rockets struck the base over the summer causing several injuries.  
 While American forces were able to shoot down the terror drones, these latest acts of Iranian diplomacy came complete with the words “Soleimani’s revenge” scrawled on the drones. The latest Iranian attacks on Americans forces use Soleimani’s death as a pretext, but the attacks began before the Iranian terror boss was killed, and have sharply escalated under Biden in response to his appeasement of the Islamic terror regime.  
 There were repeated Iran-backed rocket strikes against Americans in Iraq throughout the last year totaling an estimated 25 separate attacks under the Biden administration.  
 These attacks have mostly gone unpunished.  
 While Iran and the media eagerly link the latest wave of Iranian attacks on American forces to the death of General Soleimani, they conveniently forget that the U.S. took him out in response to multiple attacks such as these, including the 2019 rocket attack that killed an American contractor and wounded four American servicemen, and the attempt by Iranian proxies to recreate Benghazi with an attack on our embassy in Baghdad.  
 The Trump administration decided to send a clear message to Iran after that. The Biden administration has sent an equally clear message of a very different kind to Tehran.  
 After two straight days of drone and rocket attacks, the Biden administration finally authorized strikes at several launch sites in Syria that had been used to target American forces.  
 "We have to take that threat very seriously and we always have the right of self defense," Pentagon spokesman John Kirby argued.  
 The right of self defense is a very low bar.  
 While the Trump administration made it clear that it would target Iran and its Shiite terror militias in retaliation, the Biden administration is still limiting its response to preemptive self-defense. This weak approach tells Iran that it can set the terms of engagement without having to fear the kind of unexpected escalation that led the Trump administration to take out Soleimani.  
 Iranian rocket attacks on Americans have escalated even as the Biden administration has tried to resume negotiations with the terror state and provided it with indirect sanctions relief.  
 While Iran has made much of the January attacks coinciding with the anniversary of Soleimani's death, the most intense attacks of the Biden administration actually took place around the summer anniversary of the nuclear deal. The more recent sixth round of negotiations over restoring the deal had closed out in June. While the Biden administration remained convinced that it was on the verge of an agreement, Iran responded with its most severe attacks.  
 In the first full week of July, there was an attack targeting Americans nearly every single day.  
 But Iran’s terror proxies did not even wait for the negotiations to break off. There were 7 attacks throughout June before the Iran-backed terror campaign really picked up in July with 7 attacks in just the early weeks. While the wave of attacks faded as the negotiations did not immediately resume, the Islamic terror state did make a special exception for one day in September.  
 On September 11, two drones launched an attack on U.S. forces at Erbil International Airport.  
 Then, as now, the Biden administration limited American military personnel to defensive preventative air strikes against the Shiite terror groups carrying out the attacks.  
 This strategy not only failed to stop the attacks, it has emboldened the Islamic terrorists.  
 While the Biden administration has provided Iran with billions in sanctions relief, a sufficient act of betrayal on its own, it seems to have little interest in expecting Iran to stop trying to kill Americans by either linking sanctions relief to an end to terror or refusing to negotiate under fire.  
 Americans meanwhile have little idea of just how pervasive and constant the Iranian attacks are.  
 The media does report on major attacks, but buries the reports on the back page. While many people are aware of the Vienna negotiations, far fewer have any idea that American military personnel are still deployed in Iraq to meet the ISIS threat or that they’re under fire from Iran.  
 Many Americans think of our conflict with Iran as political, when it’s actually military.  
 The reporting on the latest wave of Iran-backed attacks further distorts the bigger picture by emphasizing claims that they are linked to the anniversary of Soleimani’s death as if the terrorists hadn’t been doing the same thing throughout the previous year. And as if Soleimani hadn’t been a key player in organizing and funding these attacks before he was taken out.  
 The most striking contrast between the high-level American diplomats in Vienna and the low-level diplomats in Iraq is that the former chat up the Iranians while the latter are targeted by them. Iranian-backed attacks have been aimed not only at our military, but our diplomats.  
 The State Department isn’t just selling out America, it’s selling out its own people who are facing rocket and drone attacks by the terror regime that it’s unsuccessfully trying to crawl into bed with.  
 And the Biden administration is selling out America and Americans. Once again a Democrat administration has put military personnel in the line of fire and won’t let them fight back.

[*Daniel Greenfield*](http://sultanknish.blogspot.com/)*is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's*[*Front Page Magazine*](https://www.frontpagemag.com/)*.* <https://www.danielgreenfield.org/2022/01/while-biden-negotiates-iran-keeps.html>

**Biden's Budget Priorities and the China Threat**

*by* [*Chris Farrell*](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Chris+Farrell) *January 12, 2022 at 5:00 am* Which is more urgent?: Does the US need a nearly $5 trillion budget for an immediate deterrence to China's biowarfare and military buildup, or for climate change and green programs? And are those climate change and green programs largely paybacks to campaign donors and to China?  
 The Communist Chinese are redrawing the maps of the world, from the South China Sea to the Panama Canal to Equatorial Guinea. They are advancing technologically and practically through a coordinated military, scientific and economic strategy that seeks to [outstrip the United States](https://news.yahoo.com/report-china-now-worlds-richest-170102566.html) completely within a decade.  
 The Biden administration has its own priorities and vision, domestically and with respect to our defense posture. A 2022 budget that may reach nearly $5 trillion dollars has many social programs but an unexceptional defense budget -- and it lacks a coherent strategy or focus for dealing with the persistent and growing challenges from China.  
 The House of Representatives recently passed a $778 billion defense spending bill -- $25 billion more than President Biden requested. The summary of the [Fiscal Year 2022 National Defense Authorization Act](https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/FY22%20NDAA%20Agreement%20Summary.pdf) (NDAA) mentions "China" seven times. Here is what the NDAA requires when it comes to China:  
 The Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering conduct an analysis comparing the research and development efforts of the United States and China on certain critical, militarily-relevant technologies.  
 Extends and modifies an annual required report on military and security developments involving China.  
 Requires the Secretary of Defense to provide to Congress a report on the feasibility and advisability of establishing improved military-to-military communications with China for crisis situations.  
 Requires the President to establish a grand strategy with respect to China.  
 Prohibits the Secretary of Defense from procuring personal protective equipment manufactured in China, Russia, North Korea or Iran.  
 Requires the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency to provide to the congressional defense and intelligence committees an annual briefing on the electronic warfare threats posed to the US military from the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China and other relevant nations.  
 All of these requirements seem "a day late and a dollar short." It seems to be a list from 1985.  
 There is nothing specifically targeting and countering the Chinese biowarfare threat and resultant global pandemic that has seized the world for nearly two years. Nothing. Instead, there is specific reference to military crisis communications -- the sort Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman General Mark Milley clearly exercised on October 20, 2020 when he [told](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2021/09/14/peril-woodward-costa-trump-milley-china/) the Chinese military chief: "General Li, you and I have known each other for now five years. If we're going to attack, I'm going to call you ahead of time. It's not going to be a surprise." General Milley has yet to be indicted.  
 President Biden's budget priorities are confused, and they ignore record-setting inflation. Biden states that a multi-trillion dollar budget has "[zero cost](https://www.dailysignal.com/2021/10/01/bidens-absurd-zero-cost-claim-3-5-trillion-is-real-money-and-its-coming-out-of-your-pocket/)," but the American public is not buying it. We are experiencing the [highest rate of inflation](https://apple.news/ASDBgfAI5T-O1_PYBx2MxVg) in 39 years. Americans are keenly aware of the steep increase in prices across all sectors of the economy, to the point where a whopping [93% are very worried](https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2021/09/23/national-economic-ratings-and-concerns/) about inflation. While Americans watch their hard-earned dollars diminish in value, the Biden administration advances an "[American Rescue Plan](https://www.whitehouse.gov/american-rescue-plan/)" and promises to "[build back better](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kgyiv8YEhvI)," but at the cost of [nearly $5 trillion](https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-real-biden-bill-at-least-4-6-trillion-congressional-budget-office-score-congress-democrats-11637275848) according to "scoring" by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).  
 The Biden budget proposes $10 billion to "environmental justice" programs at colleges and universities. Studying the environment is one thing, adding a "justice" component is merely a code-word for Marxist social policies. Likewise, the Environmental Protection Agency has a new $5 billion dollar "[environmental and climate justice fund](https://docs.house.gov/meetings/BU/BU00/20210925/114090/BILLS-117pih-BuildBackBetterAct.pdf#page=376)" with nebulous goals that are ripe for activist bureaucrats to subjectively pick their politically favored winners (and losers).  
 There are other examples of outrageous programs and wild spending " on everything from "[desert fish](https://cronkitenews.azpbs.org/2019/06/11/arizona-endangered-species-act/)" to [Critical Race Theory](https://www.dailysignal.com/2021/01/20/podcast-what-you-need-to-know-about-critical-race-theory/) indoctrination programs across all departments and levels of government.  
 Meanwhile, China surges ahead with military and technical advances -- at a pace that has caught the US government by surprise. China's [hypersonic missile test](https://nypost.com/2021/12/10/china-developing-6000-mph-hypersonic-nuke-missile-based-on-design-ditched-by-nasa/) in October 2021 seems to have [caught the Pentagon flat-footed](https://nypost.com/2021/11/17/top-general-china-could-spring-surprise-nuke-attack-on-us/). Hypersonic missiles travel at around 3,800 mph and higher, and are ideal for evading traditional missile detection and defense systems. China is also ready to launch its first "blue water" [aircraft carrier](https://defenceview.in/what-is-the-progress-of-chinese-navy-third-aircraft-carrier/) -- giving it the ability to project air and sea power around the globe.  
 Just recently, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that China is seeking its [first military base on the Atlantic Ocean](https://www.wsj.com/articles/china-seeks-first-military-base-on-africas-atlantic-coast-u-s-intelligence-finds-11638726327). That is a stunning, hemispheric, geopolitical event. There is little or no public discussion or demand for accountability as to how the United States can find itself so outmaneuvered and blindsided.  
 The Biden administration is spending American taxpayers' dollars recklessly on "[tree equity](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/17/us/politics/biden-build-back-better-act.html)" programs and driving inflation to record levels, while it simultaneously claims that "[it may never know](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-59100114)" where the Wuhan virus came from.  
 If it were not so terribly dangerous, one might believe this scenario is a spoof or political satire of comically foolish negligence – but it is not. Reading *Douglas MacArthur: American Warrior*, one is reminded of how FDR grossly ignored the looming threat from Japan and how Biden ignores China's aggression today. Let us all hope that is where history stops repeating itself.  
 *Chris Farrell is Director of Investigations at Judicial Watch and Distinguished Senior Fellow at Gatestone Institute.* <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18040/biden-budget-china-threatbn>   
   
**Biden’s Disorganized Dictatorship***By* [*Cliff Kincaid*](https://newswithviews.com/author/cliff/)*|January 12th, 2022* There’ s nothing socialists and communists hate more than a disorganized dictatorship, unable to consolidate power. As a result, the plan for Biden’s $3 trillion “human infrastructure” plan, described by socialist scholar Paul LeBlanc as “Socialist Convergence” for America through the Green New Deal, remains in limbo. The “progressives” are angry.  
 This rage represents an opportunity to save America from the abyss.  
 Looking at foreign affairs, the Biden effect is working to the advantage of our enemies.  
 America-friendly countries in Europe and Asia, such as Ukraine and Taiwan, are in grave danger. China Joe’s foreign policy, an extension of that practiced by Barack Hussein Obama, is designed to make it risky to seek the kind of freedom and independence we once had in America. Israel is even in danger of nuclear attack by the Russian-armed religious fanatics in Iran, who are now targeting former Trump officials for death in retaliation for the killing of Iranian terrorist commander Soleimani.  
 Here at home, however, the communists are desperate.  
 **Written before Biden “won” the election, socialist scholar LeBlanc**[**said**](https://johnriddell.com/2019/11/29/socialist-convergence-and-green-new-deal/)**, “It is possible and necessary to build a powerful mass socialist movement in the United States by 2030 that could be in a position to provide an effective challenge to capitalism and transition to a socialist democracy.” Biden’s “victory” moved up the timetable.**  
 But “moderates” like Senator Joe Manchin are standing in the way. “Anger erupts after Manchin kills Build Back Better” was the message from the once Moscow-aligned but now pro-China Communist Party USA in an email to party cadre, referring to the multi-trillion dollar bill.  
 In the other body of Congress, the party is happy with Speaker Pelosi’s job, issuing a message, “House Democrats push for votes on human needs.” The “progressives” are running the show and passing a series of socialist measures.  
 **The message is crystal clear – the House is controlled by communist-friendly forces while the Senate has yet to succumb to the revolution.**  
 Another base of support for the communists, if you read the People’s World,  lies in various unions, including those running the public schools, as the paper [highlights](https://peoplesworld.org/article/unions-say-key-now-is-the-fight-to-pass-voting-rights-bills/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=f82fc705-7ac4-4ad6-9faf-71ad78f804d7)  National Education Association President Becky Pringle as a leading “progressive.”  
 **Covering the pro-communist NEA was one of the first assignments I had when I worked for the national conservative weekly newspaper Human Events, almost 40 years ago. The speaker then was “Berkeley Ron” Dellums, a Congressman from Oakland, succeeded by Rep. Barbara Lee, a trusted confidant of House Speaker Pelosi.**  
 Lee, former chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus and a member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, is perhaps best known for casting the lone vote in the House against U.S. military action to remove the Taliban regime in Afghanistan after the 9/11 attacks. The Taliban had harbored the al-Qaeda terrorists responsible for 9/11.  
 In her book, *Renegade for Peace & Justice*, Lee declared her support for “a world vision of peace” and a Cabinet-level Department of Peace. She favors big cuts in the Pentagon budget and reliance on the United Nations in foreign affairs.  
 Another left-wing favorite is AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler.  
 **In the context of the “one-year anniversary of the Trumpite insurrection and invasion of the U.S. Capitol,” as the communists describe the events of January 6, the  demonization of Trump is a clever tactic, designed to divert attention from the socialist takeover of the major institutions of government.**  
 The left-wingers once started a group called “Move On” when they got tired of the effort to impeach President Clinton, a liar and philanderer.  
 However, with the economy in shambles under China Joe, it is apparent many people want to “move on” from the current administration. Hence, the “progressives” are desperate to consolidate power. Time is running short, as mid-term elections in 2022 approach.  
 But is House Republican Leader Rep. Kevin McCarthy the man to lead America out of the current predicament?  
 **Staunch conservative and former Rep. Steve King’s new book,**[***Walking Through the Fire***](https://www.steveking.com/)***,* describes in detail how the GOP leadership, led by Kevin McCarthy, forced him out of Congress through lies and collaboration with the New York Times.**  
 In an[interview](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CNIiawtyArc), he provided the inside story of moral corruption in the Republican establishment and names the names of the next conservative members being targeted for destruction.  
 In any case, Biden is facing opposition from other quarters. Various courts, including the Supreme Court, are striking down an assortment of unconstitutional executive orders on matters such as vaccine mandates and open borders that emanate from the White House occupied by China Joe.  
 China Joe’s promise to “shut down” the virus is in tatters, as people get sick and die with no end in sight and there are no tests to gauge the extent of the calamity.  
 Sensing this is an administration without even an amateurish degree of competence, Biden’s former advisers in the health field are now [telling](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2787944) the American people this is the “new normal” and they just have to get used to it. Forgive and forget that China unleashed this monster on America and the world, and that China is undergoing additional lockdowns as the virus mutates and cases of hemorrhagic fever are documented.  
 **America is the real target, the ground zero, for the next variant or disease that China decides to unleash on the world, even while American athletes participate in what critics call the “genocide games.”**  
 Every day Americans with a foot in the real world learn of more shortages in the economy, as goods and services are difficult to obtain when people need them the most. It turns out the COVID test shortages are a symptom of a problem much greater in the real economy. And China Joe has no plan to make things right, except to rely on an ill-informed Fed chief promising higher interest rates and more economic pain and suffering.  
 Instead, as the communist People’s World as [trumpeted](https://peoplesworld.org/article/biden-indicts-trump-for-leading-the-ongoing-conspiracy-against-democracy/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=7ad453f2-4c52-40d1-afd8-ac0d9e948b1e), echoing the unions,  Biden is using Donald J. Trump as the real threat,  blaming the former president “for leading the ongoing conspiracy against democracy.”  
 **The communists have completely embraced China Joe, perhaps as their last best hope to impose socialism on America and weaken it further in global affairs.**  
 At the same time, the communist paper recognizes the Supreme Court as an obstacle on the path to dictatorship, [insisting](https://peoplesworld.org/article/gop-named-supreme-court-majority-cements-its-role-as-a-pro-corporate-fiefdom/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=462f5d94-2db9-40dd-ac5f-4c2b0081cc4d) there is a GOP majority on the Court standing in the way of social progress. A caption in the paper over the photos of Justices Brett Kavanaugh, Amy Coney Barrett, and Neil Gorsuch declares that “the Trump Supreme Court Appointees tip the balance on the Court completely in favor of what is essentially a group of Republican operatives acting as a check on any and all progressive legislation or actions coming from the Executive and Legislative branches of government.”  
Let’s hope and pray that the communists’ fears are realized. <https://newswithviews.com/bidens-disorganized-dictatorship/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Opposition to help government pass new version of Citizenship Law**

***Religious Zionist MK drafts new version of Citizenship Law, aimed at limiting Palestinian Arab family reunification requests.***

*Israel National News י' בשבט תשפ"ב 08:12 12.01.22*

Right-wing lawmakers in the Opposition are poised to help the Bennett government pass an extension to a law strictly limiting Palestinian Arab requests for family reunification in Israel, according to a report by *Israel Hayom*.

The report, published Wednesday morning, claimed that months after the coalition failed to pass a bill renewing the 2003 version of Israel’s Citizenship Law, Opposition lawmakers are preparing to work with the government to prevent a wave of family reunification requests by Palestinian Authority residents.

On Sunday, the powerful Ministerial Committee for Legislation – a panel of government ministers empowered to grant official coalition backing to bills in the Knesset – is scheduled to vote on a modified version of the extension to the 2003 Citizenship Law. The new version was drafted by MK Simcha Rothman (Religious Zionist Party), who had previously submitted an amendment to Israel’s Basic Law, enshrining the 2003 Citizenship Law into Israel’s quasi-constitutional canon.

Rothman’s new draft is similar to the extension of the 2003 law which the government failed to pass in July, but adds explicit quotas more strictly limiting family reunifications, and calls for greater transparency regarding the granting of entry permits to Israel and legal status of Palestinian Authority Arabs in Israel.

“For the first time in the history of the State of Israel, there are coalition officials who want to bring in Arabs from Judea and Samaria into Israel in large numbers,” Rothman said.

“Therefore, we must ensure that the status quo is preserved, and we must set quotas and transparency in the Citizenship Law.” <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320320>

**Report: Netanyahu negotiating plea deal in which he would resign**

***Netanyahu reportedly in negotiations with AG Mandelblit in which he would plead guilty to breach of trust, temporarily retire from politics.***

*Israel National News י' בשבט תשפ"ב 21:30 12.01.22*

In recent weeks, contacts have been held between opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu and Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit over a possible plea deal in the trial against the former prime minister. The contacts lasted a long time and took place under complete secrecy, with few knowing of their existence. Netanyahu is the one who initiated the negotiations.

Channel 13 News reported that as part of the negotiations, Netanyahu agreed to retire from political life for a few years, that is, to retire before he is convicted in court and thus avoid the issue of moral turpitude. Netanyahu also agreed to plead guilty to breach of trust. Mandelblit insists on a minimum sentence of community service and an admission of moral turpitude, which could end Netanyahu's political career and has been the main sticking point in the negotiations.

Although there have been no final agreements, the negotiations have not been cut off and both parties remain open to a deal.

The State Attorney's Office responded: "We do not respond as a policy to questions about conversations with defense attorneys, whether they happened or not. This does not confirm or deny anything of what has been alleged."

Netanyahu's office has not responded to the reports so far. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320372> [This is a most interesting turn of events. Bibi must be running very scared. – rdb]

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**01/12/2022 NEWS**

**Archaeologists Made an Incredible Discovery in Israel**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8djj1rATMHc&t=185s>

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| **"A state of war only serves as an excuse for domestic tyranny." -- Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn (1918-2008) Russian novelist, Soviet dissident, imprisoned for 8 years for critizing Stalin in a personal letter, Nobel Prize for Literature, 1970** |

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Exodus 3:11And Moses said unto God: 'Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?' 12And He said: 'Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be the token unto thee, that I have sent thee: when thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.' 13And Moses said unto God: 'Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them: The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me: What is His name? what shall I say unto them?'

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**IDF soldier moderately hurt in suspected West Bank ramming attack**

***19-year-old treated near Halamish settlement for wound to his legs; local council says driver and vehicle have been caught***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:55 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/20220111_180923.jpg)

The scene of a suspected ramming attack near Halamish, on January 11, 2022. (Courtesy)

An Israeli soldier was moderately wounded Tuesday in what the military said was a suspected ramming attack near the West Bank settlement of Halamish, also known as Neve Tzuf.

The Magen David Adom ambulance service said paramedics treated the 19-year-old at the scene for an injury to his legs.

The army said the driver “arrived at the scene in a vehicle and accelerated toward IDF soldiers who were protecting the road. The terrorist hit one of the soldiers who was injured in his leg and evacuated by military helicopter for medical treatment at a hospital.”

The IDF said the driver had been captured and taken for questioning.

Palestinian media identified the alleged attacker as Mohammad Nazmi Yasin, a resident of Nabi Saleh, near Ramallah.

First responders indicated that the alleged attacker had also been injured, and had been evacuated in the same helicopter as the soldier.

The suspected attack came amid a recent rise in violence by Palestinians against Israeli civilians and soldiers in the West Bank and Jerusalem, including a deadly shooting attack last month outside the illegal Homesh outpost, as well as an increase in violence by Israeli settlers against Palestinians.

The Israel Defense Forces has deployed additional soldiers to the West Bank in an effort to prevent further violence. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-soldier-moderately-hurt-in-suspected-west-bank-ramming-attack/>

**IDF reports 31 fatalities in 2021, a slight increase; suicide still leading cause**

***Military figures show at least 11 soldiers took their own lives, 10 killed in car crashes and one in combat***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 4:30 pm*

The Israel Defense Forces saw a slight increase in the number of soldiers’ deaths over the past year — 31 compared to the previous year’s 28 — as well as a small rise in the number of suicides, according to fresh statistics released by the military on Tuesday.

Suicide remained the leading cause of death in the military in 2021, with at least 11 soldiers believed to have taken their own lives and another two whose deaths are currently designated as accidents but which may also have been suicide, Brig. Gen. Yoram Knafo, chief of staff of the IDF Manpower Directorate, told reporters.

Of the 11 soldiers believed to have died by suicide, three were members of the Ethiopian community, far above the number that would be expected based on their representation in the population. One of the two additional people who may have died by suicide was also Ethiopian.

Knafo said the military was aware of the issue and was working to better address it, while trying to not stigmatize soldiers from the Ethiopian community.

A number of studies in Israel have found a higher incidence of suicide among Ethiopian Israelis than the general population. A Health Ministry report from 2020 found that Ethiopian immigrants were 4.1 times more likely to die by suicide than Israeli-born Jews.

The number of suicides in the IDF in 2021 marked an increase over the previous year, when nine soldiers were believed to have died by suicide, though Knafo said that overall, the number of suicides in the military has held steady at roughly 10 each year over the past four years.

Only one IDF soldier was killed in combat over the past year. Omer Tabib was hit by an anti-tank guided missile on the Gaza border during May’s conflict with terror groups in the Strip.

Another soldier, Yonatan Granot, died after he was shot in the head by another soldier who had allegedly fired a weapon on their base in violation of orders and is currently on trial for manslaughter.

Ten soldiers were killed in car accident while on leave, and six soldiers died of illnesses in 2021, none of them from COVID-19, Knafo said. This included Col. Sharon Asman, the commander of the Nahal infantry brigade, who [collapsed and died](https://www.google.com/url?client=internal-element-cse&cx=015742192883069867459:k3m1yn-i4ua&q=https://www.timesofisrael.com/new-nahal-brigade-commander-collapses-and-dies-during-fitness-training/&sa=U&ved=2ahUKEwia0v6586n1AhW2hXIEHUgyAkUQFnoECAcQAg&usg=AOvVaw2ngmOz2R6cW_M03NPpUvo8) following a run due to an undiagnosed heart condition, he said.

Last year, no soldiers were killed in work or training accidents, Knafo said.

Two military-related deaths that were notably not included in the 2021 figures were Barel Hadaria Shmueli, who was shot in the head by a Palestinian gunman during a riot along the Gaza border, and an intelligence officer who died in military prison under mysterious circumstances while awaiting trial for grave security offenses.

Shmueli’s death was not included in the figures as he served in the Border Police, and was thus outside the IDF’s purview, while the intelligence officer, whose name is barred from publication, had been discharged from the IDF before his death, also putting him outside the scope of the IDF statistics.

In 2021, the military noted a significant rise in the number of severely injured soldiers, with 67, compared to the previous year’s 41. This was the largest number of troops with severe injuries since 2014, when Israel fought a 51-day war in the Gaza Strip, including a ground invasion.

According to Knafo, 11 of the 67 were soldiers who became seriously ill with the coronavirus. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-reports-slight-rise-in-fatalities-in-2021-with-31-deaths-leading-cause-suicide/>

[It is almost as if these kinds of incidents are daily anymore. This may not be an intifada but there is a definite increase in the number of “PA” attacks. – rdb]

**PM said to tell MKs he expects escalation with Lebanon or Gaza**

***Bennett reportedly tells Knesset’s Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that as it readies Iran strike, Israel is preparing for potential wars with Tehran’s proxies***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *and* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 10:10 am*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/F220110OF03.jpg)

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett attends a Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee meeting at the Knesset in Jerusalem, on January 10, 2022. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett reportedly told the Knesset’s Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Monday that Israel could soon face a military confrontation with Lebanon or Gaza.

Bennett told lawmakers that Israel’s economic growth was enabling it to prepare for such scenarios in parallel with the focus on the strategic shift vis-à-vis Iran, according to the Ynet news site, which reported comments made during the part of the discussion that was closed to the media.

The premier reportedly said Israel was waging a multifaceted war against Iran and its proxy terror groups in the region — including Lebanon’s Hezbollah and Gaza’s Hamas — adding that while Tehran is regarded as a regional power, it has many weaknesses, including having to invest its resources in controlling its own population and in transferring money to its proxies.

Israel last fought Hamas in May in a deadly 11-day escalation, and has had several cross-border incidents with Hezbollah, with which it last fought a full-blown war in 2006.

According to the report, Bennett also addressed Defense Minister Benny Gantz’s recent meetings with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas.

Bennett was said to clarify that he isn’t planning to advance peace talks with the Palestinians at this time, adding that Israel’s interest is to maintain stability in the West Bank and the Gaza strip.

He also reportedly said his government wants to prevent Hamas from arming and seeks to return two civilians and two bodies of IDF soldiers that Israel believes are being held by the terror group in Gaza.

During the [open-to-media portion of Monday’s meeting](https://www.timesofisrael.com/eyeing-iran-bennett-says-military-undergoing-largest-rearmament-in-years/), Bennett told the committee that the country’s military and other security services were undergoing their largest rearming in years.

Bennett’s comments came as the IDF was working intensively to prepare for a potential military strike on Iran’s nuclear facilities, amid growing concerns that talks between the world powers and Tehran in Vienna about curbing the latter’s nuclear program may result in an agreement that Israel deems unacceptable, or in no agreement whatsoever.

“We are investing in security rearmament of the IDF and the entire defense establishment. I would say this was rearmament that we haven’t seen for years. This rearmament is important to our survival, and I am very glad about it and am determined to see it through quickly,” Bennett said . MORE -

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/pm-said-to-tell-mks-he-expects-escalation-with-lebanon-or-gaza/> [Much of the rest has already been reported but the initial details are just recently released. There is rarely an official comment about the IDF that doesn’t now include something about an attack on Iran. – rdb]

**IDF cancels reservist exercises, limits combat troops’ leave amid Omicron outbreak**

***With thousands of soldiers diagnosed with COVID-19, including two generals, military issues tighter restrictions, but anticipates case numbers will rise anyway in coming weeks***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 3:01 pm*

The Israel Defense Forces canceled all exercises for reservists through the end of the month on Tuesday as it rolled out a number of fresh restrictions amid a major outbreak of the coronavirus in recent days that was expected to continue into the coming weeks, a senior IDF officer said.

As of Tuesday, there were more than 6,000 soldiers, officers and civilian employees of the military diagnosed with the disease, an increase of more than 1,000 cases in 24 hours. [The good news is that if it is the Omicron the disease is usually like a typical flu and not terribly debitating. Their concern is more spread and they might as well resign themselves to the fact that it definitely will. – rdb]

In addition to canceling exercises for reservists, the military will limit leave time for combat soldiers over the next two weeks in order to ensure that it has sufficient troops at its disposal, the senior officer told reporters, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Soldiers serving in so-called “closed units,” who sleep on base, will be required to quarantine at a military facility if they come into contact with an infected person, instead of quarantining at home as they have been permitted to until now. Soldiers who do not typically sleep on base will still be allowed to quarantine at home, the military said.

The IDF is also tightening its restrictions on gatherings, limiting the number of ceremonies that will be held over the next month to a bare minimum and barring civilians from attending them entirely.

In general, civilians will not be allowed to enter military bases, save for those “providing critical services,” the IDF said.

The officer said the military anticipated a meteoric rise in COVID-19 cases to continue in the coming weeks despite the new restrictions. The IDF is working to “lower the flames” of the outbreak and ensure the military can continue functioning as needed, he said.

He said the IDF has purchased hundreds of thousands of testing kits in order to better track and prevent the disease’s spread through the military.

In total, 6,380 service members were diagnosed with the coronavirus as of Tuesday, all of them with mild or no symptoms, according to the IDF. They includes two major generals, Yaniv Assur and Ghassan Alian, who were diagnosed on Monday.

Nearly 7,000 soldiers were in quarantine as of Monday, the IDF said.

In light of the growing outbreak within the IDF, the military has rolled out a number of initiatives — some of them used in previous waves, some of them new — to combat the spread of the disease.  
 Beginning last Friday, the IDF returned to the pod system it used in previous waves, which is designed to ensure an outfit can function even if a soldier within it contracts the coronavirus. Under this model, units were divided into separate groups, theoretically with no direct physical contact between them, to decrease the likelihood that one infected soldier can spread the disease to an entire unit.  
 This restriction was put into force within companies for ground troops, on ships for the navy, in departments for Military Intelligence and for squadrons in the air force, the IDF said.  
 The military is also reportedly considering shortening the length of time that soldiers who test positive for the coronavirus need to remain in quarantine, out of concern that the Omicron variant may spread so quickly that within a few weeks there may be no unit within the IDF that is not affected by the outbreak.  
 According to the Maariv daily, which first reported on the proposed policy, soldiers who test positive but do not have symptoms would be able to return within just a few days, in place of the current policy in which a quarantine of at least 10 days is required, in most cases.  
 The military was also considering offering fourth vaccine shots to all service members, regardless of age, in an effort to prevent serious illness within the IDF, the report said. Currently only people 60 years old and above or with significant health issues are eligible for a fourth vaccine dose.  
 Such moves would require approval from the Health Ministry, which the IDF has yet to receive.  
 Israel hit a new nationwide record high of daily coronavirus cases, according to Health Ministry data released Tuesday morning, with 37,887 new cases recorded the previous day. The past seven days have each shattered the daily record, which had stood at 11,335 before the current outbreak of the highly infectious Omicron strain.  
 Almost 5,000 additional cases were diagnosed on Tuesday by 9 a.m., the figures showed. The number of serious cases rose to 247, an increase of 25 from the previous day, and the death toll grew by two to 8,271. The total number of active COVID-19 cases stood at 185,753 on Tuesday morning. That number was around 15,000 two weeks ago. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-cancels-reservist-exercises-limits-combat-troops-leave-amid-omicron-outbreak/>

**IDF fears Omicron outbreak will sabotage operational capability**

***Military says it has some 5,000 active COVID patients, while thousands more are in quarantine, however, most of them are asymptomatic or have mild symptoms; IDF is set to ask Health Ministry to shorten soldiers' quarantine period***

*Yossi Yehoshua | Published: 01.11.22, 13:53*

The military said on Tuesday it will ask health authorities to shorten soldiers' coronavirus quarantine period amid fears the massive surge in Omicron cases may sabotage IDF's operational capabilities.

According to the military, at least 5,000 soldiers are currently classified as active COVID patients, of whom at least two are major generals. Thousands more have also been sent to quarantine after exposure to a confirmed carrier.



IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Aviv Kochavi speaking with Ynet (Photo: Elad Gershgoren)

The military said that most of the infected soldiers are asymptomatic or suffer from mild symptoms.

I DF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Aviv Kochavi held on Monday a situational assessment on preservation of IDF's operational capabilities, with emphasis on special units such as air defense, submarines, and critical facilities. After the meeting, it was decided to ask the Health Ministry to reduce the quarantine period of "essential'" IDF personnel to five days.

Kochavi also ordered the Home Front Command to assist Israel's economy, the Health Ministry, and the education system as much as possible.

"If quarantine time won't be shortened, there will be no one to protect the frontier in two weeks," a senior IDF officer said. "We must change IDF's quarantine policy. The main goal is to maintain operational continuity, but with such long isolations, and at this rate of contagion, it will be impossible."

In addition to potential damage to operational activity, the large scope of isolations has brought many command and training courses to a halt.

 The Medical Corps, meanwhile, said they oppose suspending leave of soldiers as was done [in previous COVID waves](https://www.ynetnews.com/article/HJkWds8x00), but it does support the capsule model, which was implemented recently in some IDF units.

In the meantime, the military is also dealing with a phenomenon of soldiers falsifying results of COVID home tests.

Home Front Command's COVID testing center (Photo: IDF Spokesperson's Unit)

Senior officials at Home Front Command said Monday that coronavirus testing labs had reached the limit of their testing capacity. "When we prepared for the worst scenario, we estimated 200,000 tests would be the limit, and we said in advance that at some point we won't be able to test everyone."

The officials also mentioned that they expected the testing capacity of the laboratories would be increased when the Omicron variant outbreak began but that never happened. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/hyg06h53k> This is actually the biggest problem for Israel since there is a limited pool of IDF to choose from and suspending activities is a truly critical issue.- rdb]

**IDF appoints first-ever female combat doctor in elite reconnaissance unit**

***The female officer will join Sayeret Matkal this summer after she graduates 'Tzameret' program — which aims to train doctors for military service; appointment is part of military's new policy to integrate more women in combat units***

*Korin Elbaz Alush | Published: 01.11.22, 10:56*

The Israeli military announced Tuesday it will appoint a first-ever female doctor to serve in an only male doctors unit at the special reconnaissance unit of the General Staff.

The female IDF officer will join the elite Sayeret Matkal unit this summer, and in the coming months will be integrated into the unit's medical team.



First-ever female combat doctor in Sayeret Matkal (Photo: IDF Spokesperson's Unit)

The officer is a graduate of the “Tzameret” program for the training of academic medical reserve, aimed at coaching doctors for military service.

During her military service in the Medical Corps, she held roles in various combat field units, and is considered one of the few female doctors who managed to break through the IDF ranks in this area of expertise.

Her appointment is a part of the military's plan to promote female officers across all IDF corps and units, and it was recently approved by the Chief Medical Officer Brigadier General Professor Alon Glazberg. The IDF did not give any further details on the appointment due to military censorship rules regarding the elite unit.



IDF female combat officer with other female soldiers near Egypt-Israel border (Photo: AFP)

The doctor's friends said it was her lifelong dream to serve in the prestigious unit.

"It's amazing she got to it, but it's not surprising. She is one of the best and a very special person, she is a combination of first-class professionalism and uncompromising humanity."

The IDF has decided to make a change in its policy after noticing that most combat female officers retire at the age of 30-25 to start a family. According to the new policy, the military will build a personal service route for female officers to enable them to start a family, along with continuing service in the combat corps. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/rjqa5i92k> Serving in Sayeret Matkal is almost like being a Navy Seal in Israel. rdb

**Mental illness among teens at crisis level since COVID-19**

***Maccabi and the Social Workers Union have marked a rise in mental illness among teens and in waiting times for treatment.***

*By* [*ARIELLA MARSDEN*](https://www.jpost.com/author/ariella-marsden) *Published: JANUARY 11, 2022 17:28 Updated: JANUARY 11, 2022 19:44*

There has been a significant rise in mental illness diagnoses and the use of psychiatric medicine among Israeli teenagers since the beginning of COVID-19, according to a new study conducted by [Maccabi Health](https://www.jpost.com/health-and-wellness/coronavirus/article-691529) and the KI Institute.

There has been a 55% rise in eating disorders, a 38% rise in diagnoses of depression and a 33% rise in anxiety disorders. At the same time, the rate of prescriptions for anti-psychotic drugs has risen by 28%.

A poll conducted by the Social Workers Union shows a similar trend., adding that 44% of social workers reported a rise in suicidal behavior among teens.

The study, which was based on the medical records of over 200,000 boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 17, showed that the biggest rise was found among girls.

"This study did not examine all the psychiatric diagnoses and did not include private or ambulatory mental healthcare," said the manager of Maccabi's Medical Informatics Department Dr. Shira Greenfeld.

"The concerning results once again show that there is a national need to be prepared, not just against the pandemic, but also for its mental effects," said Head of [Mental Health](https://www.jpost.com/health-and-wellness/article-689763) and Maccabi Dr. Gilad Bodenheimer.  
 "The results highlight the need for a budget for a national plan for the benefit of the mental state of Israel's children and teens," he said. "The plan should focus on preventative care, the cooperation between education and welfare and, of course, the health and treatment of teens and their families in the community."  
 "The study we conducted highlights the need to include the subject of teens' mental health in Israel as part of the discourse surrounding dealing with the COVID crisis, which can help the relevant people to focus the aid in groups who have been hit the hardest," said KI Institute Director-General Dr. Pini Akiva.  
 At the same time, the Social Workers Union's poll showed a rise in mental crises and a heavy load on mental healthcare facilities in Israel, resulting in lengthening waiting times.  
 According to reports from social workers, there has been a 93% rise in waiting times for mental healthcare since the breakout of the pandemic. Some 45% reported a wait of over a month and 25% reported a wait of more than three months.  
 This comes alongside a doubling of mental hospitalizations.  
 In terms of therapy, 20% of social workers reported a wait for patients of three-to-six months for an appointment, 41% reported six months to a year and 17% have waited more than a year.  
 Waiting times for healthcare for eating disorders among teens have lengthened as well with 6% of social workers reporting that they waited for appointments for more than a year.  
 "The coordination between the Health, Welfare, Education and Finance ministries is not working well enough right now," said Chairwoman of the Social Workers Union Inbal Hermoni. "Decisions are apparently being made according to the Excel row and considerations of saving money and not based on the real needs in the field.   
 "In order to prevent another worsening in the mental state of Israel's children, a plan urgently needs to be made to reduce the harm to children and teens and ensure a sequence of responses," she said: "identification of children and teens in mental crisis, initial aid, accessible treatments in the community, obliterating waiting times and a massive investment of resources."  
 The rise in mental health crises among teens paired with the long waiting times for care and treatment can lead to further damage and crisis. If they don't get the treatment they need, those suffering from mental illness will only get worse and may get to the point where they can no longer be saved. <https://www.jpost.com/health-and-wellness/mind-and-spirit/article-692204> [One of the groups that ETBPF has been supporting both financially and with PR support is Crossroads Center in Jerusalem. Crossroads was established quite a number of years ago by a Tyler native who has moved on but still assists there with the small full time staff trying to provide care for English speaking teens and young people who simply have gone to the streets. Many are the children of American or Canadian immigrants who have difficulty adapting to the new environment. Many have gone on drugs or alcohol and the staff literally rescues them from the streets. I have talked with Robbie Sassoon, the current director, multiple times and I can assure you that they are in an overload situation with staff being on call sometimes multiple days. Each crisis call can take hours with these kids. The work they are doing is phenomenal and the current Covid crisis has multiplied their work dramatically. – rdb]

***Government to bankroll COVID isolation days for salaried workers, self-employed***

***Finance Ministry says compensation package, estimated at up to NIS 250 million ($80 million), to address high morbidity rates forcing people into quarantine***

*By* [*Ricky Ben-David*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ricky-ben-david/) *Today, 10:12 pm*

The Finance Ministry approved a compensation plan for workers on Tuesday that would see the state fund most days of isolation — following a COVID-19 infection or exposure to a confirmed case — for both salaried employees and those who are self-employed.

Self-employed workers will be eligible for NIS 430 ($138) daily for four of the days of mandatory quarantine, starting from earlier this month. They can request retroactive compensation for up to three days of isolation for the period between July-December 2021, the ministry said.

Salaried employees will be eligible for payment from their first day of isolation, unlike previously when the first day of quarantine was at the worker’s expense, with the rest covered by the state for up to 75% of the worker’s salary, depending on the size of the business.

The Health Ministry earlier Tuesday said Israelis who test positive for COVID-19 will only have to quarantine [for a week](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-cuts-quarantine-for-asymptomatic-covid-patients-to-7-days/), down from 10 days, providing that the last three of those seven days are asymptomatic. Those still displaying symptoms throughout the week will be required to isolate for 10 days, in line with the current quarantine policy for anyone infected with coronavirus.

The compensation package, [estimated](https://www.globes.co.il/news/article.aspx?did=1001398184) at up to NIS 250 million ($80 million), will apply to multiple individual rounds of isolation, if needed, over the coming month, according to the announcement Tuesday.

The move came amid a [record surge in morbidity](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-hits-new-covid-case-record-for-7th-day-in-a-row-transmission-rate-passes-2/) that is sending an increasing number of people into quarantine, leading to concerns of economic fallout as many are unable to work because they are sick, quarantined, or need to care for a child unable to attend school.

The highly contagious Omicron coronavirus variant is currently sweeping the country, driving up infection rates to record highs but with a peak still ahead, health authorities have said.

Virus czar Professor Salman Zarka said Monday that the peak is about 3-5 weeks away and warned that a “significant lockdown” may have to be considered. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/government-to-bankroll-isolation-days-for-salaried-workers-self-employed/>

**View from a COVID ward: With Omicron, even serious patients are breathing easier**

***At Hadassah Hospital, Prof Zvi Fridlender describes a race for more beds as cases grow, alongside relief new variant isn’t leaving patients gasping for air as its predecessors did***

*By* [*Nathan Jeffay*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/nathan-jeffay/) *Today, 6:36 am*

Throughout four coronavirus waves, patients gasped for air as Prof. Zvi Fridlender of Hadassah Medical Center darted between them, trying to help. This time around, to his relief, they are breathing easier.

“With Delta, I would walk around and see this patient is deteriorating with breathing, this one needs oxygen, and this one will soon need ventilating,” the senior physician said on Monday, as he prepared to open and head his hospital’s third coronavirus ward, which was expected to receive its first patients on Tuesday.

“With Omicron, we don’t have the same extent of deterioration happening before our eyes; the impact is less dramatic.” That is the case even among serious patients, Fridlender noted.

This assessment from Hadassah’s wards and others appears to corroborate a growing body of research suggesting that Omicron doesn’t infect cells deep in the lungs as much as it hits those in the upper airways.

In one of the most influential studies, Dr. Michael Diamond, a virologist at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, infected animals with a range of variants, [and found](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-022-00007-8) that the concentration of virus in those infected with Omicron was ten times lower than others.

Despite his relief over the limited effect on patients’ lungs, Fridlender spoke with a sense of urgency during his interview with The Times of Israel.

A person wearing a green shirt

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Prof. Zvi Fridlender of Hadassah Medical Center (courtesy of Hadassah Medical Center)

Israel’s Omicron spike is so pronounced that the new ward is the third to open at Hadassah in the space of two weeks. Until a dedicated ward was opened on December 27, coronavirus patients were so few and far between that they were isolated within rooms in internal medicine wards.

At the time, there were seven coronavirus patients at Hadassah; now there are 52, with four in critical condition and 15 in serious condition. Nationally, there were 13,053, with 143 in hospitals, 87 of them in serious condition on December 27. Now, two weeks later, there are 115,010 Israelis infected, with 523 in hospital and 205 in serious condition.

“Things are ramping up very quickly here,” Fridlender said. “Not long ago we opened the first ward, three days ago we opened the second, and we’re now about to open the third.”

The main COVID-fighting weapons in wards are the same as in previous waves, though there is an additional line of defense on the home front: newly approved pills made by Pfizer and Merck that are given to patients at home, to prevent deterioration.

Those who reach the hospital are commonly given antiviral treatments like remdesivir, and steroids like dexamethasone. As in past waves, those who are vaccinated tend to respond better and fare better, Fridlender reported. [It is too bad they use remdesivir which destroys the kidneys and is the cause of death for a large number of Covid patients. This is a ‘Fauci favorite’ and really shouldn’t be used. If they were treating early with HCQ or Ivermectin they wouldn’t see this much of a problem. Be sure and remember that if you get sick with the COV refuse to be on a ventilator or have remdesivir. Demand Ivermectin and inhaled steroids. – rdb]

One part of the arsenal that is far more rarely used today is the ventilator, which was thought to be the ultimate piece of medical equipment in the first wave. “We’re simply not in the same constant race to help people breathe, to catch them in time just before they fall into serious difficulty breathing,” said Fridlender. “There isn’t the same level of pressure. This makes a huge difference.”

He said this is the latest of several changes that have made coronavirus wards feel less isolated and intense as the course of the pandemic progressed, commenting: “Departments are different now in many ways. At the start of the pandemic, there were no visitors, but that changed, and now family members visit in full protective gear, and this has brought about a big change in how wards feel.”

Fridlender is reassured by Omicron’s apparently lighter impact on people than its predecessors. “I assume that if the virus doesn’t change, then with this strain the proportion of seriously ill people will remain low,” he said, adding that this doesn’t mean Israel is out of the woods.

The current variant spreads so fast that it may infect such large numbers that serious illness among just a small minority could put major pressure on healthcare, he believes. He warned: “Even if a relatively small proportion of people is very sick, the numbers could be such that we have a large number of sick people.” <https://www.timesofisrael.com/view-from-a-covid-ward-with-omicron-even-serious-patients-are-breathing-easier/>

**Israel cuts quarantine for asymptomatic COVID patients to 7 days**

***Top health official says move will help the economy function while safeguarding public health, amid record surge in cases***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:27 pm*

Health Ministry Director-General Nachman Ash on Tuesday approved shortening the required quarantine period for Israelis who test positive for COVID-19 to a week, providing they are asymptomatic for the last three of those seven days.

Those still displaying symptoms throughout the week will be required to isolate for 10 days, in line with the current quarantine policy for anyone infected with coronavirus.

A ministry statement announcing the new guidelines said that in recent testing on patients infected with Omicron, most individuals did not have viable virus samples in their blood after a week. Researchers detected living virus in only one out of the 15 samples they tested, or six percent, indicating the chance transmitting the virus after a week was low.

“We decided to shorten the number of quarantine days after examining the matter and finding that the chance of [spreading] infection after a week is low,” Ash said. “This decision will help the economy continue to operate in conditions of high morbidity, while safeguarding public health.”

The change was slated to take effect at midnight between Wednesday and Thursday.

A picture containing person, person

Description automatically generated “We won’t mandate people stay in quarantine longer than necessary, in order to protect their health as well as the economy, education, culture and to continue normal life as much as possible alongside COVID,” Health Minister Nitzan Horowitz said in the statement.

Health Minister Nitzan Horowitz (right) speaks with Health Ministry Director-General Nachman Ash during a press conference in Jerusalem, on December 12, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

The shortening of the mandatory isolation time for COVID carriers was [recommended](https://www.timesofisrael.com/expert-health-ministry-panel-recommends-slashing-quarantine-to-7-days/) Monday by a panel of health experts advising the Health Ministry.

The move came amid a [record surge](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-hits-new-covid-case-record-for-7th-day-in-a-row-transmission-rate-passes-2/) in morbidity that is sending an increasing number of people into quarantine, leading to concerns of economic fallout as many are unable to work because they are sick, quarantined, or need to care for an infected child unable to attend school.

According to Hebrew media reports, some government ministers have called for slashing the quarantine period to five days due to fears of a labor shortage. The Kan public broadcaster said Prime Minister Naftali Bennett was shown an estimate that 30 percent of the workforce could be required to quarantine within the next week.

In a television interview Monday, Ash said health officials believed a five-day quarantine period, as recommended by the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention, was too short.

Bennett said keeping the economy functioning was a priority in a speech on Tuesday night.

“The market will stay open as much as possible and the economy will still be working,” Bennett said. “I don’t want to see people losing their jobs, closing their businesses.”

Israel has confirmed a [staggering number of new infections](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-hits-new-covid-case-record-for-7th-day-in-a-row-transmission-rate-passes-2/) in the past week, with each day breaking records.

On Monday, there were 37,887 new cases recorded, and the positive test rate passed 11%, indicating that many cases were likely going undetected. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-cuts-quarantine-for-asymptomatic-covid-patients-to-7-days/> [At least Israel is beginning to demonstrate some sense with respect to their economy for this condition. – rdb]

**Iran reveals ‘untold story’ of arming Palestinians in Gaza**

***Soleimani’s strategy "was able to multiply the power of the resistance against the Zionist regime" by arming them.***

*By* [*SETH J. FRANTZMAN*](https://www.jpost.com/author/seth-j-frantzman) *Published: JANUARY 11, 2022 12:35 Updated: JANUARY 11, 2022 14:49*

Iranian media, to mark the anniversary of the death of [Qasem Soleimani](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-691788), have provided unique new details about Iran’s support for Palestinian groups.

In a recent article from the Tasnim News branch located in Damascus, a report claims to provide new details on the “untold” story of how the Islamic Republic ran guns and technology to Palestinian groups. The report says that Soleimani, the Quds Force commander in the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, worked for more than two decades to make Iran the “most relevant to different groups in Palestine" that were established.

Iran’s media says that Soleimani’s strategy was to “work closely with all these groups, regardless of their religious or political tastes, and this strategy was able to multiply the power of the resistance against the Zionist regime in Palestine.”

One of the groups was the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine – General Command (PFLP-GC). The report claims to have interviewed the son of Ahmed Jabril, who it calls a “former Palestinian militant.” Jabril was born in 1938. Recent reports place him as a supporter of the Assad regime during the civil war in Syria, where reports say he played a role suppressing other Syrians in the Yarmouk Palestinian refugee camp.

Jabril died in July. The report says his son, Khalid, “currently the new deputy secretary-general of the front, spoke to Tasnim News Agency about the role of Soleimani in supporting Palestinian groups in the fight against the Zionist regime.”

The younger Jabril, the report says, helps the regime fight against “armed terrorist groups.” This is ironic in a roundabout way, as the group transitions from being a terrorist group to helping the Assad regime “fight terrorism” and goes from caring about Palestinians to being an enforcer of a regime.

Iran claims to support these “Palestinian” groups, even if they do nothing for Palestinians. What matters is that the report claims to shed light on how Iran funnels weapons and support to them.

ACCORDING TO the report, Tasnim news met with Khalid Jabril, who told them about meetings with Soleimani. He says he went to an office of the Quds Force leader years ago and the office was festooned with maps of Syria and the location of ISIS and Jabhat Nusra fighters there.

Members of Saraya al-Quds, the military wing of Islamic Jihad take part in a military parade in Gaza City, January 5, 2022. (credit: ATIA MOHAMMED/FLASH90)

“We want to remove the black area from the map where ISIS has taken over parts of Iraq.” This was probably around 2015-2016; the article doesn’t specify. It says that the son of Ahmed Jabril is a graduate of a military academy, apparently a Syrian one.

“This great martyr chose a process in his life that transformed him from a simple builder to an international commander who was able to completely change the geography of the region,” Khalid said in describing Soleimani.

The report says that Soleimani first met these men in 2000, and spoke about the Palestinian struggle. Even though the Iranian regime is a theocratic Shi’ite one which usually works with Shi’ite groups, Soleimani did not speak about religion, but he “spoke with complete clarity about the Palestinian issue as if he were a Palestinian…. he was more of a listened before he made wise decisions.”

Soleimani cared deeply for Jerusalem, the account says. He also apparently talked to Tansim about Jews. “In one of our meetings with Martyr Soleimani, we talked about the story of the Jews in the Holy Quran,” the report says. “Our conversation was very interesting and detailed.”

The assassinated IRGC leader apparently told the men stories and parables from the Quran involving battles that took place during the early formation of Islam. This was a parable for his belief that Jerusalem would one day be liberated from Israel, according to the account.

“Hajj Qasim [Soleimani] made a great effort to support the Palestinian resistance groups. We and you know that the Gaza Strip is a narrow geographical area that has been surrounded by the Zionist regime from land, sea and air, but despite this, the last battle, which was called the ‘Sword of Quds [Jerusalem]’, witnessed a qualitative and significant change," the report said.

"We were in the rocket arsenals of the Palestinian resistance. We all know that the martyr Qasem Soleimani played a pivotal role in bringing the Palestinian resistance to a state of self-sufficiency at this level of missile arsenal.”

OF INTEREST here, the report claims that Soleimani had worked with Lybian leader Muammar Qadaffi before his death in 2011. The interview says that they were trying to bring RPGs into Gaza a the time. The plan was to bring in weapons by sea. “There was a lot in common between them [Soleimani and Jabril], and to transfer the weapons, the arrival of the first ship was agreed upon, and the second ship was created by the Front [PFLP-GC], but [after] the third ship was seized, then the next ships came.”

Soleimani's goal was to “strike such a balance between the Palestinian resistance and the occupying regime, which was established in 1948 and is supported by the Great Satan [America] and all European countries.” [Notice this sentence. Soleimani equates the US and all European countries and those are the countries working now to get an agreement which in the end will ensure that Iran has a nuke which can take them all out and convert the entire world to islam. Totally nuts. – rdb]

He suggested developing missiles as a way to strike at Israel. “We coordinated with the Hamas movement on the issue of missiles and how to build missile propulsion and warheads and guided systems. All this was done with the knowledge and supervision of Soleimani, and this was a very important strategic issue for him. We were in an area where northerly winds blew northeast and northwest during the fourth to ninth months of the year,” the report says.

Now the interviewer turns to the use of balloons to terrorize Israel. This appears to reference the use of balloons during the last several years. They supposedly outfitted them with small warheads of one kilogram and gradually increased the warheads in size.

“What Martyr Qassem Soleimani did is over, and we are now in another generation that we must continue his path,” Khalid says. “Soleimani completed all the strategic projects he had built; the ‘Strategic project’ of 2000 [the Second Intifada] and the 2006 defeat of the Zionist regime in Lebanon [the 2006 war]. With the same approach, Hajj Qasim also confirmed his victory over ISIS and the prevention of the disintegration of Syria.” The reference to the intifada in 2000 is interesting and appears to confirm that Iran played a role in supporting it.

The report also mentions the assassination of the late Lebanese prime minister Rafic Hariri and the Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon. “The Lebanese government decided to limit the military activities of Palestinian groups and the People's Front for the Liberation of Palestine. International forces entered Lebanon at the time, and Syrian nationals were barred from entering. We faced pressures that we could not accept, and there were disputes with the Lebanese brothers.”

This is a reference not only to the murder of the former prime minister of Lebanon at the hands of Hezbollah but also to the aftermath of the 2006 war. “We went to Tehran and had a meeting with Soleimani and explained the issue.” According to this, Khalid had a brother named “Badr.” This could be a code name. Either way, the article says that they asked Soleimani about moving weapons to Palestinian groups.   MUCH MORE - <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-692178> [this simply gives you a little insight into the total commitment of these vile critters into the destruction of Israel and the Jewish people and anyone who is not subservient to their form of radical islam. - rdb

**Swastika-draped casket at neo-fascist funeral in Rome sparks outrage**

***Catholic leaders denounce procession at local church, which included mourners making fascist salute, as ‘offensive and unacceptable’***

*By* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *Today, 8:48 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/AP22011490329077-e1641922272536.jpg)

A picture made available by the Italian online news portal Open, showing people gathered around a swastika-covered casket outside the St. Lucia church, in Rome, on Monday, January 10, 2022. (Open Via AP)

ROME — The local Jewish community and Catholic Church in Rome on Tuesday strongly condemned as “offensive and unacceptable” a funeral procession outside a local church in which the casket was draped in a Nazi flag and mourners gave the fascist salute.

Photos and video of the scene outside St. Lucia church following the Monday funeral service were published by the Italian online news portal Open. They showed around two dozen people gathered outside the church as the swastika-draped casket emerged, shouting “Presente!” (“Present!”) with their right arm extended in the fascist salute.

In a statement Tuesday, the Vicariate of Rome strongly condemned the scene and stressed that neither the parish priest, nor the priest who celebrated the funeral, knew what was going to transpire outside after the funeral Mass ended.

It called the swastika-emblazoned Nazi flag “a horrendous symbol irreconcilable with Christianity.”

“This ideological and violent exploitation, especially following an act of worship near a sacred place, remains serious, offensive and unacceptable for the church community of Rome and for all people of good will in our city,” it said.

The statement quoted the parish priest, the Rev. Alessandro Zenobbi, as distancing himself and the church from “every word, gesture and symbol used outside the church, which are attributed to extremist ideologies far from the message of the Gospel of Christ.”

Thread: Skandal in [#Rom](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Rom?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw): [#Faschisten](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Faschisten?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) begleiten den [#Nazi](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Nazi?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) Alessia Augello v. d. [#ForzaNuova](https://twitter.com/hashtag/ForzaNuova?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) auf dem letzten Weg. Stehen nach der Trauermesse im Spalier & zeigen den Hitlergruß. Auf dem Sarg liegt eine Hackenkreuzfahne. -§86 StGB Berichterstattung frei, letzten Tweet beachten- 1/x [pic.twitter.com/WvxrAL2yM7](https://t.co/WvxrAL2yM7)

— affeu (@affeu2) [January 11, 2022](https://twitter.com/affeu2/status/1480863768032780293?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

The local Jewish community also condemned the display.

“It is unacceptable that a flag with a swastika can still be shown in public in this day and age, especially in a city that saw the deportation of its Jews by the Nazis and their fascist collaborators,” read a statement from the community [carried by Reuters.](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/catholic-jewish-leaders-condemn-use-nazi-flag-outside-church-funeral-2022-01-11/)

Italian news reports identified the deceased as [Alessia Augello](https://twitter.com/cronaca_news/status/1480810229407240193), a 44-year-old former militant of the extreme right-wing, neo-fascist Forza Nuova group. She died over the weekend of a blood clot.

The group was blamed for violent protests in central Rome last October that targeted Prime Minister Mario Draghi’s office and parliament.

Forza Nuova was created in 1997 in the tradition of the violent, extreme right-wing organizations active in Italy’s so-called Years of Lead in the 1970s, and grew into a national force in 2008.

The group is openly neo-fascist. Its current leader, Roberto Fiore, a 62-year-old father to 11 children, was found guilty in the 1980s of subversive crime and founding a far-right armed political movement.

La Repubblica said police had been present at the funeral and were investigating.

Pope Francis is technically the bishop of Rome, but he delegates the day-to-day management of the diocese to his vicar, Cardinal Angelo De Donatis. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/swastika-draped-casket-at-neo-fascist-funeral-in-rome-sparks-outrage/>

**Brooklyn-based marketing firm nixes potential client over its Israel ties**

***Despite extensive work with Jewish nonprofits, Big Duck cites commitment ‘to fighting oppression’ in decision to not work with Shalom Hartman Institute***

*By* [*Ron Kampeas*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ron-kampeas/) *Today, 9:11 pm*

JTA — A marketing firm that has worked extensively with Jewish nonprofits has declined to work with one because of growing concerns among its staff members about groups with “significant programming in Israel.”

The Shalom Hartman Institute, a leading Jewish educational think tank, reached out to Big Duck, a Brooklyn-based worker-owned cooperative, because of Big Duck’s history of working with Jewish organizations in the past.

But Farra Trompeter, Big Duck’s co-director, told Dorit Rabbani, Hartman’s North America communications director, last week that the firm would not work with Hartman because Big Duck staff had concerns about the Hartman Institute’s activities in Israel, both officials said.

Hartman, which has headquarters in Jerusalem and New York, has a broad ambit of advancing Jewish education and promoting dialogue among Jews and between Jews and other faiths. It is expressly Zionist.

Big Duck’s past clients have included the Jewish Theological Seminary, the National Council of Jewish Women, and Keshet, a Jewish LGBTQ group.

“Being more vocal and committed to fighting oppression has led us to more active questioning of working with organizations with significant programming in Israel, among other issues, and in those cases, we have mutually agreed that it does not make sense to work together,” Trompeter said in an email to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The decision follows a period of intense and widespread criticism of Israel spurred by last May’s conflict between Israel and the Hamas terror group in Gaza. At the time, many on the left expressed solidarity with the Palestinians, but an open question has been how much that advocacy, much of which was expressed on social media, would translate into real-world action.

Big Duck’s decision not to work with Hartman is an indication of possible lasting consequences.

Trompeter said the firm does not have a hard and fast rule against working with groups with ties to Israel.

“Big Duck does not decline work with organizations solely due to their position on BDS or presence in Israel,” she said. “But we do ask if they are open to working with a team and company that is questioning Israel’s policies and practices among other issues, and consider that in evaluating whether we will be a good fit for creating their communications and fundraising materials.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/brooklyn-based-marketing-firm-nixes-potential-client-over-its-israel-ties/>

**Taliban vows to overrun D.C. with 2,000 suicide bombers, Biden admin silent as the grave**

*By* [*C. Douglas Golden, The Western Journal*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wj/) *Published January 11, 2022 at 3:14pm*

Remember how, after the fall of Kabul, we were promised Taliban 2.0? It was going to be a softer, gentler theocracy -- one which was going to include a multitude of voices in government and which definitely wouldn't be embracing terrorism like it did during its first tenure running the country of Afghanistan.

Yes, well, about that: A report states the group, currently the de facto government of Afghanistan, has now threatened to send 2,000 suicide bombers to [Washington, D.C](https://www.westernjournal.com/disgraced-ex-fbi-lawyer-get-huge-news-washington-dc-falsifying-trump-russia-document/). And yet, there's nary a peep out of President Joe Biden's administration.

It's not that we couldn't have seen this coming. Since the Biden administration's capitulation in Afghanistan this summer, the Taliban has made it clear through their actions they're still the same extremists they were when we chased them from power. The Western Journal has been bringing readers the truth about just how bad the situation in Afghanistan is -- and why the president is directly responsible. You can help us bring America the facts by [subscribing](https://www.westernjournal.com/join?utm_source=wj-site&utm_medium=article-sub-push&utm_campaign=crickets-from-biden-admin-as-taliban-vows-to-send-murderous-horde-after-potus) today. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/taliban-vows-overrun-dc-2000-suicide-bombers-biden-admin-silent-grave/> [Way to go Brandon. - rdb

**Guerrilla war exercise to be fought across rural North Carolina counties, Army warns**

*Mark Price, The Charlotte Observer - Yesterday 11:50 AM*

The two-week “unconventional warfare exercise” will be staged Jan. 22-Feb. 4 on privately owned land. And it will be realistic enough to include the sounds of gunfire (blanks) and flares, the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School said in a news release.

Exact times, locations and exercise specifics were not provided.

However, advance publicity is intended to make sure civilians — including law enforcement officers — don’t mistake the fighting for terrorism or criminal activity, which has happened in the past.

“Residents may hear blank gunfire and see occasional flares. Controls are in place to ensure there is no risk to persons or property,” the warfare center said.

“Residents with concerns should contact local law enforcement officials, who will immediately contact exercise control officials. ... For the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, safety is always the command’s top priority during all training events.”

Called Robin Sage, the exercise serves as a final test for Special Forces Qualification Course training and it places candidates in a politically unstable country known as Pineland. MORE - <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/guerrilla-war-exercise-to-be-fought-across-rural-north-carolina-counties-army-warns/ar-AASDjEy> [OK folks just what does this sound like?????? I thought the posse comitatus law was to prevent the governments military agents from going after citizens. – rdb]

**Fauci's gain-of-function work called 'intentional manslaughter of millions'**

**Implications of such a 'coordinated propaganda attack on the American' people are enormous**

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published January 11, 2022 at 3:37pm*

Experts reacting to a [Project Veritas report](https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/report-feds-rejected-gain-function-covid-project-dangerous/) that presidential adviser Anthony Fauci went ahead with dangerous gain-of-function coronavirus research after other federal officials deemed it too risky say it was, essentially, the intentional "manslaughter of millions."

The Project Veritas report cited secret government documents revealing that the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency determined that a request for funding for gain-of-function research was too much of a risk.

But shortly after, Fauci's NIAID "went ahead with the research in Wuhan, China, and at several sites across the U.S.," the report said.

"Dr. Fauci has repeatedly maintained, under oath, that the NIH and NAIAD have not been involved in gain of function research with the EcoHealth Alliance program. But according to the documents obtained by Project Veritas which outline why EcoHealth Alliance’s proposal was rejected, DARPA certainly classified the research as gain of function," Project Veritas explains. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/faucis-gain-function-work-called-intentional-manslaughter-millions/>

**'Dangerous': U.S. rejected gain-of-function COVID project, but Fauci forged ahead**

***Documents 'hidden in a top secret shared drive'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published January 11, 2022 at 11:45am*

A new report from the undercover reporting organization Project Veritas reveals that other federal government officials had rejected a plan for gain-of-function research on bat-borne coronaviruses – which America knows as COVID-19 – as too dangerous before Anthony Fauci's federal health agency decided to go ahead.

The details were revealed in a new video from James O'Keefe, founder of Project Veritas.

Fauci, who is Joe Biden's top health expert regarding the pandemic that has killed more than 800,000 Americans and many millions more around the world, repeatedly has rejected, including under oath, any suggestion that any "gain-of-function" research was done on COVID-19.

But Project Veritas said it has obtained access to previously suppressed documentation about the origins of COVID-19, the gain of function research, vaccines and possible treatments.

Project Veritas explains, "The documents in question stem from a report at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, better known as DARPA, which were hidden in a top secret shared drive."

According to the documents, EcoHealth Alliance, which has served as a conduit for U.S. tax money for the Wuhan research lab from which COVID-19 is believed to have come, approached DARPA in March 2018, "seeking funding to conduct gain of function research of bat borne coronaviruses. The proposal, named Project Defuse, was rejected by DARPA over safety concerns and the notion that it violates the basis gain of function research moratorium."

That was adopted during the Barack Obama administration because of the dangers the research presents.

But after DARPA, an agency under the U.S. Department of Defense that works on research on technology with possible military uses, rejected the idea, Fauci's NIAID "went ahead with the research in Wuhan, China, and at several sites across the U.S.," the report said.

"Dr. Fauci has repeatedly maintained, under oath, that the NIH and NAIAD have not been involved in gain of function research with the EcoHealth Alliance program. But according to the documents obtained by Project Veritas which outline why EcoHealth Alliance’s proposal was rejected, DARPA certainly classified the research as gain of function," Project Veritas explains.

DARPA's rejection letter, in fact, charged, "The proposal does not mention or assess potential risks of Gain of Function (GoF) research."

Project Veritas also got a separate report to the DoD inspector general, from Marine Corp Maj. Joseph Murphy, who formerly worked at DARPA, expressing concern over the COVID-19 gain of function program, the hiding of various documents and the suppression of medications that could fight COVID-19, including Ivermectin and Hydroxychloroquine, as well as mRNA vaccines.

Jared Adams, a spokesman for DARPA, told Project Veritas the situation "doesn't sound normal to me."

"So here's the question," O'Keefe explained. "If the Department of Defense, the same people who make our nuclear arsenal, felt that it was too dangerous to proceed with, why in the world did the NIH, NIAID, and EcoHealth Alliance recklessly disregard the risks involved? Did they purposely change the definition of gain of function in order to bypass the moratorium?"

He continued, "Further, who at DARPA made the decision to bury the original report that could have raised red flags to the Pentagon, the White House, or Congress, which may have prevented this entire pandemic that has led to the deaths of 5.4 million people worldwide and caused much pain and suffering to many millions more?"

[WND has reported](https://www.wnd.com/2021/11/fauci-changes-story-gain-function-now-says-meaningless/) that Fauci, in fact, has waffled on the meaning of "gain of function," recently declaring it's "meaningless."  
 Also, at that time, the National Institutes of Health found EcoHealth did violate guidelines in doing risky bat coronavirus experiments in China. And emails between the alliance and the government confirmed a resumption of "gain-of-research" funding.  
 Fauci's explanation then was that the guidelines for what actually is that research have changed, and that research that has been done with NIH funding met the requirements "at the time."  
 Richard Ebright, a professor of chemical biology at Rutgers University, then, however, told the Washington Examiner that Fauci wasn't truthful.  
 "He is lying," Ebright said. "Brazenly, and, in this interview, desperately. The term ‘gain-of-function research’ is defined in the federal policy in effect in 2014-2017, and the term ‘enhanced potential pandemic pathogens’ is defined in the federal policy in effect in 2017-present."  
 A layman's explanation is that research tries to find ways to make pathogens worse, so they can be studied in preparation for a fight against those infections.  
 The Washington Examiner said, "NIH documents released through FOIA requests show that EcoHealth Alliance and its Wuhan partners created SARS-related coronaviruses that combined the spike gene from one virus with the rest of the genetic information from another, Ebright said. The resulting virus was up to four times as lethal in mice genetically engineered to reflect infection in humans."  
 WND reported the NIH has admitted in a letter to the leading Republican on the House Oversight Committee that the U.S. funded an experiment at the Wuhan Institute of Virology in which a bat coronavirus was modified, creating a virus that made mice "sicker" than the original virus. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/report-feds-rejected-gain-function-covid-project-dangerous/> [There needs to be multiple indictments over this issue and people need to be tried and ‘neutralized permanently’. These are modern day Joseph Mengeles. The actions of Fauci and his ruthless friends have literally caused a genocide and this was done with the Collaboration of multiple deep state individuals including Gates and Schwab who are eugenicists. – rdb]

**Fauci fireworks: Accuses Sen. Paul of motivating 'crazies' to kill him**

***Top health adviser confronted with new evidence at Senate hearing***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published January 11, 2022 at 4:13pm*

Evidence contradicting Dr. Anthony Fauci's repeated insistence that his government agency did not resume and fund dangerous "gain-of-function" research and that he mounted a campaign to shut down the scientific views of prominent epidemiologists lit up a Senate hearing Tuesday on the pandemic response featuring the White House coronavirus adviser and other top federal health officials.  
 Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., a physician, has repeatedly accused Fauci of lying about the role of his National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in the origin of the pandemic. The senator on Tuesday confronted Fauci with [an email exchange released in December](https://www.wnd.com/2021/12/email-collins-asked-fauci-attack-fringe-harvard-stanford-oxford-epidemiologists/) with then-National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins. Fauci agreed to Collins' request for "a quick and devastating public takedown" of a declaration by three esteemed epidemiologists that challenged the federal government's COVID-19 policy. Collins referred to the Harvard, Stanford and Oxford medical scientists as "fringe epidemiologists."  
 At the hearing Tuesday, Fauci insisted Paul was distorting the facts and accused the Republican senator of being motivated by political gain, holding up a screenshot purportedly from Paul’s website of a donation page with an image that reads "Fire Dr. Fauci."  
 Shortly after the exchange, Sen. Roger Marshall, R-Kan., also a physician, confronted Fauci with evidence reported Monday night by Project Veritas. The organization obtained military documents [confirming previous evidence that the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency in 2018 rejected a proposal by EcoHealth Alliance to fund gain-of-function research](https://www.wnd.com/2021/10/fauci-funded-scientist-planned-create-novel-coronavirus-2018/) to make bat coronaviruses more virulent and transmissible because it was too risky and violated a ban. The newly released documents also confirm Fauci's NIAID funded coronavirus research in Wuhan, China, through the non-profit EcoHealth Alliance.  
 Further, email transcriptions released Tuesday by Republicans on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee indicate Fauci knew about the financial relationship between NIAID, NIH, EcoHealth Alliance and the Wuhan Institute of Virology. And Fauci was warned of the possibility that the virus causing COVID-19 was genetically manipulated and that it leaked from the Wuhan lab.  
 Paul, at the hearing Tuesday, characterized Fauci as an "arrogant" career bureaucrat -- noting the NIAID chief's claim that he represents science itself -- who has used "government resources to smear and to destroy the reputations of other scientists who disagree with him."  
 The senator cited [the email exchange in which Fauci agreed to the "published takedown" of the scientists](https://www.wnd.com/2021/12/email-collins-asked-fauci-attack-fringe-harvard-stanford-oxford-epidemiologists/), which Paul said "doesn't exactly conjure the image of a dispassionate scientist."  
 Fauci replied that "in usual fashion, senator, you are distorting everything about me."  
 Paul also referred to Fauci's assistance to EcoHealth Alliance founder Peter Daszak in casting the lab-leak theory of the pandemic's origin as an illegitimate "conspiracy theory."  
 Fauci eventually stopped trying to respond to Paul's accusations.  
 "Senator, we are here at a committee to look at a virus now that has killed almost 900,000 people," he began, "and the purpose of the committee was to try and get things out, how we could help to get the American public, and you keep coming back with personal attacks on me that have absolutely no relevance to reality."  
 The White House coronavirus adviser asked chairwoman Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., for extra time to address "personal attacks" by Paul he insisted are not backed by "a shred of evidence."  
 "The last time we had a committee, or the time before, he was accusing me of being responsible for the death of 4-to-5 million people, which is really irresponsible," Fauci said.  
 Paul is making accusations, Fauci claimed, for political reasons, claiming the senator was distracting him and other officials from their jobs of addressing the pandemic while putting out misinformation motivating "crazies" to harass him and his family and threaten his life.  
 Fauci pointed to an incident Dec. 21 in which police arrested a man from California who said he was on his way to the nation's capital to "kill Dr. Fauci." [[When you commandeer the death of millions I can understand why they would want to eliminate you from this planet. – rdb]  
 "So I ask myself, why would a senator want to do this? So go to Rand Paul's website and you see 'fire Dr. Fauci' with a little box that says 'contribute here,'" Fauci said, holding up a screenshot apparently from Paul’s website showing his face with the caption 'Fire Dr. Fauci.'"  
 "So you are making a catastrophic epidemic for your political gain," Fauci charged, addressing Paul again.  
*See Sen. Paul's exchange with Fauci:*  
 From the Web[by ZergNet](https://www.zergnet.com/privacy-widget)  
 Marshall began his questioning of Fauci saying the American people have lost trust in him, and "every day you are on TV, you do more damage than good when it comes to educating the public on COVID."  
 The Kansas senator the confronted Fauci with the new evidence that his agency funded gain-of-function research.  
 Fauci replied: "So, once again, senator, it pains me to have to point out to the American people how absolutely incorrect you are."  
 He argued that NIAID never funded the DARPA grant, but that is not the issue. [Government documents obtained through a FOIA request and released in September](https://www.wnd.com/2021/09/new-documents-show-fauci-lied-funding-wuhan-lab/) included two grant proposals from the non-profit EcoHealth Alliance to manipulate bat coronaviruses at the Wuhan lab that were funded by NIAID. Among the documents are project updates, showing that work with Chinese scientist Shi Zhengli, the "bat woman," actually was carried out.  
 *See Sen. Marshall's questioning of Fauci:*  
 At the end of the exchange with Marshall, Fauci was caught on mic muttering "what a moron" and "Jesus Christ." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/fauci-fireworks-accuses-sen-paul-motivating-crazies-kill/> [The good thing is that this little weasel will one day have to stand before Jesus Christ and be judged for the murders he orchestrated along with a lot of other people. – rdb]

**Exclusive: Autopsy Confirms 26-Year-Old’s Death From Myocarditis Directly Caused by Pfizer COVID Vaccine**

***In an exclusive interview with The Defender, Joseph Keating’s mother said her son’s only warning signs were fatigue, muscle soreness and an increased heart rate, yet an autopsy confirmed he died of myocarditis directly caused by Pfizer’s COVID vaccine.***

*By* [*Megan Redshaw*](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/authors/megan-redshaw/) *01/11/22*

A 26-year-old South Dakota man who died Nov. 12, 2021, of myocarditis — four days after his booster dose of Pfizer’s COVID vaccine — had no idea he was experiencing a rare and supposedly “[mild” heart problem](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/cdc-investigating-reports-heart-problems-teens-adolescents-covid-vaccine/) after the shot.

[Joseph Keating’s](https://www.millerfh.com/obituary/joseph-keating?fh_id=16059) only warning signs were fatigue, muscle soreness and an increased heart rate, family members said.

In an exclusive interview with [The Defender](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/), Joseph’s father, mother and sister said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has not investigated Joseph’s death,.

The CDC also did not contact the pathologist who performed the autopsy or request the documents which confirmed Joseph’s death was caused by the Pfizer vaccine. MUCH MORE -<https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/joseph-keating-autopsy-death-myocarditis-pfizer-covid-vaccine>

**Commentary:**

**An Orthodox Rabbi Writes That People Are Basically Good -- Judaism Is in Trouble**[*Dennis Prager*](https://townhall.com/columnists/dennisprager/) *Posted: Jan 11, 2022 12:01 AM* The Algemeiner, a Jewish publication I highly respect, published a column about Judaism that is not merely wrong; it actually advances a thesis that is the opposite of what Judaism teaches.  
 That fact alone would not have prompted me to write a rebuttal. What prompts me is that the column was written by an Orthodox rabbi. It is sad enough that many non-Orthodox rabbis have been influenced more by their secular/Left educations than by the Torah. But when a rabbi identified as "centrist Orthodox" distorts one of the most important and normative ideas in Judaism, and is published in a major Jewish journal, we might be in trouble. Of course, he might be an outlier. But I don't think he is unique. Though certainly not yet dominant, secular values have entered parts of modern Orthodox life just as they have traditional Catholic and Protestant Christian life.  
 With regard to mainstream Christianity -- both Catholicism and Protestantism -- and non-Orthodox Judaism, we are indeed in trouble. The secular and leftist influence on these denominations has been disastrous.  
 I should note that I am not mentioning the rabbi's name as I have no desire to make this issue personal, let alone engage in an ad hominem attack. I know that the curious can identify the rabbi by searching the internet, but I cannot control that. I can only control what I write. And since I assume that this rabbi is a sincere individual, I want to restrict my response to what he wrote.  
 The rabbi wrote that Judaism posits that people are basically good, that human nature is good.  
 This is one of the most foolish and dangerous ideas of the secular world. No Abrahamic religion -- not Judaism, not Christianity, not Islam -- asserts that people are basically good. This notion is a product of the secular age and a major reason for the moral confusion that characterizes our era.  
 With regard to Judaism, the Torah completely rejects the notion that man is basically good. God Himself states that "the will of man's heart is evil from his youth" (Genesis 8:21) and that "every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time" (Genesis 6:5).  
 For a rabbi to assert that man is basically good is to assert that God was wrong. I am used to secular people saying that, not Orthodox rabbis.  
 In addition, the Torah -- and the rest of the Bible -- repeatedly warns us not to follow our hearts. In fact, Orthodox Jews cite this admonition from the Torah three times every day: "Do not follow your hearts and your eyes after which you prostitute yourselves" (Numbers 15:39).   
 If the human heart is basically good, why does the Bible repeatedly warn us not to follow it?  
 The rabbi never cites any of these verses. For good reason: They would simply invalidate his argument. This secular belief in the inherent goodness of man is not only not Jewish; as noted, it is foolish and dangerous.  
 How foolish? It is not possible to be aware of human history and to rationally maintain that people are basically good. For a Jew to believe such nonsense after the Holocaust is simply breathtaking. Apparently, basically good people murdered six million Jews.   
 But we don't need references to the Holocaust to make our case.   
 In the 20th century alone, more than a hundred million people -- civilians, not soldiers -- were murdered by vile regimes and their vile followers. These include the approximately 20 million killed in the Gulag Archipelago; the slaughter of the Tutsis in Rwanda; the genocidal murder of Armenians; the deliberate starvation of about 60 million Chinese; the Japanese mass rape of Korean "comfort women" and hideous medical experiments on Chinese civilians; and the torture and murder of approximately one out of four Cambodians.   
 And that is only a partial list.  
 Virtually every serious thinker in history knew people were not basically good. They knew about the universality of slavery and the tortures and rapes that accompanied slavery. They knew how men behaved in wartime.   
 Were all the people who engaged in these evils aberrations? In fact, most were quite normal. The aberrations in history have been the truly good individuals. To cite the Holocaust, the Germans, French, Poles, Hungarians, Lithuanians and others who aided the Holocaust, let alone those who did nothing, were normal people. The handful who aided Jews were the aberrations.  
 And what about childhood bullying? Are fat, or slow, or unattractive boys and girls generally treated with kindness and empathy? The question is rhetorical.  
 And what about child sexual abuse? The WHO in 2002 estimated that 73 million boys and 150 million girls under the age of 18 years had experienced various forms of sexual violence. Quite remarkable for a world of basically good people.  
 So much for the foolishness of the belief that people are basically good. Now let's deal with why it is dangerous.  
 One reason is that the most important, and most difficult, task of parents and of society is to raise good human beings. Yet, those who believe we are born good will not concentrate on making good people. Why bother if we're already good?  
 A second reason the belief is dangerous is that those who believe it blame the evil that people do on outside forces, not on the individual who committed the evil. Belief in the basic goodness of human nature is the major reason people claim that poverty, or guns, or racism causes crime. Anything except the perpetrator.  
 The rabbi cites a Yale study that purports to show that babies are not only moral agents but are actually moral beings. Such studies are one reason so many Americans have come to hold universities in increasing contempt. The idea that babies know right and wrong is preposterous. The idea that babies are moral is even more preposterous. Babies are neither moral nor immoral since they have no more free will than your family dog.  
 Babies are selfish -- as they have to be to survive. And babies are innocent. But innocent is not the same as good. The rabbi conflates "innocent" with "good."  
 He also conflates "in God's image" with "good." He writes: "the Torah stating that human beings are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) (is) a statement that underscored humanity's inherent goodness."   
 Not so. Created "in God's image" has never meant man is basically good. Rather, it means that human beings, like God (and unlike animals), know good from evil and have moral free will. In Genesis 1:27, Rashi, author of the most influential Jewish Bible commentary ever written, explains "in God's image" as "the power to comprehend and to discern." Second, it means that human life (again, unlike animal life) is infinitely precious.   
 Finally, if people are basically good, what is the Torah for? What are all the commandments for? If people are basically good, why would God need to command us not to murder? Don't basically good creatures know this?   
 It is very troubling that an Orthodox rabbi would teach the opposite of what the Torah and Judaism teach concerning one of the most fundamental issues of life. As more and more modern Orthodox Jews attend college and graduate school, it is imperative that Jewish schools teach the distinctiveness of Jewish values.   
 Increasingly, they do not.  <https://townhall.com/columnists/dennisprager/2022/01/11/an-orthodox-rabbi-writes-that-people-are-basically-good--judaism-is-in-trouble-n2601674>

**Variants, Propaganda, Fear and Genocide***By* [*Kelleigh Nelson*](https://newswithviews.com/author/kelleigh/)*|January 11th, 2022  
The greatest triumphs of propaganda have been accomplished, not by doing something, but by refraining from doing.  Great is truth, but still greater, from a practical point of view, is silence about truth.  —Aldous Huxley*  
 *Dictators seek to control men’s thoughts as well as their bodies and so they attempt to dictate science, education and religion. But dictated education is usually propaganda, dictated history is often mythology, dictated science is pseudo-science.* —*Edwin Grant Conklin (biologist and zoologist)*   
 *Propaganda works best when those being manipulated believe they are confident they are acting on their own free will.  —Joseph Goebbels*   
 *The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive and judiciary, in the same hands, whether of one or a few, or many, and whether hereditary, self-appointed or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny.  James Madison*  
 Fear is **F**alse **E**vidence **A**ppearing **R**eal, but is not of the Lord. “But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.” Proverbs 1:33. Rest in Him.  
 British science fiction writer, Ian Watson said, “If you have to be persuaded, reminded, pressured, lied to, incentivized, coerced, bullied, socially shamed, guilt-tripped, threatened, punished and criminalized; if all of this is considered necessary to gain your compliance, you can be absolutely certain that what is being promoted is not in our best interest.”  
 Propaganda produces fear, and fear produces compliance.  
 Between 1933 and 1939, about half of the German-Jewish population and more than two-thirds of Austrian Jews (1938-1939) fled Nazi persecution. Others stayed as they hadn’t the wherewithal to leave or they thought the situation temporary, but by 1939 it became too late. The citizenry had become so fearful that they bowed their heads and said not a word despite seeing the pervasive evil against their neighbors.  The same has happened over and over again throughout history with Stalin, Lenin, Pol Pot, Ceausescu, Mao and others.  Even the 1989 Tiananmen Square student protests didn’t arouse the rest of the citizenry.  Fear dominated and kept them silent.  
 Now we are seeing the same reactions in America.  Most citizens accept the destruction of freedom for their “safety.”  Yet others who are exposing the totalitarian and despotic tactics are speaking out and risking their own livelihoods.  It is up to every American citizen who loves freedom and liberty to join them and shed the propaganda and fear that has subjugated our electorate.  Stand now, or the gulags may be imminent.  
**Omicron Breaks Thru Immunity**  
 Dr. Peter McCullough, internist, cardiologist and epidemiologist, has informed the public via [America Out Loud](https://www.americaoutloud.com/omicron-breaks-through-natural-and-vaccine-immunity-in-a-battle-against-delta/), that his, “Once and Done,” natural immunity from Covid and its variants is no longer true with Omicron.  He states the following:  
 *While we have a mix of prolonged Delta cases and in many cases with moderate to severe symptoms, Omicron syndrome has been characterized as mild and brief with a notable absence of pulmonary symptoms. How did Omicron secure this large and growing ecological niche? We have learned that Omicron replicates at a 70-fold increased rate over Delta.*  
 *Additionally, Omicron appears to generate immunity not only against itself, but also against Delta, the prior dominant variant. So as Omicron moves through the population rapidly, it is providing a larger immunologic barrier to further Delta expansion and will likely work to bring down the Delta curve as the same time the Omicron peak continues to build in a sharply upward, and hopefully brief spike in cases.*  
 Dr. McCullough also [comments](https://rumble.com/vqtqkr-dr.-peter-mccullough-omicron-comes-from-the-jabbed.html) that monoclonal antibody products are unlikely to neutralize Omicron, leaving only [Sotrovimab](https://www.sotrovimab.com/?cc=ps_WX47F4UZG81040671&mcm=300000&gclid=b13860f9f43a180435a50121792da543&gclsrc=3p.ds) by Glaxo Smith Klein as the remaining antibody treatment in the armamentarium for high-risk seniors who develop severe symptoms with Omicron. (High risk being elderly with numerous comorbidities.)  
 The World Health Organization (WHO) tells that this variant came out of South Africa and has a number of mutations, some of which are concerning.  You might want to [read their article](https://www.who.int/news/item/26-11-2021-classification-of-omicron-(b.1.1.529)-sars-cov-2-variant-of-concern) as they are listing what countries are “required to do.”  WHO is telling us that Omicron poses a very high risk, but that’s not what we’re seeing!  Dr. McCullough says there are about 30 mutations of this variant whereas Delta had only about seven mutations in the spike protein.  However, this variant has a lower infectivity than the Delta variant, actually about a third or less.  
 Still, there are 145 research studies confirm naturally acquired immunity to CV-19: [documented, linked and quoted](https://brownstone.org/articles/79-research-studies-affirm-naturally-acquired-immunity-to-covid-19-documented-linked-and-quoted/).  
 I am shocked that a “variant” of the original virus would be able to jump over the natural immunity gained from recovery of the original.  In the past, all “variants” were only 2.5 to 3% of the original and were fought off by natural immunity.  My immediate thought was that Omicron is a new virus, but Dr. McCullough says the clot shot recipients are creating these new variants and spreading them.  Thus, it may not end any time soon.  
**Repeated Injections Cause Death**  
 In a late November 2021 podcast with Dr. McCullough, he said, “The revelation that with each injection of COVID-19 genetic “vaccines,” that spike protein is loaded into the human body and accumulates to an even higher level, causing inflammation and organ injury in the brain, heart, immune system, and bone marrow, are stunning from a clinical perspective. As the viral pandemic ebbs, we can expect to learn and hear more about how the COVID-19 “vaccines,” which are now administered by mandate and in some countries by force, grow in strength as the leading public health threat and, instead of preventing disease, become significant determinants of a whole new class of illnesses leading to disability, hospitalization, and death.”  
 A week earlier Dr. McCullough warned that repeated injections of COVID mRNA or “viral vector” “vaccines” could lead to an overwhelming of the human body with the lethal “spike protein” which mimics that of the virus it is expected to prevent. “The spike protein on the ball of the virus is the same protein that’s in the human body after vaccination, so whether or not someone’s been exposed to it from the respiratory illness, or whether or not someone’s taken the vaccine, they now are exposed to the spike protein,” McCullough said. Based on published scientific research, McCullough said, “the spike protein does damage the heart…”  
 The good doctor is absolutely sure that those who have had the clot shot are creating these variants and that so far Omicron shows mild symptoms and this variant is not covered by the clot shots, (as though anything was).  Delta exhibited considerable antigenic escape, but this degree of mutation with Omicron, almost certainly escapes any effect of the jab and this is seen with Big Pharma now changing the jabs. They have announced a turn to develop a product against this variant.  
 Stay away from these poisonous injections!  
**Never Vaccinate During Pandemics**  
 Dr. McCullough says it’s a huge mistake to vaccinate during a global pandemic because there is simply too much prevalent virus.  The virus will make mistakes when it replicates and with Delta, it clearly was an evolutionary link and went from a minor mutation to 100%.  Delta was a huge evolutionary advantage over other strains, so Delta in effect wiped out Alpha, Beta, Gamma.  Omicron’s early reads on the molecular structure probably won’t wipe out Delta because it’s so sufficiently successful in surviving in the nose and the mouth of the jabbed.  We know this from a number of studies.  Thirty nine percent of 31 infections resulted in homes of fully jabbed.  
 The nasal and oral passages of infected contain 251-1000 more of the viral load and Dr. McCullough has recommended nasal cleansing with the following instructions to be used every four hours by spraying up the nose and by gargling.  Don’t swallow it, and if it burns, dilute just a bit more, but not too much.  The recipe follows:  
**0.62% Dilute Solution**  
 1 cup sterile water (this volume enough for 7 days)  
 1 Tablespoon of 10% Povidone Iodine (PVD-I)  
 ¼ teaspoon salt  
 In the labs, a 1% solution of Povidone Iodine has been shown to be 99.99%  
 Effective as an antiviral treatment in just 30 seconds.  
 0.50% solutions have also been shown to be effective especially with repeated  
 treatments.  
 This treatment has been shown to tremendously reduce mortality, morbidity, and hospital as well as financial burden in this covid situation.  This actually is a great reduction without systemic therapy for active viral infections.  It is also a prophylactic for healthy people used a couple times a day after being out or at work.  Dr. McCullough also explains that if you have Grave’s Disease, are pregnant or allergic to iodine, you can switch over to diluted hydrogen peroxide and get a very similar effect.  Dentists have actually been the teachers for this oral and nasal wash.  
 The virus is not spread when you are asymptomatic; it is only spread when you become ill, unlike what Anthony Fauci, our modern-day Hitler, Goebbels and Mengele, tells us.  There are three to five days between the time of contact with an ill person and when you’d come down with the virus, and this nasal wash intercepts that carriage and knocks it out before becoming symptomatic.  
 Another warning is that anyone with comorbidities should find where their monoclonal antibody centers are and even if they’re not very sick yet, they should apply to immediately get the shots.  The only patients dying or being hospitalized are those who are receiving inadequate treatments.  
 There are many physicians who are proponents of early treatment with safe and inexpensive drugs. Their names and interviews have been widespread.  They are men of courage and bravery standing against the totalitarian onslaught of the clot shots, knowing early treatment would have saved 86% of those who unnecessarily died and died alone.  
 Anyone under 70, without comorbidities or excess weight, is fairly safe from a virus 99.8% recover from.  Those stats are better than seasonal flu which no one seems to die of since CV-19 came along.  No one is safe from the vaxxed whose bodies are creating the variants and whose nasal and oral cavities contain 241 to 1000 times more of the viral load than the unvaxxed.  Who the hell are these totalitarian despots fooling, only the subjugated compliant lemmings?  The lies are being exposed!  
**Dr. Michael Yeadon on CV-19 Variants**  
 Dr. Michael Yeadon is the former Chief Science Officer and Vice President of Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. He has come forward with the truth of the vaccinations, the truth about Covid-19, and the truth about the new “variants” that are being pushed onto us.  
 Like so many other physicians and scientists, Dr. Yeadon has been “exposed” as a conspiracy theorist and fraud by our commie Pravda media and the alleged “fact checkers.”  Remember that the fact checkers have sworn up and down that Dr. FauxChi is brilliant, reliable, honest and knows what is best for the world’s population.  I’d suggest they read the most referenced book in today’s market by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., [The Real Anthony Fauci](https://nwvstore.com/product/the-real-anthony-fauci-bill-gates-big-pharma-and-the-global-war-on-democracy-and-public-health-childrens-health-defense/).  
 Dr. Yeadon was one of the first courageous scientists to expose the Sars-coV-2 injections as dangerous to our health and well-being.  
 Here is what Dr. Yeadon believes [according to a multitude of his interviews](https://www.stayfree.ie/index.php/2021/12/21/an-urgent-warning-to-the-world-dr-michael-yeadon/) and presentations.  This was printed in late December 2021.  
**There is no new variant**.   
 The changes that **have been made** to the virus are so miniscule, our own immune systems will not pick up a change nor will treat it any differently than the original variant.  
 Being that the changes are so minimal, there will be no reason for additional vaccinations, nor any vaccinations to combat the new variant being released onto the people of the world.  
 The original variant was less deadly than influenza.  
**Why would they push a new variant if it wasn’t as dangerous as they are claiming?**   
 The new variant is being touted by mainstream media and the medical practitioners per orders of the governments of the world. If there is a new variant, the people react with panic. They re-mask. They hide and quarantine again. They rush in line to get the vaccination. – The Ultimate Goal.  
**What is the target population for the vaccination?**   
 The easiest targets, to get more than 50% of the population are the Elderly, the population that have underlying health issues, and those in contact with both of the above. That leaves approximately 30% left unvaccinated.  
 The rest will be herded as a social faux-pas to not fall in line via College Attendance, School Attendance, Unable to work or shop without the vaccination.  
**I’ve heard of magnets connecting to injection sites, But why?**   
 Don’t believe me. Do your own experiment.  
 The vaccinations do indeed have a sort of chip, or QR code imbedded.  
 The magnet trick is NOT a hoax. Go ahead and try it. Stick a magnet to your injection site, within two-inch diameter of the injection. Depending on which vaccine you received, either a magnet will stick OR a small metal object such as a key will stick. You can actually feel the pull as the object connects to the implant.  
 If you have an EMF Detector, try to use that. Scan anywhere on your body. Because humans are made of energy, many of us will naturally give off an EMF signal. However, the injection site will push the readings through the roof.  
**Life expectancy after injection**.   
 I encourage you to do your own due diligence, however many reputable scientists have publicly stated that the life expectancy of someone who was healthy prior to the vaccination is anywhere from 2-7 years post injection. Someone with underlying health issues, the life expectancy is much lower.  
**Why would they do this to the world population?**   
 What could be easier to gain total totalitarian control over the world?   
 Movement Tracking  
 Health Condition Tracking  
 Monetary Tracking  
 Less People, once the individuals with underlying health conditions suffer deadly side effects  
 Dr. Yeadon asks, “Can you think of a benign explanation for why you would want to give an experimental use-authorized gene-based vaccine to millions, tens of millions of people who cannot possibly die if they ran into this virus?  The answer is no, you cannot, can you!”  
**Dr. Pierre Kory, Climbing Death Records**  
 World renowned CV19 critical care and pulmonary expert Dr. Pierre Kory says [the data is clear](https://usawatchdog.com/huge-number-of-vax-deaths-its-getting-worse-dr-pierre-kory/) the CV19 injections are “not safe, not effective” and show they are causing a huge number of deaths.  
 Dr. Kory warns, “They already broke death records with these vaccines almost a year ago.  Now, you are starting to see it in actuarial data with life insurance companies.  The life insurance companies have been paying out claims like they never have before, and they are noticing the deaths cannot be explained by Covid.  
 “If you look at the actual morbidity and mortality from the CDC in 2019, 2020 and 2021 in the ages of 18 to 64, you’ll see in America, starting in quarter two of the year 2021 (when the vaccines started), the mortalities started to rise, and it rose from 120% above normal to 140% above normal, and it’s far exceeded the death rates in 2020.  The difference in 2020 and 2021, we had covid in both years.  In 2021, we had the vaccines.”  
 Former Pfizer VP Dr. Michael Yeadon in the first week of 2022, said, “Max vaccination is leading to mass death.”  Dr. Kory agrees and explains, “It’s not only data from a life insurance company that came out this week that is based on CDC data that can’t be explained by Covid alone, there are huge increases of dying in this country this year.  
 “They have done huge analyses of the European mortality data as well as the U.S. mortality data and they controlled for vaccination status.  They found that for every age range that they looked at, the all-cause mortality of the vaccinated was increased over the unvaccinated.  All-cause mortality means that you are more likely to die of something if you are vaccinated.  
 “All-cause mortality is coming out of actual databases by credible scientists.  You have life insurance companies showing the data, and you have our own federal government showing unexplained large rises in dying.  Don’t you think a good scientific question and a good hypothesis to test would be ‘Could these be the vaccines?’  
 “The answer is ‘the vaccines,’ and I cannot find a better fit to answering that hypothesis than that, it’s this mass explosion of this vaccination policy with single, double and booster shots.  It’s going like wildfire through the population.  If the mortality of the vaccinated is higher than the unvaccinated, you have the data that you can safely and confidently conclude the vaccines are associated with and causing death.”  
 In closing, Dr. Kory says, “What has happened in the last month or so is the data for adverse reactions and effects are no longer hidden and suppressed.  They are coming out on servers . . . and actuarial tables.”  
 Gateway Pundit carried an [important article](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2022/01/massive-145-country-study-shows-sharp-increase-transmission-death-introduction-covid-vaccines/) regarding a 145-country study showing massive increases in death after the CV19 jab.  
 Dr. Kory tells people to go to the Front Line Covid-19 Critical Care Alliance website and get any and all information for treating Covid-19 for free.  
**Conclusion**  
 The [Mayo Clinic in Minnesota fired 700 unvaccinated health care workers](https://www.ntd.com/mayo-clinic-fires-700-unvaccinated-employees-weeks-after-nurses-warning_724063.html?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2021-10-20)the first week of 2022, despite nurses at the clinic issuing a warning several weeks ago about staffing issues.  America’s once great medical care has been decimated.  In 1984, we were at the very top of industrialized nations, but after 38 years of FauxChi at the helm, we are at the very bottom.  Doctors and nurses have retired early or have been fired for refusing the clot shots. All medical facilities are massively understaffed.  
 The three courageous and brilliant physicians/scientist mentioned in this article are risking their reputations, their livelihoods and their families to warn and save Americans.  But there are others who are speaking out who are not as virtuous or trustworthy. They are controlled opposition. My next article will expose one of them.  
 Too many Americans are herded by propaganda.  Matthew 10:16 tells us, “Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves, be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.” <https://newswithviews.com/variants-propaganda-fear-and-genocide/>

**Arabs 'Frustrated' With Biden's Iran Policy**

*by* [*Khaled Abu Toameh*](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Khaled+Abu+Toameh) *January 11, 2022 at 5:00 am* Syrian-born TV host Faisal Al-Kasim recently [asked](https://twitter.com/kasimf/status/1476195990042464262?s=20) his 5.9 million followers on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/kasimf/status/1476195990042464262?s=20) the following: "Which is better, Israel's reputation or Iran's reputation in the [Middle East] region?" The result of the poll showed that 74.8% viewed Israel as having a better reputation as opposed to 25.2% in favor of Iran.  
 The next day, Al-Kasim, who hosts a popular debate show on the Qatari-owned Al-Jazeera network called *The Opposite Direction*, conducted another survey on Twitter. This time, he [asked](https://twitter.com/kasimf/status/1476501361600647168?s=20) his followers: "Do you support the Israeli bombing of Iran and its militias in Syria?"  
 According to the results of the poll, 77.8% said they supported the Israeli military strikes, while only 22.2% voiced opposition.  
 Al-Kasim's findings did not come as a surprise to many Arabs, especially those living in the Gulf states, who continue to express deep [concern](https://www.azzaman.com/%D8%A5%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%B9%D8%B6%D9%84%D8%A9-%D8%B9%D8%AF%D9%86%D8%A7%D9%86-%D9%86%D8%B9%D9%85%D8%A9-%D8%B3%D9%84%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%86/) over Iran's ongoing meddling in their internal affairs.  
 This concern is being expressed as the talks aimed at restoring the 2015 nuclear deal, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), are taking place in Vienna between Iran and world powers that are signatories to the deal.  
 The Iranians are [demanding](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/1/6/iran-fm-says-vienna-deal-can-be-reached-if-us-sanctions-lifted) the complete lifting of sanctions imposed by the US after its unilateral withdrawal from the deal in 2018, as a precondition for reaching a new agreement with the world powers.  
 Many Arabs, however, are [worried](https://www.alarabiya.net/politics/2022/01/07/%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%8A%D8%AF%D9%86-%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%A8-%D9%84%D8%A7-%D9%8A%D9%81%D9%8A%D8%AF) about the Europeans' and Biden administration's perceived appeasement of the mullahs in Tehran.  
 Referring to remarks by US special envoy for Iran Robert Malley, who [told](https://edition.cnn.com/2021/12/21/politics/iran-nuclear-deal-rob-malley/index.html) CNN that "at some point in the not-so-distant future, we will have to conclude that the JCPOA is no more, and we'd have to negotiate a wholly new different deal," the Saudi newspaper Al-Yaum [described](https://www.alyaum.com/articles/6368601/%D9%83%D9%84%D9%85%D8%A9-%D9%88%D9%85%D9%82%D8%A7%D9%84/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D9%87%D8%AF%D9%8A%D8%AF-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%8A-%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D9%88%D9%82%D9%81-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D9%85%D8%B1%D9%8A%D9%83%D9%8A-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%AD%D8%A8%D8%B7) the statements as "frustrating messages that reflect the overall American position towards the Iranian escalation."  
 The newspaper said that the Biden administration's position "raises a question mark about the seriousness of American efforts to save the world from Iranian threats."  
 "The Iranian regime insists on adopting, supporting and arming terrorist entities in order to continue committing crimes and violations that destabilize the security and stability and the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in the region."  
 [According](https://www.azzaman.com/%D8%A5%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%B9%D8%B6%D9%84%D8%A9-%D8%B9%D8%AF%D9%86%D8%A7%D9%86-%D9%86%D8%B9%D9%85%D8%A9-%D8%B3%D9%84%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%86/) to Iraqi military expert Adnan Salman:  
 "Iran's interventions in neighboring countries such as Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Lebanon, Bahrain and Kuwait have become clear and tangible... Iran created many supporters for it in these countries to implement its old policy of exporting the [Islamic] revolution."  
 Saudi writer and political analyst Abdel Aziz Khamis pointed out that since the US invasion of Iraq in 2003, Iran's "expansionist steps" in the region increased. The Iranian intervention, Khamis [said](https://www.skynewsarabia.com/blog/1491519-%D8%B9%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%84-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A8-%D8%A7%D9%95%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%A8%D9%85%D8%AB%D9%84-%D8%B3%D9%84%D9%88%D9%83%D9%87%D8%A7-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%AE%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%9F), reached its climax when Iran boasted that it occupies four Arab capitals: Baghdad, Beirut, Sana'a and Damascus:  
 "The Iranians have turned these Arab capitals into bases for its armed militias, providing them with money, weapons and everything they need to assert Iran's hegemony over the region... The Ansar Allah group in Yemen [the Houthis], Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Hezbollah Brigades and Sayed al-Shuhada Brigades and other gangs in Iraq, as well as other brutal gangs in the Syrian and Palestinian territories, have served as tools that allowed Tehran to interfere in the affairs of these countries and threaten others."  
 Like other Arab commentators, Khamis [said](https://www.skynewsarabia.com/blog/1491519-%D8%B9%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%84-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A8-%D8%A7%D9%95%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%A8%D9%85%D8%AB%D9%84-%D8%B3%D9%84%D9%88%D9%83%D9%87%D8%A7-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%AE%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%9F) that he does not understand the silence and indifference of the international community towards the "aggravating situation of Iranian tampering with the region."  
 Saleh Al-Qallab, a prominent Jordanian writer and former minister of information, [warned](https://aawsat.com/home/article/3397766/%D8%B5%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AD-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%82%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%A8/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A8-%D9%88%D8%A5%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86-%D9%88%D8%B6%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%B1%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%B5%D8%B7%D9%81%D8%A7%D9%81-%D8%A5%D9%84%D9%89-%D8%AC%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A8-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D8%B9%D9%88%D8%AF%D9%8A%D8%A9) that the "Iranian penetration of the Arab region has crossed all borders."  
 "The situation in this region is not comfortable at all," he said. "What Iran is doing is tantamount to an open war against the Arabs."  
 Al-Qallab pointed out that the Iranian-backed Houthi militia in Yemen has been launching rocket and drone attacks on Saudi Arabia. He called on the Arabs to rally behind Saudi Arabia as it continues to face threats by Iran's proxy.  
 Former Kuwaiti Minister of Information and Culture Saad Bin Tefla Al-Ajami [said](https://www.independentarabia.com/node/290301/%D8%A2%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%A1/%D9%85%D8%A7-%D8%AD%D8%B2%D8%A8-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%84%D9%87) that the world powers that are currently holding negotiations with the Iranians in Vienna do not care about Iran's "hostile policies" towards the Arabs. "Iran is interfering in the region with the aim of dominating it," Al-Ajami remarked.  
 "Iran is driven by a combination of racist ideology and the absence of an Arab or international deterrent to stop its blatant interference in the [Arab] region. Iran seeks to create a state within a state in the Arab countries. The current Lebanese model of Iran's hegemony through Hezbollah is the model that Iran aspires to and plans for in all the Arab countries."  
 Al-Ajami expressed disappointment over the failure of the international community to move to "deter the Iranian intrusion." The international community, whose representatives are negotiating with the Iranians in Vienna over Tehran's nuclear program, "is not concerned about [Iran's] aggressive policies against us," he added. "The priorities and interests of the world powers are different from ours, although they are aware of Iran's destabilizing policies for the entire region."  
 Echoing the Arab countries' growing concern over the current US policy towards Iran, Egyptian writer Emil Amin [said](https://www.alarabiya.net/politics/2022/01/07/%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%8A%D8%AF%D9%86-%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%A8-%D9%84%D8%A7-%D9%8A%D9%81%D9%8A%D8%AF) that the Biden administration's decision to negotiate with the Iranians was "dangerous and intriguing."  
 The Biden administration, Amin added, refuses to disclose information about the negotiations that could "pose grave dangers" to the US.  
 "The Biden administration argues that making this information available may harm American national security and reveal intelligence sources. This excuse is flimsy and weak. Here is the clear truth: the weak Biden administration is striving to reach an agreement [with Iran] at any cost to beautify its image in front of the Americans."  
 Such warnings on the part of Arabs about Iran's malicious intentions surface each time the world powers and the Iranians resume the nuclear deal talks in Vienna.  
 These warnings reflect the increasing concern in the Arab world about a deal that would embolden Iran's mullahs and encourage them to continue their "expansionist and hostile" policies against the Arabs. The warnings, which have become commonplace in the Arab media, are mainly directed towards the Biden administration.  
 It is encouraging, nonetheless, to see the growing support among Arabs for Israel's military strikes against the Iranian-backed militias in Syria. The Arabs seem to understand that Iran's intervention in Syria has caused more violence and bloodshed there.  
 Likewise, Israel's better reputation compared to Iran among many Arabs, as shown by the [survey](https://twitter.com/kasimf/status/1476195990042464262?s=20) by the Syrian-born TV personality, is a point of light.  
 These Arabs, in short, are saying that they view Iran and the United States, and not Israel, as the major threats to their security and stability.  
 It now remains to be seen whether the Biden administration and the other parties negotiating with the mullahs will heed the voices coming from the Arab world -- or continue to allow the mullahs to hoodwink them by having the US sanctions lifted while Tehran continues to advance its plans to obtain nuclear weapons and extend its control to more Arab countries.  
 *Khaled Abu Toameh is an award-winning journalist based in Jerusalem.* <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18123/arabs-biden-iran-policy>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**2 Police hurt in Bedouin riots in the Negev**

***Train forced to stop after stones placed on track, stones thrown at cars as riots over JNF tree planting continue.***

*Israel National News ט' בשבט תשפ"ב 22:27 11.01.22*

riots Police spokesperson

Dozens of Bedouin rioted this Tuesday night at the Segev Shalom junction in the south in protest against the Jewish National Fund's planting of trees in the Moleda area.

Two policemen were injured in the riots by a stone and a firework which were thrown at them.

At the same time, a passenger train had to brake near the Gorel Junction after the conductor spotted stones placed on the railroad tracks. The obstacle was removed and the train could continue its journey.

On Road 25 near Nevatim, a report was received of stones being thrown at a bus and a private vehicle. The vehicle was damaged.

Earlier Tuesday, 18 Bedouin were arrested for throwing stones at police officers during protests against the tree planting.

United Arab List (Ra'am) chairman Mansour Abbas announced Tuesday that he would stop voting with the coalition in response to the planting of trees by the Jewish National Fund in the Negev.

“I can’t continue to live with this,” Abbas told *Channel 12 News.* “I can’t continue like this, I have absorbed more difficult things in the past, but when they shoot straight in my chest I can’t stand it anymore. The south is Ra’am."

<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320302>

**Kim attends North Korea's latest missile test**

***North Korea confirms it test-fired a hypersonic missile with its leader in attendance.***

*Elad Benari ט' בשבט תשפ"ב 23:37 11.01.22*

North Korea said on Wednesday (local time) that it conducted a test-firing of a hypersonic missile a day earlier to confirm the new weapons system's technical specifications, the South Korean Yonhap news agency reported.

The North said the projectile hit the "set target in waters 1,000 km off" and added that leader Kim Jong Un attended the firing.

"The test-fire was aimed at the final verification of overall technical specifications of the developed hypersonic weapon system," the *Korean Central News Agency (KCNA)* said.

The confirmation comes a day after Japan and South Korea reported that [North Korea had launched](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320234) what could be a ballistic missile off its east coast.

The incident marks the second time in recent days that North Korea has fired a missile. Last week, [Pyongyang said](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/319947) it had test fired a "hypersonic missile" that successfully hit a target.

Last Wednesday’s launch was the first by North Korea since October and [was detected by several militaries](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/319872) in the region, drawing criticism from governments in the United States, South Korea, and Japan.

North Korea regularly launches ballistic missiles and had a series of such tests in late 2021, the most recent of which was in October when it test-fired [a new ballistic missile from a submarine](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/315362).

North Korea restarted its missile tests after denuclearization talks with the United States came to a halt.

<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320305> [Life gets more and more interesting every day. -rdb]

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**01/11/2022 NEWS**

**Where is the Garden of Eden?**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQVIo4ZDF9Q**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQVIo4ZDF9Q)

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| **"By a continuing process of inflation, governments can confiscate, secretly and unobserved, an important part of the wealth of their citizens. There is no subtler, no surer means of overturning the existing basis of society than to debauch the currency. The process engages all the hidden forces of economic law on the side of destruction, and does it in a manner which not one man in a million is able to diagnose." -- John Maynard Keynes (1883-1946) British economist** |

**Read the Prophets & PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!**

**That is the only hope for this nation!**

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| **Please**  **Remember**  **These**  **Folks**  **In**  **Prayer-**  **Check often**  **They**  **Change!** | **Pray that the world would WAKE UP! Time for a worldwide repentance!**  **ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world**  **Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.**  **Pray for CB – Heart attack with stent.**  **Pray for TH - Knee and Blood pressure problems.**  **Pray for EL – Had clot embolized to brain – successful ‘clot buster’ but long road to go.**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 3:7And the LORD said: 'I have surely seen the affliction of My people that are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their pains; 8and I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite. 9And now, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto Me; moreover I have seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. 10Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth My people the children of Israel out of Egypt.'

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| **Mortality / Morbidity analysis of JAB by lot number – Please Watch!**  **Reiner Fuellmich: “New Findings… Enough to Dismantle the Entire (VAX) Industry!” – There Is No Pandemic**  [**https://thereisnopandemic.net/2022/01/03/reiner-fuellmich-new-findings-enough-to-dismantle-the-entire-vax-industry/**](https://thereisnopandemic.net/2022/01/03/reiner-fuellmich-new-findings-enough-to-dismantle-the-entire-vax-industry/)    **Targeted Genocide: Deadly Vax Lot Numbers Identified**  [**https://www.brighteon.com/cc47526e-aadb-46db-adc7-7372f2dcdc1f**](https://www.brighteon.com/cc47526e-aadb-46db-adc7-7372f2dcdc1f)  **Morgan Wallace, RN BSN CCRN AGAC-NP slays it at NHCS School Board Meeting 1/4/22**  [**https://www.bitchute.com/video/SIgUnnncYK2W/**](https://www.bitchute.com/video/SIgUnnncYK2W/)  **David Martin Explains Why Forced Vaccinations Are ILLEGAL Under U.S. Law!**  [**https://rumble.com/vs9jrz-david-martin-explains-why-forced-vaccinations-are-illegal-under-u.s.-law.html**](https://rumble.com/vs9jrz-david-martin-explains-why-forced-vaccinations-are-illegal-under-u.s.-law.html)  **Dr. David Martin | Exposing the Coup D'Etat & the Plot to Steal America**  [**https://rumble.com/vql4ow-dr.-martin.html**](https://rumble.com/vql4ow-dr.-martin.html) |

**Eyeing Iran, Bennett says military undergoing largest rearmament in years**

***Prime minister tells Knesset’s Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Tehran remains country’s most significant foe, Israel fighting Iranian forces constantly***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 4:29 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/F220110OF04.jpg)

*Prime Minister Naftali Bennett attends a Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee meeting at the Knesset in Jerusalem, January 10, 2022. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)*

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett told the Knesset on Monday that the country’s military and other security services were undergoing their largest rearming in years.

Bennett’s comments came as the IDF was working intensively to prepare for a potential military strike on Iran’s nuclear facilities, amid growing concerns that ongoing talks between the world powers and Tehran in Vienna about curbing the latter’s nuclear program may result in an agreement that Israel deems unacceptable, or in no agreement whatsoever.

“We are investing in security rearmament of the IDF and the entire defense establishment. I would say this was rearmament that we haven’t seen for years. This rearmament is important to our survival, and I am very glad about it and am determined to see it through quickly,” Bennett said, speaking to the parliament’s powerful Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Bennett’s government increased the 2022 defense budget to nearly NIS 60 billion ($19.2 billion), a large chunk of which was to be earmarked for planning on military engagement with Iran, including billions to upgrade or procure vehicles, ordnance and more.

In a criticism of his predecessor Benjamin Netanyahu, Bennett claimed the military had been in a “tailspin” for years, which “severely damaged Israeli national security, in every dimension.” Bennett was defense minister under Netanyahu in 2019 and 2020.

Bennett reiterated that Israel will not be party to a nuclear deal with Iran and will do whatever it deems necessary to ensure the country’s security.

“In terms of the Vienna talks, the nuclear talks — we are indeed concerned. It is important for me to say and to clarify here in a way that can’t be misunderstood: Israel is not part of the agreements, Israel is not bound by what is written in the agreements if they are signed, and Israel will continue to ensure its full freedom of operation in any place and at any time, with no limitations,” Bennett said.

The rest of the premier’s remarks were delivered behind closed doors.

This was Bennett’s first appearance as prime minister before the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, a parliamentary body meant to oversee the military, foreign policy and related issues.

In his remarks at the start of the meeting, Bennett told the committee that Iran was “at the top of our list of challenges.”

“Iran is the head of the octopus that sends enemies and proxies and its tentacles at us, on all of our borders. We are dealing — day and light — with Iran and its proxies. We are making a change, moving to a mindset of constant attack and not just constant defense,” he said.

Israel has been engaged in a long-simmering shadow war with Iran for years, mostly through regular airstrikes on Iranian-linked targets in Syria and en route to Syria, as well as occasional attacks — both physical ones and cyber attacks — on Iranian nuclear facilities, according to foreign reports.

Israel has opposed a return to the 2015 deal, instead pushing for negotiators to revamp the accord with stricter restraints on Iran and to address malign activity in the region beyond the nuclear portfolio. Officials have threatened that Israel could take military action to keep Iran from getting a nuclear weapon, even without the support of other nations. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/eyeing-iran-bennett-says-military-undergoing-largest-rearmament-in-years/> [[This should give you an idea of just how serious Israel is with the potential of an Iranian attack. While they keep talking about preparations, I really wonder just how long in the future that may be. I would anticipate that they would have to pre-empt them fairly soon after the ‘conclusion’ of the Vienna talks. – rdb]

***5 arrested on suspicion of assaulting police demolishing West Bank outpost***

***Pair of settlers attach themselves to building at Oz Zion; cops also report clashes at Homesh after illegal building materials confiscated***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:12 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/IMG-20220110-WA0007-e1641830633618.jpg)

A photo released by police on January 10, 2021, shows damage to a security vehicle that was allegedly caused by settlers during clashes with police at the illegal Homesh outpost in the northern West Bank. (Israel Police)

Police on Monday arrested five people on suspicion of assaulting officers during clashes at a wildcat outpost in the West Bank.

The melee, which left two border guards lightly hurt, occurred as Israeli forces demolished a number of illegal structures at Oz Zion, north of Jerusalem. The two received medical care at the scene, according to a police statement.

Police said two settlers barricaded themselves inside one of the buildings, using an unspecified metal device and concrete to attach themselves to the structure. Border Police officers and rescuers from the military’s Home Front Command extracted the pair, from what was described as a “life-threatening” situation, after several hours.

The statement also said a number of olive trees were set alight around Oz Zion during the demolition, sparking a blaze that was extinguished by firefighters called to the area.

According to settlers, two families and several youths lived in Oz Zion. The outpost has previously been evacuated several times, but has repeatedly been repopulated.

Separately, police said settlers blocked a security vehicle taking part in operation to confiscate building materials at Homesh, an illegal outpost in the northern West Bank.

According to police, the settlers caused damage to the vehicle and climbed underneath it, grabbing the wheels to keep troops from driving off in it. They also allegedly blocked the road to Homesh using rocks and a car.

Police said six officers were lightly hurt as they cleared the settlers and were treated on site.

No arrests were announced.

The area around Homesh has become a flashpoint for violence in recent weeks, after Palestinian terrorists last month opened fire on a group of Israeli yeshiva students driving home after a day’s study, killing 25-year-old Yehudah Dimantman. MORE - . <https://www.timesofisrael.com/5-arrested-on-suspicion-of-assaulting-police-demolishing-west-bank-outpost/>

**Meet the SMASH Dragon: An armed drone to take out hostile UAVs airborne**

***With hostile, weaponized drones bringing a whole new assortment of security threats to the forefront, Israeli small arms manufacturer Smart Shooter has released a new armed drone system.***

*By* [*ANNA AHRONHEIM*](https://www.jpost.com/author/anna-ahronheim) *Published: JANUARY 10, 2022 13:11 Updated: JANUARY 10, 2022 18:13*

The SMASH Dragon: An armed drone to take out hostile UAVs airborne. (photo credit: SMART SHOOTER)

With hostile, weaponized drones bringing a whole new assortment of security threats to the forefront, Israeli small arms manufacturer Smart Shooter has released the SMASH Dragon, an armed drone system to accurately hit static and moving targets while flying.

The SMASH Dragon, which incorporates the company’s combat-proven SMASH technology that ensures precision targeting of hostile objects and people, is an advanced robotic weaponry payload that can be mounted on various drones and other unmanned aerial platforms.

The “extremely lightweight” system that is remotely operated has long mission endurance and “integrates a unique stabilization concept” that allows it to hit targets while flying, the company said.  It has sophisticated computer vision capabilities and can be used with various types of assault rifles, sniper rifles, 40mm and other ammunition.

While it is not yet operational, it has successfully completed live-fire tests and is currently under advanced stages of development, it said.

 “Smart Shooter’s SMASH technology offers precise elimination of threats at ground, air, and sea,” said Smart Shooter CEO Michal Mor.

SMASH 2000 fire control system (credit: SMART SHOOTER)

“We are now happy to offer the same precise, combat-proven target engagement technology mounted on an unmanned aerial platform that can be controlled from a distance," he said. "When it comes to drones, platform weight is a critical factor as it impacts mission endurance and cost, and we are proud to announce that the extremely lightweight SMASH Dragon meets this criterion.”

Smart Shooter has various systems, including the [SMASH 2000](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/smash-2000-the-israeli-technology-taking-down-gazan-drones-and-balloons-591778) that gives troops a precision anti-drone system on their weapon with built-in targeting algorithms that can track and hit drones flying at high speed at ranges of up to 120 meters with the first shot.

The company also released a light, remote-controlled weapon station dubbed SMASH Hopper that can be mounted on an armored tactical vehicle and successfully hit moving targets both on the ground and in the air from more than 300 meters away.

Weighing some 15 kg, the SMASH Hopper is a compact and easily deployable system controlled by an operator from a safe distance or from inside a protected vehicle such as the Plasan Re’em Armored Toyota Hilux vehicle, providing a “one one-shot hit” capability.

Like other systems manufactured by Smart Shooter, it features a safe trigger mechanism and offers day and night capability with automatic scanning and target detection. The system can be deployed on various lightweight manned and unmanned vehicles and platforms.

Run by former employees of Rafael Advanced Defense Systems, the combination of simple hardware and advanced image-processing software can effectively turn every soldier with basic weapons into sharpshooters, with the first round out of every rifle hitting its target.

Hezbollah and Hamas have sent drones into Israel and are said to have been working on upgrading their unmanned aerial vehicles  (UAVs) for use in both offensive operations and intelligence gathering.

According to the IDF, Hezbollah has violated Israeli airspace over the past year by sending 74 drones into Israel, a decrease from the 94 drones in 2020, but still an increase from 54 UAVs flown over the border in 2019.

The IDF intercepted a Hezbollah drone last Wednesday. <https://www.jpost.com/business-and-innovation/tech/article-692073> [The weapons advances in Israel are really amazing. – rdb]

**Senior IDF officer pens scathing report against the Israeli military**

***This is not the first time that Col. Alon Madanes has written a scathing report of the IDF.***

*By* [*ANNA AHRONHEIM*](https://www.jpost.com/author/anna-ahronheim) *Published: JANUARY 10, 2022 16:25 Updated: JANUARY 10, 2022 19:05*

A rare report has been released that is highly critical of the IDF, detailing corruption in the military and defense establishment as well as issues with its organizational culture.

The report, titled “Red with shame: On the problem of corruption and values in the IDF,” was written by Col. Alon Madanes and given to IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. [Aviv Kohavi](https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-690320).

According to the Israel Defense news site, the detailed report was divided into three volumes and “deals with suspicions of corruption in the IDF and in the Israeli defense system and industries, operational failures and also with issues related to moral values and a pessimistic organizational culture, including commanders’ fears of expressing independent positions.”

Madanes returned from Washington this past summer when he finished his term as IDF Ground Forces attaché. [If there is one think Madanes could learn in DC is about military corruption because there is a world of it going on in the upper levels in DC. Rdb]

The IDF denied that Kohavi had received the report detailing corruption in the military, saying Madanes wrote “five volumes of professional and unclassified documents” and that the “content deals with the US Army and does not express any criticism against the IDF.”

That document has been distributed throughout the military to Ground Force Command, the Ground Forces attaché office in Washington, the deputy chief of staff and Kohavi.

Madanes “recently met with the chief of staff for a personal meeting,” the IDF said, adding, “We will not elaborate on closed conversations between the chief of staff and his subordinates.”

Israel Defense said the report was written for top brass in a “restricted and censored” way and that Kohavi did not keep the report in his office.

The report comes shortly after the Israel Democracy Institute’s annual survey found public confidence in the IDF has decreased over the past year, with 78% of Jewish Israelis saying they had “very much or quite a lot” of trust in the military in 2021. Public trust in the IDF was 81% in 2020 and 90% in 2019, the report said.

According to the think tank, while the military remains the most trusted institution in the country among Jewish Israelis, the latest survey indicated the lowest level of confidence in the IDF since 2008.

This is [not the first time](https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/leaked-letter-by-senior-idf-officer-hits-hard-at-military-failures-572208) Madanes has written a scathing report about the IDF.

In 2018, as he finished his term as Central Command operations officer, Madanes criticized top brass, saying military procedures had cost too many Israeli lives and that lack of discipline led to the deaths of soldiers.

Calling his last position “the most frustrating and ungrateful position I’ve experienced in my military service,” Madanes said while there are security challenges facing Central Command in the West Bank, the number of soldiers deployed to the area has decreased to a point where the IDF is unable to achieve its goals.

“The assessment of the situation in the command has hardly changed in the last two years,” he wrote. “The territory remains the same territory and the enemy is the same enemy, [but] the number of troops in Central Command is insufficient to meet its missions. In my opinion, too many Israelis have been killed and wounded in the past two years.”

Madanes also said erosion of ethical conduct had taken place, and many soldiers and commanders in the field were “unprofessional” and lacked basic legal knowledge.

“I feel a significant erosion of our ethical conduct as a system and a great lack of discipline,” he wrote.

Madanes wrote the report after he was appointed to be IDF attaché at the Israeli Embassy in Washington. In the opening paragraph he said it was written “out of great concern and with the understanding that we have no other country or military.” <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-692092>

**Israel to begin classifying non-Arab gentile citizens as ‘extended Jewish’**

***Change by statistics bureau to affect over 400,000 Israelis, most of them Russian-speakers not defined as Jewish and non-Arab Christians, who were previously categorized as ‘other’***

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2013/01/F081223YZ05.jpg)*By* [*Tal Schneider*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/tal-schneider/) *Today, 7:25 pm*

Illustrative photo of a man dressed as Santa Claus with a Christmas tree, outside of Jaffa Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem. (Yossi Zamir/Flash90)

Changes to Israel’s census bureau means that citizens will only be classified as Jews or Arabs, with all non-Jews who are not Arab being counted under a new “extended Jewish population” rubric.

The change will see the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) eliminate the separate category of “others” in official publications on demographics, after a request from a Yesh Atid minister who worried the word could put off those included in it.

The “extended Jewish” category will include any citizen who is not Arab and not Jewish according to Jewish religious law. The CBS said it would also classify groups that are neither culturally Jewish nor Arab in the “extended” category.

This means non-Arab Muslims from Israel’s Circassian community will be listed as “extended Jewish,” as will those of other religious denominations who gain citizenship by marrying Israelis, or immigrate under the law of return, which extends citizenship to anyone with a single Jewish grandparent.

Those previously under the “other” designation comprise up to 4.6 percent of the Israeli population.

The new designation is mostly cosmetic and does not affect classifications at the Interior Ministry, which remain unchanged.

The change was made as a result of an appeal by Intelligence Minister Elazar Stern to the chief statistician and director-general of the CBS, Professor Danny Pepperman.

Stern asked for the change after noticing a CBS report in the lead-up to the Jewish New Year in September that listed populations as Jewish, Arab or “other.”

He claimed that Israel had the goal of converting non-Jews who immigrate, and argued that placing them in an “other” category could push them away.  A spokesperson was unable to elaborate.

A person speaking into a microphone

Description automatically generated In December, the CBS Advisory Committee was convened and accepted Stern’s proposal to stop labeling members of the group as “others.”

Intelligence Minister Elazar Stern speaks at a Yesh Atid party conference in Shefayim, on September 22, 2021. (Gili Yaari/Flash90)

At the end of 2020, 415,147 Israelis were categorized under “other.”

For 91.4% of them, no religion was registered in the population registry. The remaining 8.6% were registered as Christian.

According to the data in the population registry, 60.4% of the group are entitled to citizenship under the Law of Return; most of the rest immigrated to Israel as part of a family reunification. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-to-begin-classifying-non-arab-gentile-citizens-as-extended-jewish/>

**Two former PMs clash in court, as Netanyahus sue Olmert for calling them crazy**

***Judge warns sides not to turn case into ‘circus’; Netanyahu lawyer says ‘in another country Olmert would have been arrested’; judge responds: ‘Thank God we’re not in that country’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 11:51 amUpdated at 2:04 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/000_9VV8D8-e1641811161217.jpg)

Former Israeli prime minister Ehud Olmert (L) and former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu (2-R) and his wife Sara, wait in the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court, on 10 January 2022, for a preliminary hearing in the Netanyahus' defamation lawsuit against Olmert, who called them "mentally ill" in interviews. (Avshalom SASSONI / POOL / AFP)

Two former Israeli prime ministers met in the Tel Aviv Magistrate’s Court on Monday as the Netanyahu family’s libel case against Ehud Olmert began.

In attendance were Olmert and his lawyer, as well as Benjamin and Sara Netanyahu, their son Yair and their attorney.

In May, Netanyahu’s family filed a defamation lawsuit against Olmert for calling the then-prime minister, his wife Sara, and eldest son Yair “mentally ill” in interviews.

The suit seeks NIS 837,000 (some $257,000) in damages for Olmert’s “obsessive efforts to harm their good name in public, out of jealously and deep frustration.”

The session ended with the sides refusing to reach a compromise, despite being urged to do so by the judge. At one stage, Olmert was apparently prepared to apologize for his comments, but then balked when it was suggested that the court would set a sum for “compensation,” refusing to countenance the use of that word, Channel 12 news reported. The case will thus continue in court.

Asked by Judge Amit Yariv what he had based his comments on, Olmert said on Monday: “I followed their actions, I heard recordings of the family, I conferred with experts and people who are associated with them and know them well. They described to me behaviors that are popularly seen as abnormal, crazy behavior.”

Netanyahu attorney Yossi Cohen said: “I don’t understand how a man can calmly write that Sara Netanyahu was in a treatment hostel. We don’t have an issue with Mr. Olmert, he’s been through difficult things. But a family is sitting here that in my eyes is one of Israel’s finest, and they have to hear that a former prime minister — who by the way does not have a clean past — calls them mentally ill?”

Olmert served time in prison after he was found guilty of corruption during his time as mayor of Jerusalem, prior to becoming prime minister. Benjamin Netanyahu is now also on trial for alleged corruption while serving as prime minister.

Cohen at one point said that “in another country Olmert would have been arrested” for his comments. To that the judge responded, “Thank God we’re not in that country.”

Olmert’s attorney Amir Titonovich asked for access to medical information on the family. The judge responded that the family’s medical records were not the issue, but rather whether Olmert had a basis for his comments when he made them.

Yariv also said it was “unfortunate that a painful subject such as mental illness is being taken and turned into a circus” in both sides’ submissions to the court.

He suggested that Olmert should “state for the record that his comments were an opinion, and that he does not know whether they are truth or not truth, and that he does not believe this is an issue the court should examine.”

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| [A picture containing suit, person, clothing, person  Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/AP22010326003339.jpg)  Former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his wife Sara stand in the Tel Aviv Magistrate’s Court Monday, Jan. 10, 2022, during a preliminary hearing in a defamation lawsuit. The Netanyahus and their son Yair appeared in the Tel Aviv Magistrate’s court Monday for the opening of their case against Olmert, Netanyahu’s predecessor as prime minister. The Netanyahus are suing Olmert for saying they suffered from “mental illness.” (Avshalom Sassoni/Pool Photo via AP) | A group of men wearing masks  Description automatically generated with low confidence  Former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his son Yair arrive for a court hearing on their lawsuit against former prime minister Ehud Olmert, at the Tel Aviv Magistrate’s Court on January 10, 2022 (Avshalom Sassoni/POOL) |

If Olmert does insist that his comments were true, the judge warned, that will require a higher burden of proof from the defense, which could cause it difficulties.

He added that “both sides should have an interest in not having this turn into a circus. Taking into account the identity of the sides, no matter how much we insist that this is a legal matter, it will turn into a circus. I don’t think that is in either side’s interest.”

Yariv on Sunday reprimanded the Netanyahu family for seeking to skip the session or to have it conducted via videoconference. The family had cited the difficulty of security arrangements in their request to not come to court in person.

Yariv said he expected all three, as plaintiffs, to attend, and warned of consequences should they ignore his directive.

In two separate interviews last year, one with Channel 12 and another with the news site Democrat TV, Olmert leveled criticism at Netanyahu and said that “what is irreparable is the mental illness of the prime minister, his wife, and his son,” referring to Yair Netanyahu.

“They are in need of psychiatric treatment,” Olmert said. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/two-former-pms-clash-in-court-as-netanyahus-sue-olmert-for-calling-them-crazy/> Actually sounds a bit like they are all a bunch of ego filled arrogant children. – rdb]

**Polish envoy to Jews fired after calling Holocaust law ‘one of stupidest ever’**

***Jaroslaw Nowak criticized his own government’s policies on Holocaust remembrance in an interview with UK’s Jewish News***

*By* [*AP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ap/) *Today, 3:19 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/sdadsadsacascs.jpg)

Jaroslaw Nowak, the Polish government's envoy for Jewish relations, was fired after calling a Holocaust speech law passed by his country's ruling party as 'stupid.' (video screenshot)

WARSAW, Poland — A Polish diplomat charged with improving contacts with Jews worldwide has been fired after he criticized his own government’s approach to regulating Holocaust speech, the Foreign Ministry said Monday.

Jaroslaw Nowak, the plenipotentiary for contacts with the Jewish diaspora, described a Holocaust speech law passed by his country’s ruling party as “stupid,” in [an interview](https://www.jewishnews.co.uk/polands-envoy-for-jews-says-its-holocaust-law-is-stupid-jaroslaw-marek-nowak/) last week with Jewish News, a weekly newspaper published in the UK.

Nowak also said Poland should pass a law on property restitution, a statement implying further criticism of the ruling authorities, who recently passed a law cutting off the chances for restitution or compensation for those who had properties seized by the communists. Among those affected are Holocaust survivors and their heirs.

This law has led to [a crisis in ties](https://www.timesofisrael.com/poland-downgrades-mission-to-israel-says-it-wont-return-ambassador/) with Israel, whose leaders have sharply criticized the legislation.

Nowak said he believed that Poland would at some point “have to do something about” restitution.

Foreign Minister Zbigniew Rau fired Nowak on Saturday, the ministry spokesman, Lukasz Jasina, announced Monday on Twitter. He didn’t give a reason.

The development comes days after Poland recalled its new ambassador to Prague after that diplomat criticized his own country in an interview — in that case, in relation to Poland’s approach to a dispute with the Czech Republic over a state-run coal mine. Ambassador Miroslaw Jasinski spoke of “arrogance” on the Polish side, something the government spokesman called “extremely irresponsible.”

Nowak’s dismissal followed him telling Jewish News that he believed legislation passed in 2018 seeking to ban certain statements about Poland and the Holocaust “is one of the stupidest amendments that was ever done by any law.”

The legislation sought to fight  claims that Poland, a victim of Nazi Germany, bore responsibility for the Holocaust. The law outraged Israel, where many felt it was an attempt to whitewash the fact that some Poles did kill Jews during the German occupation during World War II.

The legislation originally called for prison terms of up to three years for falsely attributing German crimes to Poland. It was later amended to remove the criminal provisions, as part of a compromise deal with Jerusalem.

Nowak has been involved in Polish-Jewish dialogue since the 1980s. He became the plenipotentiary for contacts with the Jewish diaspora in July. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/polish-envoy-to-jews-fired-after-calling-holocaust-law-one-of-stupidest-ever/>

**Bennett speaks with Hungary’s Orban for first time**

***“It is my privilege to reconfirm our commitment to the safety and security of Israel and our support for Israel against the biased and unfair approach in the international arena,” Orban wrote.***

*By* [*LAHAV HARKOV*](https://www.jpost.com/author/lahav-harkov) *Published: JANUARY 10, 2022 20:41 Updated: JANUARY 10, 2022 21:43*

Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban (photo credit: REUTERS)

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett and Hungarian President Viktor [Orban](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/netanyahu-meets-czech-hungarian-pms-to-discuss-vaccine-research-661709) spoke on the phone for the first time on Monday.

Bennett thanked Orban for his strong support for Israel.

The sides agreed to continue cooperation between their countries and to stay in contact, the Prime Minister’s Office stated.

Orban penned a letter to Bennett in June, wishing him congratulations on becoming prime minister.

“It is my privilege to reconfirm our commitment to the safety and security of Israel and our support for Israel against biased and unfair approaches in the international arena,” Orban wrote. “The close cooperation between Hungary and Israel was solidified in the past years, and I look forward to continuing that with your newly established government.”

Former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu cultivated ties with Visegrad countries – Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia – and had an enthusiastic partner in Orban, under whom Hungary vetoed EU statements that were critical of Israel.

Orban has championed “[illiberal democracy](https://www.jpost.com/international/hungary-pm-orban-says-he-will-not-allow-lgbtq-activists-into-schools-673232),” while Foreign Minister Yair Lapid has sought to emphasize that Israel is a liberal democracy and align it with like-minded countries. Lapid also criticized Orban when the foreign minister was an opposition lawmaker.

However, Lapid was set to visit Budapest last year to meet with his Hungarian counterpart. The trip was canceled because of the efforts to free the Israeli couple jailed in Turkey for photographing a presidential residence. <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-692123>

**Israel to donate 500,000 dollars to Afghan refugees**

***Foreign Ministry approves first official Israeli aid to Afghan refugees, who fled Taliban rule after U.S. pullout, to provide health care, sanitation, shelter, education, food, and professional training***

*Itamar Eichner | Published: 01.10.22, 19:55*

Foreign Minister Yair Lapid approved Monday a $500,000 donation to help Afghan refugees who fled to neighboring Tajikistan following the United States' withdrawal from Afghanistan and Taliban takeover.

This is the first time Isreal addresses the issue in an official capacity, and the funds are expected to be transferred through The United Nations Refugee Agency.

So far, Israeli aid to Afghan refugees has been provided through nonprofits such as IsraAID, which funded rescue flights for Afghan refugees.

[The Ultra-Orthodox Borough Park community in New York also aided the Afghan refugees](https://www.ynetnews.com/article/by5pwysdk) by providing countless food packages stamped with the words “With love from the Jewish community.”

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| מחנה פליטים ב מחוז בגדיס ב אפגניסטן בעיר הבירה המחוזית קלעה נאו אוקטובר  Afghan refugees fleeing the Taliban (Photo: AFP) | יותם פוליצר, מנכ"ל ארגון ישראייד בכניסה למטוס החילוץ לפליטים אפגנים  IsraAID rescue airplane (Photo: Boaz Erez) |

According to the Foreign Ministry, the donation is intended to integrate with other international aid efforts in order to provide health care, sanitation, shelter, education, food, and professional training for refugees.

"Israel is proud to be a part of an international effort to assist refugees fleeing the Taliban regime in Afghanistan", Foreign Ministry Director-General Alon Ushpiz. "This cooperation with the UN organization for refugees, through our agency for International Development Cooperation Mashav, is the core of Israel's values." <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/bylbc3f2t>

**Fresh Sheikh Jarrah eviction threatens to roil capital anew**

***Eleven Palestinians set to be removed by new owner, a Jerusalem city councilmember; police have asked to delay eviction until end of the month***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 11:46 pm*

Eight months after East Jerusalem eviction battles helped touch off a war between Israel and Hamas, another Palestinian family is set to be removed from their home in Sheikh Jarrah as of early next month.  
 Fatima Salem, 69, said that she has lived in the two-story home her entire life. Salem later raised her children and grandchildren in the compound, in which eleven family members now live.  
 “I was born here and we stayed here my whole life. Now, they’re coming to us and telling us that it’s theirs,” Salem said in an interview in late December.  
 Salem has been served an eviction notice by her home’s new owner, hard-right Jerusalem city councilmember Yonatan Yosef. Originally scheduled for the end of December, police have now asked for a flexible eviction order for between late January and early February.  
 Sheikh Jarrah, which some Jewish Israelis call Shimon HaTzadik or Nahalat Shimon, has long been one of Jerusalem’s tensest neighborhoods. Palestinians live alongside a small cluster of right-wing Jewish nationalists who moved in following complex eviction cases.  
 Yosef’s grandfather, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef — who would later become Israel’s chief Sephardic rabbi — served as a cantor for the small Jewish community in the neighborhood in the 1930s. The small community persisted until 1948, when, fearing for their lives, they fled advancing Arab forces during the battle for Jerusalem.  
 “This place rightfully belongs to Jews, and I’m acting according to the law,” said Yosef, who previously lived in a different house in the neighborhood and served as the Jewish community’s unofficial spokesperson. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/fresh-sheikh-jarrah-eviction-threatens-to-roil-capital-anew/>

**Medical tech firm MeMed nabs $93m investment to decode body’s immune responses**

***Company’s BV blood test to distinguish between bacterial and viral infections recently cleared by FDA; investors include Hong Kong’s Horizons Ventures***

*By* [*Ricky Ben-David*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ricky-ben-david/) *Today, 2:21 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/09/MeMed-key-credit-by-memd-e1632135865777.jpg)

MeMed Diagnostics founders Dr. Kfir Oved and Dr. Eran Eden. (Courtesy)

Israel’s [MeMed Diagnostics](https://www.me-med.com/), a Haifa-based medical tech firm that develops diagnostic solutions to [monitor](https://www.timesofisrael.com/memed-gets-9-2-million-contract-from-us-dod-arm/) the body’s immune state, raised $93 million in a private financing round to help commercialize its tools, the company said Monday.

The investment brings MeMed’s total raised capital to over $200 million with investors such as Hong Kong-based Horizons Ventures, the investment company of business magnate Sir Li Ka-shing; Jerusalem’s Shavit Capital; Paris-based La Maison Partners; Israeli insurance giants Clal Insurance and Phoenix Insurance; and Poalim Equity.

The Israeli company recently [received US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 510(k) clearance](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israels-memed-gets-fda-approval-for-breakthrough-infection-test/) for a blood test, MeMed BV, that is able to distinguish between bacterial and viral infections in adults and children.

MeMed also developed a [COVID-19 Severity test](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-test-tells-covid-patients-their-chance-of-deterioration-on-0-100-scale/) that the company says can provide an early indication of deterioration and predict further disease progression and recovery. The test received a CE mark last summer and is cleared for use in Europe.

Dr. Eran Eden, co-founder and CEO of MeMed, said the new investment will allow MeMed to expand its operations with a focus on the US, where the company [previously worked](https://www.timesofisrael.com/memed-gets-9-2-million-contract-from-us-dod-arm/) with the US Department of Defense

Patrick Zhang, an investor at Horizons Ventures, said the company strongly believes “that MeMed’s strategy of using host-immune response technologies is a significant advance in the improvement of two major issues in healthcare today: the rise of antimicrobial resistance due to unnecessary prescription of antibiotics and effectively triaging patients infected with COVID-19.”

“We look forward to playing a role in how MeMed, a category leader in this area, is transforming the way diseases are diagnosed and treated to improve patient healthcare across the globe,” he added.

Distinguishing between bacterial and viral origins in acute infections is a growing challenge for health care providers and may significantly alter the trajectory of patient care, Eden previously [explained to The Times of Israel](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israels-memed-gets-fda-approval-for-breakthrough-infection-test/)

A group of people posing for a photo

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The team at Israeli host response company MeMed Diagnostics. (MeMed) Failing to recognize the trigger of infection may lead to the inappropriate use of antibiotics, which contributes to the growing global threat posed by antimicrobial resistance (AMR). This occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites adapt over time, making infections more difficult to treat. As a result, proven medicines become ineffective.

The World Health Organization declared AMR as [one of the top 10 global public health threats](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/antimicrobial-resistance#:~:text=Key%20facts,public%20health%20threats%20facing%20humanity.) facing humanity in recent years.

Eden said the FDA clearance for the test was a “breakthrough moment in the field of advanced host-response.”

“So in a clinical scenario, let’s say you go to the doctor with your child who is sick with fever. Often the clinical question is whether they have a bacterial or viral infection, and do you treat it with antibiotics or not. Often bacterial and viral infections can be clinically indistinguishable and there’s a lot of uncertainty, and this uncertainty leads to overuse of antibiotics. And that, in turn, leads to antimicrobial resistance, one of the biggest healthcare challenges of our time,” he explained.

The purpose of the test is “to tell the physician whether the body is waging a war on bacteria or on a virus, and simply whether to treat with antibiotics or not,” added Eden. “Antibiotics, or, practically, chicken soup.”

The clearance allows the company to apply the technology for any type of suspected acute infection, so whether it’s the sniffles, coughs, upper respiratory infection or lower respiratory infection, urinal tract infections, systemic infection, and so on. It’s very, very broad.”

He emphasized that the MeMed BV test does not “replace clinical judgment” but acts as a critical support tool to help physicians make distinctions between infections: “At the end of the day, this [test] comes together with clinical judgment to make better-informed decisions. It’s an important piece of the puzzle.”

A picture containing text, electronics

Description automatically generated

MeMed’s analyzer is a ‘point of need’ testing device to find out quickly whether an infection is viral or bacterial (Courtesy)

The FDA clearance was based on a multi-center blinded clinical validation study enrolling over 1,000 children and adults. The test provides accurate results with Area Under the Curve (AUC, an [indication](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3152796/) that provides information on the extent of exposure to a drug and its clearance rate from the body) of 90 percent and 97% (primary and secondary endpoints), MeMed said.

The idea behind MeMed was first conceived over a decade ago by Eden and Dr. Kfir Oved, both of whom studied at the Technion – Institute of Technology and had completed academic work together, exploring complex behaviors of the immune systems.

“One of the things we immediately thought about was why not take advantage of the immune response of the patient to differentiate between bacterial and viral diseases that may be present. And by doing so, be able to basically eliminate one of the most significant drivers of antibiotics overuse, which is viral infections that are misdiagnosed,” Oved told The Times of Israel in September.

“This is probably the responsible entity of about 80 percent of the overuse of antibiotics.”

Once the problem was outlined, MeMed was founded in 2009. Over the past 12 years, it developed a wide IP portfolio on applications related to the immune response to infectious disease. The company has offices in Haifa and Boston. [*https://www.timesofisrael.com/medical-tech-firm-memed-nabs-93m-investment-to-decode-bodys-immune-responses/*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/medical-tech-firm-memed-nabs-93m-investment-to-decode-bodys-immune-responses/)

**Pfizer CEO questions whether 4th dose of COVID vaccine needed**

***‘That’s something that needs to be tested,’ Albert Bourla says as Israel gives extra boosters to at-risk groups; adds that inoculation adapted to Omicron will be ready in March***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 8:44 pm*

The CEO of Pfizer on Monday said it’s not clear if a fourth dose of his company’s COVID-19 vaccine is necessary, but predicted that an Omicron specific version of the shot would be available by March.

Albert Bourla told CNBC that more evidence was needed on a fourth dose before it is known whether it offers more protection from the coronavirus, even though Israel is already two weeks into a campaign to distribute extra boosters to the elderly, at-risk, and medical workers.

“I don’t know if there’s a need for a fourth booster, that’s something that needs to be tested, and I know Israel has already started some of these experiments and we will also conduct some of these experiments to make sure that if needed, we use it,” Bourla said.

“I don’t think we should do anything that is not needed.”

Following the emergence of the Omicron variant of coronavirus, which has shown an ability to break through other vaccine defense, Israel started offering fourth vaccine shots to people 60 and over, medical workers and those who are immunosuppressed.

Last week, Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said the fourth Pfizer-BioNTech dose causes a significant boost in antibodies within a week after taking it, citing interim data from Israel’s study on the matter among medical workers at one hospital.

Since the trial at Sheba Medical Center began in late December, there is no data on whether the number of antibodies maintains itself over time after the first week, or whether the antibodies provide better protection against catching — or developing serious illness from — Omicron.

Sheba’s trial program, which began with 150 medical staff being given the shot, is many times smaller than normal drug trials, which usually involve thousands of volunteers whose results are tracked for months. But it is also the only known study of the effects of a fourth dose, with Israel pinning hopes that the extra booster may help keep the variant from overwhelming hospitals and shutting down normal life.

National coronavirus czar Salman Zarka has acknowledged that little is known about the fourth dose, but urged those eligible to get it anyway. [In the above article they are talking about overuse of antibiotics, what about overuse of JABBS that have not been demonstrated to be effective in preventing the disease or its spread. This is just nuts. – rdb]

As of Sunday, over a quarter million Israelis were reported to have received a fourth vaccine dose.

Chile on Monday joined Israel in distributing fourth shots. The country is only giving the shot to immunocompromised until early February, when it will open to those age 55 and older .

Bourla did not specify if his reservations over administering a fourth dose of the current vaccine was due to Pfizer’s development of a shot adapted to Omicron, which he said the United States pharmaceutical firm will soon be ready to widely distribute.

“This vaccine will be ready in March,” he said in the CNBC interview. “We [are] already starting manufacturing some of these quantities.”

“The hope is that we will achieve something that will have way, way better protection particularly against infections, because the protection against the hospitalizations and the severe disease — it is reasonable right now, with the current vaccines, as long as you are having let’s say the third dose,” he added.

Bourla first announced in November that Pfizer was working on a vaccine against Omicron, which studies have indicated is better able to evade the protection from vaccines than previous coronavirus strains.

Pfizer has said its vaccine is “[still effective](https://www.timesofisrael.com/pfizer-says-three-doses-of-its-covid-vaccine-protect-against-omicron/)” against Omicron after three doses.

Other COVID vaccine makers have also started working on updating their shots amid signs they are less effective at protecting against Omicron. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/pfizer-ceo-questions-whether-4th-dose-of-covid-vaccine-needed/>

**Finance minister denies businesses suffering from COVID policies, rules out aid**

***Liberman says he checked the numbers and 2021 has been the best year of the century economically; Lapid admits government has made mistakes, but says money for handouts limited***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:08 pm*

Finance Minister Avigdor Liberman on Monday rebuffed a business community seeking government compensation for steep losses due to COVID-19 policies, dismissing complaints as unfounded and warning that there would be no large rescue packages.

At the same time, Foreign Minister Yair Lapid also hinted that government pandemic aid would be limited, while admitting that ministers have made mistakes in their handling of the most recent wave of infections.

Israel has seen record-breaking infection numbers met with a rollback of rules meant to curb the spread of the coronavirus, and many have complained about ephemeral policies regarding testing, quarantines, entry restrictions and schools that seem to change in a constant and confusing manner.

Speaking at his Yisrael Beytenu party’s weekly faction meeting, Liberman said recent complaints by business owners that government policies had hurt their bottom lines were unfounded.  
 On Sunday, the Association of Retail Chains said that over the past week its members had seen a 50 percent drop in revenue and demanded government aid, according to a Channel 12 News report.  
 Liberman rejected the assessment, saying he had checked the figures, that shopping mall owners made NIS 2.6 billion ($825 million) in the first three quarters of 2021, and that the fourth quarter will just add to their profits. [One would really have to question Liberman’s assessment of this. If you have an economy that is heavily dependent on tourism and you have shut down the borders and tourism for over a year that is a direct assault on the entire economy and every type of merchant’s bottom line. – rdb]  
 He claimed 2021 is “the best year in the 21st century from an economic point of view.”  
 Liberman said the government has shown that it is “attentive and understanding” when necessary and that those who merit assistance get it, but stressed that he will make his decisions “only on the basis of economic considerations” and not “populist or electoral considerations.”  
 The finance minister’s attitude to the impact of health rules on businesses has caused outrage in the past. Last month, he upset tour guides, whose industry has been brought almost to a standstill by travel restriction, when he told a cabinet meeting that they should find other jobs.  
 Later in the month, he drew criticism from health officials after he said that the highly contagious Omicron variant which is driving the current wave of infections is “no worse than flu.”  
 Lapid admitted that mistakes have been made in the government’s response to the current COVID-19 wave and that the government wants to compensate businesses harmed by the pandemic’s fallout, but can only do so much.  
 “We won’t abandon businesses that were harmed, we will ensure compensation, but the government doesn’t have unlimited money,” he said.  
 Lapid’s office released a statement with the remarks, which were originally planned to be made at the outset of the Yesh Atid faction meeting. But Lapid has entered quarantine after coming in contact with a COVID-19 patient, causing the faction meeting to be canceled. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/finance-minister-denies-businesses-suffering-from-covid-policies-rejects-aid/>

**State watchdog to probe Israel's pandemic response**

***Coronavirus czar defends new testing policy, saying that no country dealing with Omicron can answer for infection influx, adds Israel must bear through 3-5 more weeks***

*Adir Yanko | Published: 01.10.22, 18:58*

State Comptroller Matanyahu Englman announced Monday that his office will probe the government's management of the coronavirus pandemic and its decision-making during the current and previous infection waves.

During a tour of Galilee Medical Center in Nahariya, Englman said he will also inspect the country's testing apparatus, vaccination drive and procurement policy.

 Separately, coronavirus czar Prof. Salman Zarka defended [the new testing policy](https://www.ynetnews.com/health_science/article/skrlpgx3k), which saw the more accurate PCR tests earmarked for those over the age of 60 and at high risk from the virus, explaining that no country dealing with the highly infectious Omicron variant "can reasonably test every suspected carrier with PCRs."

His comments came after [Health Ministry Director-General Prof. Nachman ash](https://www.ynetnews.com/health_science/article/hkinxok3t) rebuffed widespread criticism leveled at his ministry over the new testing policy.

Coronavirus czar Prof. Salman Zarka (Photo: Yair Sagi)

"The number of cases is on the rise and unfortunately the peak is still ahead of us," he told a press conference. "But we have the ability to defend ourselves and go through the next three to five weeks in peace."

Zarka once again called on Israelis to get vaccinated, noting that the Delta strain also continues to spread throughout the country and that the vaccine is also effective against both infection and serious illness.

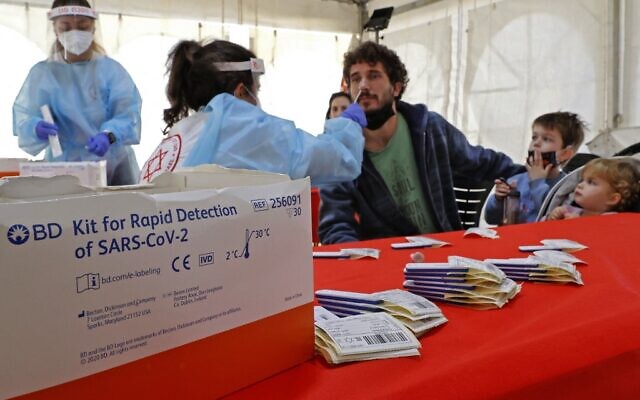
Israel on Monday reported a [new record number of single-day COVID-19 cases](https://www.ynetnews.com/health_science/article/bkumfuk2f) as Omicron continues to surge across the country with massive force.

The Health Ministry said 21,501 Israelis have tested positive for coronavirus out of some 175,000 tests carried out on Sunday, the highest daily leap since the beginning of the pandemic, putting the country's positivity rate at 12.31%. <https://www.ynetnews.com/health_science/article/hj11hzatny>

**Officials scramble to iron out COVID testing kinks amid questions over antigen kits**

***Virus czar admits two tests on market not always accurate, Bennett reportedly seeking 50 million kits in 10 days as frustration over new rules mounts***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 9:58 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/000_9VW4FA.jpg)

A paramedic collects a swab sample at the Magen David Adom COVID-19 rapid coronavirus testing center in the Israeli coastal city of Tel Aviv, on January 10, 2022. (Jack Guez/AFP)

Virus czar Prof. Salman Zarka admitted Monday that some rapid antigen tests on the Israeli market are significantly less accurate at detecting the coronavirus, as officials were reportedly set to reconsider the government’s new testing policies, put in place just days earlier.

Israel over the weekend began authorizing at-home antigen test kits, looking to relieve the strain at overcrowded testing centers by restricting PCR testing to only certain at-risk individuals. But voters have complained of confusing rules, out of pocket expenses for the tests and inconstant accuracy from the tests.

On Sunday, Channel 12 News reported that the Infectious Diseases Research Laboratory at Sheba Medical Center, the country’s leading virus testing laboratory, had last week determined that of the six home test antigen kits being sold in Israel, two are ten times less likely to identify an Omicron carrier than the others.

The station identified the two kits as being manufactured by BD and Standard.

The laboratory report has still not been officially released, though it is in the hands of the Health Ministry. But in the wake of the Channel 12 revelation, Zarka admitted at a press briefing that during an initial assessment of the kits, which has still not been completed, “we saw differences between the kits.”

He declined to go into any details saying “we are committed to not present the details in the media but to the [manufacturing] companies” and then hear their response.

Several media reports have shown low accuracy rates for home tests. A Channel 13 reporter who contracted COVID showed viewers that a home test swabbed from his nostril showed him as negative, but a test which used a mouth swab correctly identified the infection.

Similarly, Channel 12 news said of 10 volunteers who took home tests after testing positive on PCR, only five were correctly flagged by the rapid antigen tests, which are known to be less accurate.

Zarka said that neither of the two kits in question are being used at antigen testing stations as the stocks have run out, but according to Channel 12 they are still available for purchase by the public in pharmacies. One of the kits had been used until just days earlier by the Magen David Adom ambulance service at its official testing stations.

He recommended that those who think they are infected with COVID or are exposed to a known carrier wait two to three days to take a home test rather than doing it immediately in order to increase its accuracy.

But the switch to home tests has also led to a run on the kits, with drugstores running out and many turning to delivery service Wolt. Prime Minister Naftali Bennett is reportedly seeking to bring in 50 million tests within 10 days, enough for every citizen five times over, Channel 12 news reported.

However, ministry officials clarified that at best they can obtain 15 million in that time frame. At a meeting Monday to discuss the matter, the Defense Ministry offered to take up the slack and use its resources to obtain the necessary kits, including backchannels and planes flying from various destinations, according to the report.

Zarka told the conference that the government was also planning to add 40 new testing centers, bringing the total nationwide up to 300.

There has been growing public dissatisfaction with the government’s handling of the outbreak, with frustration over the frequently changing testing and quarantine rules, and a lack of compensation to businesses.

Nearly two-thirds of the public is displeased, according to a poll by Channel 12. Sixty-three percent of the Israeli public said it views the government’s handling of the omicron crisis as bad, as opposed to 34% who said they thought the crisis was being managed well. That’s up from 54% disapproval in August.

Amid the outcry, the government is reportedly weighing reversing the new policy to limit PCR tests while having the general public take less-accurate antigen tests.

Under the current testing regulations, which were introduced last Friday, those who are over 60 or at high risk are prioritized at PCR testing stations. Those who are under 60 and fully vaccinated are encouraged to conduct a rapid antigen test, either at home or at a testing station, if they are exposed to a confirmed coronavirus carrier. However, unvaccinated people must use antigen testing centers for all their tests, and since the change, test centers have been flooded with people coming to get tested. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/officials-scramble-to-iron-out-covid-testing-kinks-amid-questions-over-antigen-kits/> [The PCR tests will give you lots of false positives because of the way it is designed. It was never designed to diagnose a disease. – rdb]

**After 'Death to America' chant, Iranian athletes want to cancel wrestling match**

***An organization of world-class Iranian athletes is urging USA Wrestling to cancel a February match with Iran's squad after "Death to America" chants.***

*By* [*BENJAMIN WEINTHAL*](https://www.jpost.com/author/benjamin-weinthal) *Published: JANUARY 10, 2022 20:55 Updated: JANUARY 10, 2022 21:05*



A portrait of Iranian wrestler Navid Afkari during a demonstration on the Dam Square in Amsterdam, Sept. 13, 2020. (photo credit: EVERT ELZINGA/ANP/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES)

An organization of Olympic and world-class Iranian athletes urged USA Wrestling to pull the plug on its slated February wrestling dual meet with the Islamic Republic's squad after Tehran's wrestling federation called for the violent death of America.

The move, made on Sunday, also follows Iran's ban on female wrestling. One of the members of the organization is including the former head coach of Iran’s Greco-Roman wrestling team.

*The Jerusalem Post* obtained a copy of the letter sent by the Iranian athletic and human rights organization United for Navid to the executive director of USA Wrestling, Rich Bender.

“USA Wrestling is inviting an organization [Iran’s Wrestling Federation] whose leadership rejoices in chanting ‘Death to America’ in front of TV cameras and encourages others to do the same, if not more," wrote the former head of Iran's Greco-Roman wrestling team, Sardar Pashaei and manager of the Iranian athletic NGO United for Navid. MORE - <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-692125>

**Recent Disease Spreads in China With “Ebola-Like Hemorrhagic Fever Virus” (VIDEO)**

[11 hours ago](https://contentrealtime.com/2022/01/recent-disease-spreads-in-china-with-ebola-like-hemorrhagic-fever-virus-video/)

Dr. Robert Malone connected Steve Bannon pa [War Room](https://warroom.org/) to discuss the recent virus epidemic in China. The communist regime hides what is happening and the spread of the disease.

This is of concern to many experts including Dr. Malone is the originator of the mRNA vaccine. Dr. Malone today told War Room listeners that they are hearing of a disease spreading in China that they say is spreading “Ebola virus like hemorrhagic fever.” The government is hiding the reality of the disease from people and the world – As in the past!

Today it exists [5.5 million people died](https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/) (and counting) from the last Chinese plague.

Now we might be talking about **“Ebola virus like hemorrhagic fever.”**

**Dr. Malone:** “They are using the term ‘virus’ as the virus that causes hemorrhagic fever. If so, then it would be strange if this could be caused by Coronavirus. “Most people are afraid of the development of the Ebola virus, which is spreading rapidly like hemorrhagic fever, but we do not know whether this is happening or not.” MORE - <https://contentrealtime.com/2022/01/recent-disease-spreads-in-china-with-ebola-like-hemorrhagic-fever-virus-video/>

**Pfizer CEO: 2 shots 'offer very limited protection, if any'**

***Admits mRNA vaccines don't have 'the safety profile that we hoped' for***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published January 10, 2022 at 4:18pm*

Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla acknowledged Monday that two doses of the vaccine his company produces with BioNTech "offer very limited protection, if any" against the dominant omicron variant.

Adding a third dose, he said in an interview with Yahoo Finance, provides "reasonable protection against hospitalization and deaths."

"Against death, very good (protection), and less protection against infection," the Pfizer chief added.

In a separate interview Monday, [with CNBC](https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/pfizer-ceo-2-shots-offer-limited-protection/%E2%80%9Chttps:/podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/p%20izers-omicron-vaccine-sec-chairs-2022-goals-novaks/id1480890290?i=1000547441860%E2%80%9D), Bourla said the current COVID-19 mRNA vaccines "don’t have the safety profile that we hoped we can achieve with this technology." [the purpose of clinical trials is to determine the safety and efficacy of of a drug. They gave obviously either very incomplete or inaccurate (aka LIES) to the FDA who colluded with them and they all made big bucks at the populations expense This is essentially an ongoing clinical trial using the world’s population as guinea pigs against the lows of the Nuremburg code. From a lot of further investigation it also has the appearance of an intentional genocide and depopulation attempt as a side benefit if not the primary reason. – rdb]

He said the pharmaceutical giant is working on a new vaccine "that will cover omicron as well."

Bourla told Yahoo Finance "we are awaiting the final results" of clinical trials, but "it will be ready in March."

However, the latest data indicate the omicron may already have peaked in some areas, including in New York City, one month after the first case was identified, [Bloomberg News reported Monday](https://t.co/apgx1hhtge).

*See Bourla's remarks:*

In November, as [WND reported](https://www.wnd.com/2021/11/4959502/), Bourla complained that people were spreading "misinformation" about the vaccines, calling them "criminals" who have cost "millions of lives."

Bourla made the claim amid concern expressed by members of FDA and CDC advisory panels that safety data for children regarding Pfizer's COVID vaccine is lacking.

Hours before a CDC panel's approval in November of the Pfizer vaccine for children 5-11, [the British Medical Journal published an article featuring a whistleblower's charge](https://www.wnd.com/2021/11/pfizer-falsified-data-vaccine-trial-whistleblower-charges/) that poor practices at a contract research company helping to carry out the crucial third phase of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine trial may have compromised data integrity and patient safety.

The FDA approved the Pfizer shot for kids one week after an FDA advisory panel [voted 17-0, with one abstention, to recommended it](https://www.wnd.com/2021/10/fda-panel-approves-pfizer-shot-children-age-5-11/), despite acknowledging the lack of safety data and the nearly 100% survival rate for children from infection.

During the FDA advisory committee meeting, Dr. Eric Rubin, editor-in-chief of the New England Journal of Medicine, expressed the concern of many members about possible severe side effects that cannot yet be measured. He concluded, nevertheless, there was no other way forward.

"We're never going to learn about how safe the vaccine is unless we start giving it," he said. "That's just the way it goes."

Last October, [three Pfizer scientists were captured on hidden camera in a Project Veritas investigation](https://www.wnd.com/2021/10/4950625/) admitting, contrary to the claims of Dr. Anthony Fauci and other public health officials, that natural immunity is superior to the immunity afforded from COVID vaccines.

[Project Veritas interviewed an employee of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](https://www.wnd.com/2021/09/evil-highest-level-hhs-whistleblower-claims-massive-cover-vaccine-risks/) who secretly recorded colleagues voicing alarm about the safety of the vaccines. She alleged a cover-up of "evil at the highest level." In [another investigation by Project Veritas](https://www.projectveritas.com/news/johnson-and-johnson-children-dont-need-the-f-cking-covid-vaccine-because/)[,](https://www.wnd.com/2021/09/evil-highest-level-hhs-whistleblower-claims-massive-cover-vaccine-risks/) two Johnson & Johnson officials said children don't need the vaccine and it poses the risk of "unknown repercussions down the road."

Pfizer scientist Rahul Khanke said employees are "bred and taught" to insist that the "vaccine is safer than actually getting COVID." He said "we cannot talk about this" in public. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/pfizer-ceo-2-shots-offer-limited-protection/> [These people are murderous criminal because there are many deaths from these JABBS and they should never have been approved. There should be hundreds of indictments and trials for them. – rdb]

**CDC Director: Up to 40% of those in hospital with COVID there for other reasons**

***OAN Newsroom UPDATED 9:17 AM PT – Monday, January 10, 2022***

CDC Director Rochelle Wallensky said the agency will release the distinction between those who died from COVID and those who died with COVID. During an [interview](https://twitter.com/disclosetv/status/1480207649807507458?s=21) on Sunday, she was pressed on how many of the more than 800,000 deaths linked to COVID, died from the virus or other comorbidities.

CDC is reporting increasing pediatric COVID hospitalizations, but critical to break numbers down. Between our 2 pediatric hospitals in SF and Oakland, 30% of COVID+ hospitalizations are for COVID illness, and 70% are incidental. 6 kids hospitalized b/c of COVID today at UCSF.

— Dr. Jeanne Noble (@JeanneNoble18) [January 8, 2022](https://twitter.com/JeanneNoble18/status/1479626143976230912?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

MORE - <https://www.oann.com/cdc-director-up-to-40-of-those-in-hospital-with-covid-there-for-other-reasons/> [More criminal behaviors and lies from these GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES. Berlieve NOTHING that comes from the CDC or FDA or NIH. They are all terminally compromised and not to be believed. – rdb]

**Key takeaways from first day of US-Russia European security talks**

*10 Jan, 2022 21:38*

***Both sides consider question of NATO expansion non-negotiable, but from opposite perspectives***

The US and Russia are no closer to resolving their strategic impasse after talks in Switzerland, with Washington refusing any limitations on NATO expansion and Moscow insisting the bloc must “never” include Ukraine and Georgia.

The encounter in Geneva between US Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman and Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov lasted for more than seven hours on Monday. Its main focus was a proposal Moscow sent to the US last month, and made public on December 17, insisting on curbing NATO’s further expansion and deployment of offensive weapons on Russian borders.

*“ For us, it’s absolutely mandatory to make sure that Ukraine never ever becomes a member of NATO,”* Ryabkov told reporters on Monday. The same goes for the former Soviet republic of Georgia, he added. Moscow’s non-negotiable demand is that NATO change its 2008 platform that opened the door for membership to the two countries, the diplomat added.

The US is open to discussing the placement of its missiles in Europe and the size and scope of NATO military exercises on the continent, but any limits on NATO’s enlargement are a *“non-starter,”* Sherman told reporters in a separate press conference.

Washington *“will not allow anyone to slam closed the door to NATO membership to anyone,”* she said.

Instead, she focused on Ukraine, which the US has claimed is under threat of a Russian “invasio*n.”* Sherman said Russia must withdraw troops allegedly amassed on Ukraine’s border in a *“de-escalation”* move, and listed financial and other sanctions the US is prepared to levy on Moscow if an invasion occurs.

Ryabkov told reporters he patiently explained to his colleague that there are no plans to “invade” Ukraine, and never have been. Russia is training its troops on its own sovereign territory and there is no basis for describing that as an *“escalation,”*he outlined. As for sanctions, he said the West has *“lost the art of dealmaking”* and been reduced to threats of sanctions and ultimatums. Russia, on the other hand, has simply laid its cards on the table and is willing to discuss things openly.

The Americans came prepared to listen to Russian proposals, but have failed to understand the gravity of the situation or the key issues that need to be resolved, Ryabkov said. Without legally binding assurances on NATO, nothing else matters, he explained.

As for Ukraine, it’s up to Kiev to abide by the terms of the Minsk Agreement and the UN resolution that endorsed it, and guarantee civil rights to Russian-speaking citizens in disputed eastern regions, Ryabkov added.

There is still a chance the two sides could reach an agreement. Ryabkov and Sherman will meet again on Wednesday in an expanded format involving NATO representatives, and again on Thursday within the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on January 13. <https://www.rt.com/russia/545620-geneva-us-talks-outcome/> [Watch this very carefully because this could well turn into WWIII and it could be nuclear. – rdb]

**Poll reveals Americans’ biggest concern – and it's not Covid**

***New survey suggests economic woes are continuing to overtake fears of the coronavirus pandemic in the US***

*11 Jan, 2022 00:01* A shrinking number of Americans name Covid-19 among their top concerns, according to recent polling, which indicates greater worry over a lagging economy and four decade-high price inflation than the ongoing health crisis.  
 Published on Monday, a new [poll](https://apnews.com/article/coronavirus-pandemic-joe-biden-business-health-elections-bb16c5c52e2bf719ec8a0c5415aaf66c) conducted by the Associated Press and the NORC Center for Public Affairs Research showed that just 37% of those surveyed list the virus as one of their top five priorities for government policy this year, down from 53% in 2021.   
 Though concerns about the economy didn’t change much from last year, a sizable 68% still named the issue as one of their top five for 2022, while those who specifically cited inflation rose much more sharply over the same period, from about 1% to 14%.  
 As of last November, consumer prices were up 6.8% compared to the year prior, a [39-year high](https://apnews.com/article/business-economy-prices-inflation-e5b8ab50495920c7c6c4d8cf98aaebe5), according to the AP. The steep price hikes corresponded with a jump in the number of Americans who list their cost of living and household finances as a major priority for government, or 24% in Monday’s poll compared to just 12% last year.   
 Immigration also saw an uptick over the last 12 months, with 32% listing it as a top concern in a 14-point jump from 2021, while *“gun issues”* similarly rose by 19 points over the same time period. *“Other health care”* matters beyond Covid-19, as well as *“racism”* and *“racial inequality,”* fell by 11 and nine points, respectively.  
 The survey included 1,089 respondents and was conducted between December 2 and 7 – after the rise of the Omicron strain, suggesting that concerns over the virus are falling even as the latest ‘variant of concern’ designated by the World Health Organization quickly makes the rounds in the US and elsewhere.   
 In follow-up interviews, moreover, many of those surveyed said more recent news about Omicron did not change their opinions regarding the pandemic, the AP reported, noting that the group includes *“self-identified Democrats.”* [*https://www.rt.com/news/545634-americans-covid-inflation-poll/*](https://www.rt.com/news/545634-americans-covid-inflation-poll/)

**First US state to offer universal healthcare**

***Illegal immigrants would also be covered under a measure proposed by California Democrats***

*10 Jan, 2022 21:40*

California would become the first US state to offer health insurance for all – including migrants inside the country illegally – under a new budget proposal revealed by Governor Gavin Newsom, a Democrat.  
 *“Here’s the big one: California is poised to be, if this proposal is supported, the first state in the country to achieve universal access to health coverage,”* Newsom said at a press conference on Monday, unveiling his ‘California Blueprint’ [proposal](https://www.gov.ca.gov/2022/01/10/governor-newsom-releases-california-blueprint-to-take-on-the-states-greatest-existential-threats-and-build-on-historic-progress/) for the 2022-23 budget.  
 This would mean *“full-scope Medi-Cal, including long-term care, IHSS [In-Home Supportive Services], and behavioral health to all low-income Californians, regardless of immigration status,”* he explained.  
 California already provides health insurance to some immigrants who are in the state illegally. Those 26 and under have been covered since 2019, and those 55 and older since last year. Newsom’s proposal would extend coverage to everyone by January 2024.  
 It is likely to pass in the state legislature, which has a Democrat supermajority. Last week, a group of progressive Democrats proposed not just universal health insurance but a single-payer state system, funded by steep tax increases.  
 *“I have long believed it is inevitable in this nation,”* Newsom said when asked about a single-payer system.  
 California expected a budget shortfall due to the impact of Covid-19 lockdowns, but ended up with a surplus ranging from $31 billion to $45.7 billion, depending on the accounting method. Newsom’s $286.4 billion budget seeks to spend the extra cash within the year.  
 Newsom’s proposal comes just a day after a law giving an estimated 800,000 noncitizens the right to vote in New York City’s local elections went into effect. The newly sworn in Mayor Eric Adams, a Democrat, declined to veto the proposal on Sunday.  
 Under the law, anyone who has lived in the city for at least a month will be able to vote for the mayor, borough president and city council members, but not in state or federal elections. It was unclear how New York City would enforce the distinction, however. <https://www.rt.com/news/545629-california-illegal-immigrant-health/> Absolute insanity rdb

**'I vet them no different than I vet a terrorist': how the US tracked and blackmailed journalists**

***An investigation has shed light on how journalists were vetted and threatened by a customs agent supposedly looking into forced labor, but actually seeking leaks related to President Trump and his alleged collusion with Russia.***

***10 Jan, 2022 13:32***

“*It was almost 10pm on a Thursday night, and Ali Watkins was walking around the capital following instructions texted by a stranger. One message instructed her to walk through an abandoned parking lot near Washington, DC’s Dupont Circle, and then wait at a laundromat. Then came a final cryptic instruction: She was to enter an unmarked door on Connecticut Avenue leading to a hidden bar.*

“*The Sheppard, an upscale speakeasy, was so dimly lit it was sometimes hard to see the menu, let alone a stranger at the bar. But amid the red velvet upholstery, Watkins, then a reporter at Politico, almost immediately spotted the man she was supposed to meet: He was wearing a corduroy blazer and jeans and had a distinctive gap between his teeth.*

“‘*I won’t tell you my name, but I work for the US government,’ he said, according to her account later provided to government investigators.*”

Thus began a long story recently published on [Yahoo](https://news.yahoo.com/operation-whistle-pig-inside-the-secret-cbp-unit-with-no-rules-that-investigates-americans-100000147.html) about a spy operation on members of the press that took place during the time of the Trump administration, which eventually ensnared members of Congress, in an effort to sniff out governmental leaks related to the former president’s alleged collusion with Russia. This, of course, was a claim reported as fact repeatedly by the media, but ultimately never established in the Mueller Investigation report.

Watkins’ meeting was part of a rogue dragnet operation that expanded to involve more than one government agency and ultimately pried into the workings and personal lives of as many as 20 journalists, some of whom had dug up stories on the administration’s failings.

These revelations emerged just before a similar story in which the White House ensnared two members of Congress and several staffers, who claim to have been wrongfully targeted. Details make it appear the rogue spy operation may have fed into that as well, and a number of US news organizations are now demanding answers.

Watkins, a rising star who had gone from Huffington Post to Buzzfeed to Politico during the investigation, agreed to the meeting at the pub, hoping to chat with a member of government who would be a potential source of information.

It turned out the man was more interested in gaining information about her than in providing any. Later, Watkins would say of the meeting that she “*was deeply troubled at the lengths CBP [Customs and Border Protection] and DHS [Department of Homeland Security] personnel apparently went to try and identify journalistic sources and dig into my personal life. It was chilling.”*

Watkins noted the man seemed to know an awful lot about her, including details of her travels and companionship. Their four-hour meeting changed both of their lives. Her married boyfriend, James Wolfe – who worked on Capitol Hill – was sentenced to two months in prison for lying to the FBI about his relationships with reporters, though Watkins denied Wolfe had ever shared any information with her during their involvement.

As for the mysterious man at the bar? Articles that came out later said Jeffrey Rambo was a rogue actor at DHS during the Trump administration who had taken it upon himself to pursue leaks for glory. Rambo worked in the Customs and Border Protection [CBP] division where lax rules routinely allowed agents to use secret databases to gain information without warrants.

Rambo maintains he operated within the law, and told Yahoo, *“​​I’m being accused of blackmailing a journalist and trying to sign her up as an FBI informant… because of misinformation reported by the news media.*”

He was, he claims, assigned to investigate illegal forced labor and came across Watkins when he was looking for journalists who reported on labor abuses. Rambo says he was merely vetting her as a potential reliable source of info. He hoped she could connect him to other journalists or people inside government with knowledge of illegal forced labor.

“*There is no specific guidance on how to vet someone,”* Rambo later told investigators*. “In terms of policy and procedure… there’s no policy and procedure on vetting.*”

Rambo is an example of a government agent pulling a dragnet through government databases, looking at the private lives, including the romantic relationships, of US citizens under no suspicion of criminal activity to see what he could unearth.

Hugh Handeyside, an attorney at the American Civil Liberties National Security Project, warned Yahoo, “*When agencies give their employees access to this ocean of information, especially without training or rigorous oversight, the potential for abuse goes through the roof.*”

But Rambo does not agree that any abuse occurred: “*When a name comes across your desk, you run it through every system you have access to. All of the things that led up to my interest in Ali Watkins were standard practice of… what we did and probably what’s still done to this day.*”

***Everything is connected from the top down***

Rambo’s division prided itself in “out-of-the-box” thinking. His supervisor, Dan White, intentionally created a loose atmosphere, calling his team “WOLF,” an acronym for “Way Out in Left Field.” As he described it, “*We are pushing the limits and so there is no norm… no guidelines. We are the ones making the guideline*.”

CBP’s investigation into labor abuses came directly from the secretary of Homeland Security above White, because the CBD believed China was mining cobalt in the Democratic Republic of the Congo using forced labor. US customs was looking for unfair practices to assist Trump’s trade war with China, and Rambo was tasked with leading an operation to investigate that particular situation.

The plan was to use information he gathered to sanction companies under the Tariff Act of 1930. He was given a free hand but was told to vet everyone he used as a source (which is how he came to vet Watkins). Among those he vetted was Martha Mendoza, a Pulitzer Prize-winning Associated Press reporter who specifically covered forced labor, yet it was Watkins who snagged his undivided attention because of her writing on purported [Russian spying operations](https://www.politico.com/story/2017/06/01/russia-spies-espionage-trump-239003), a topic of great interest to the Trump administration (and Congress) at that time.

AP [responded](https://apnews.com/article/business-arts-and-entertainment-journalists-alejandro-mayorkas-congress-e5f5531a2c4e28157dd652bad0905d8f), “*We are deeply concerned about this apparent abuse of power. This appears to be an example of journalists being targeted for simply doing their jobs, which is a violation of the First Amendment.”*

Explaining his interest in Watkins, Rambo told Yahoothat she “*was, for lack of a better word, the hot-topic reporter at the time.”* While that may be true, she had never covered Rambo’s assigned area of interest. The question that ensnared his operation later was whether Rambo was really just “vetting” Watkins, or whether he was seeking an opportunity to help the Trump administration find leaks?

Rambo explained to investigators later on that he focused on Watkins only because he wanted to identify journalists who could help him publish stories that would allow him to “overstate” US enforcement capabilities, believing these would cause shippers to alter their routes, showing the government which ones were involved in illegal activities*.* If true, this went well beyond his mission mandate of finding sources for intel on illegal labor.

The Senate Finance Committee, which oversees CBP, was in the dark on its work on forced labor and, so, unaware of how Rambo’s research had morphed into tracking down leaks for the Trump administration.

Keith Chu, spokesman for Senator Ron Wyden, chair of the Senate Finance Committee, was stunned that Customs would ever have any involvement in pursuing leak investigations.

“*I can tell you at minimum that is an overexuberant interpretation,”* he said. *“CBP does not conduct psychological ops or misinformation campaigns. CBP is* not *a member of the intelligence community. CBP does not have the authorities to do those kinds of things.*”

Rambo believed otherwise. “*Vet the reporters you use*,” he said his boss had told him. “‘*Vet them through our systems.’ I vet them no different than I vet a terrorist. When you say vet someone, you vet them. There’s no parameters on what that means.”*

***Connecting the dots***

What happened next went beyond any sense of parameters as he conducted his own “vetting” without warrants, using government databases to identify Watkins’ family members. And something caught his attention in that process; she was flying to Cuba with the head of security for the Senate Intelligence Committee, who turned out to be her boyfriend, Wolfe. Rambo now had a theory that he was supplying Watkins with access to information from the Senate committee in exchange for a relationship. MUCH MORE - <https://www.rt.com/news/543905-us-tracked-journalists-trump/> [This is another example of the federal agencies going rogue and doing anything they want for their own purposes. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**Hey Dems, We Got Your Election Reforms Right Here**[*Kurt Schlichter*](https://townhall.com/columnists/kurtschlichter/) *Posted: Jan 10, 2022 12:01 AM* As shocking as it may seem, the Democrats are right about something for once. Even a broken clock is right twice a day; even Eric Swalwell occasionally mates with someone who is not a Chi Com spy, shutting her eyes tight and doing her booty duty for Beijing. The Dems are right that we need election reform to save our democracy. I propose that we change how we conduct elections, good and hard.  
 Now, the Democrats have a very different objective in reforming the election system than we do. They seek to make it easier for lazy and stupid people to vote. This is perfectly reasonable, considering that the indolent and idiotic make up key components of the Democrat coalition. Further, they want to flood the system with unaccountable votes in order to allow themselves to cheat. In this way, they can steal wins where otherwise voters would reject them for their incompetence, corruption, and general tiresomeness.  
 But we patriots have a different goal. We want election security, and we also want to make it more difficult for bums and morons to participate in our electoral system. The Dems complain that we would make it harder to vote. Guilty as charged! Voting should be a minor inconvenience in order to screen out the lay-abouts and mouth-breathers who find getting up off their stained, stinking couches, wiping the Doritos detritus off their Linkin Park t-shirts, and taking the bus to the polling station too much of a hassle.  
 Obviously, causing fewer duds and dummies to cast ballots will hurt the Democrats. Good. We want to hurt the Democrats. These communist-curious hacks should not be allowed within a parsec of power, and if we can make it harder for them to steal an election, good.  
 Democrats have their “voting rights” bill to facilitate a federal takeover of the election system because they believe that with the Democrat bureaucrats – is there any other kind? – in DC in charge, they will never lose another election. Considering that their standard-bearer is a desiccated old pervert who has the approval rating of a Lincoln Project babysitter, they have reason to worry that free and fair elections will repudiate the hell out of them in 2022 and 2024.   
 That’s why they want to cheat. There’s the bottom line – they want to steal elections and not be troubled by obstacles like clean voter rolls and basic ballot security measures. Ballot harvesting? How could having randos collecting Santa bags of ballots go wrong? It couldn’t not go wrong, and they are counting on that.  
 And then there’s voter ID, which merely 74% of Americans supported [in a recent poll](https://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/568385-poll-finds-growing-support-for-voter-id-requirements). There’s pretty much nothing else in American society that 74% of us agree on, except for mourning Betty White and that Brian Stelter is a potato.  
 The contortions they go through to explain why voter ID is racist and sexist and transphobic and causes climate change is kind of hilarious. It’s so transparently a ploy to make it easier to cheat that you have to give them credit for maintaining straight faces when crying about it. If we had a free media instead of a regime media, the Dem pols might get asked the obvious question, which is “Why do you think minorities are too stupid to get ID cards?” Or they might get asked “Why is it so hard that it is racist to require citizens to show a driver’s license to vote, yet not so hard that it is racist to require citizens to show a driver’s license and also to go get several shots and then to show yet another document, the vaccine passport, before they can sit down to eat a Whopper in a Burger King?”  
 The answer is, of course, that you are racist for asking such questions.  
 Our patriot voter reforms, in contrast, recognize the primacy of electoral security and the idea that if it’s too much trouble to vote, you will probably be voting for some leftist tool anyway. Here are the key components of our “Voting Freedom Initiative”:  
 Picture voter ID both to register and to vote. If you are too dumb to get an ID, you should be licking windows instead of casting ballots.  
 No same day registration. There’s no way to confirm your identity the same day you sign up.  
 One day voting, on Election Day. If it’s too much trouble to vote on Election Day, don’t.  
 In-person voting. If you are deployed with the military or in an iron lung, you can vote absentee. Everyone else shows up in-person. Only absentee ballots arriving by 5 pm on election day get counted.  
 No ballot harvesting. That nonsense ends.  
 Paper ballots only. We want an audit trail.  
 No ballots not counted within 12 hours of the polls closing get counted. We’re done with dumps and “found” ballots.  
 Every vote gets counted in public with lots of observers. Total transparency.  
 Large urban centers must report votes first. This makes it hard for Democrat pols to know how many ballots to find.  
 No changes to election laws or procedures within 180 days of the election. That gives time for us to litigate the scams.  
 These reforms would horrify the Democrats because they would make Democrat losers less likely to vote and complicate Democrat cheating. Those are features, not bugs.  
 And we also need some electoral reforms as a party. The 2020 election was lost, in large part, because the Republican Party completely stomped on its Schumer by failing to adequately fight out its legal challenges to the many unlawful rule changes decreed before election day. I got to Nevada right after Election Day and the GOP had one lawyer on the ground – one. That cannot happen again. Further, the Dems had a major law firm (Perkins Coie) with expertise and resources up and running everywhere. The Republicans did not have a big firm and that killed us – Democrat partners at big law firms refused to allow the big firms to join the fight. We need to create a big GOP law firm devoted to election warfare. It should have top notch litigators (and support staff) just waiting for election season; in the meantime, the firm can sustain itself on regular litigation. It does not even need donations – GOP-oriented businesses can give it a slice of their regular legal work to keep it going between elections. The next time the GOP asks you for a donation, ask them for their 2022/2024 lawfare game plan before you write a check.  
 Yes, our election system needs reform. It is too easy both to cheat and for cretins to vote. Later, we can move onto other innovative reforms, like voter IQ tests. Then, pretty soon, the Democrats will never win an election again. <https://townhall.com/columnists/kurtschlichter/2022/01/10/hey-dems-we-got-your-election-reforms-right-here-n2601597>

**Predicting 2022 – China's Year of the Tiger***by* [*Pete Hoekstra*](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Pete+Hoekstra) *January 10, 2022 at 5:00 am* According to the Chinese calendar, 2022 is the Year of the Tiger. 2022 is the year where America finally goes big against China. China will also go big against the U.S. and Taiwan. Here are the developments that will push America to confront China's malign and dangerous behavior and, in an upcoming article, those that will push China to go big.  
 Most likely, 2022 will finally be the wake-up call Americans need. For too long, American government and business leaders have sat quietly and allowed China and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to run roughshod over our nation and our values. In 2001, politicians such as President George W. Bush [welcomed China](https://www.upi.com/Top_News/2001/11/11/Bush-praises-China-inclusion-in-WTO/39941005511087/) into the World Trade Organization and promised that not only would it benefit global trade, but strengthen China's adherence to the rule of law and that China would "introduce certain civil reforms." At this point, it is clear that things have not turned out quite that way.  
 There are signs that Americans are finally waking-up to the multitude of threats emanating from China. Americans are struggling through the omicron wave and year three of the coronavirus that originated in Wuhan, China. By covering up the human-to-human transmissibility of the virus, China has already killed [more than 800,000](https://ourworldindata.org/coronavirus-data) of our fellow countrymen. Americans are [frustrated and angry](https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2020/10/06/unfavorable-views-of-china-reach-historic-highs-in-many-countries/) that instead of being forthcoming about the virus, China's regime hid it while hoarding medical supplies and personal protective equipment, and [insisting](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/blogs/Whathappensif/how-china-locked-down-internally-for-covid-19-but-pushed-foreign-travel/) that their citizens travel and spread the virus abroad. More and more of Americans' anger is being [targeted](https://www.npr.org/2020/09/23/913650298/as-u-s-views-of-china-grow-more-negative-chinese-support-for-their-government-ri) towards the Chinese Communist Party, which has attempted to deflect blame and make baseless accusations against America and the West. New revelations about the CCP's complicity in the global spread of the virus can only worsen the situation.  
 A [July 2021 poll](https://www.politico.com/news/2021/07/09/poll-covid-wuhan-lab-leak-498847) by Harvard and *Politico* shows that a majority of Americans, including majorities of both Republicans and Democrats, believe that the virus escaped, probably accidentally, from a Chinese laboratory. In March 2020, only 29% of Americans had believed this. While the U.S. is deeply divided politically on most issues, the bipartisan agreement that a Chinese government laboratory with military ties is responsible for the COVID pandemic demonstrates that on the most serious issue impacting America, political partisans on both sides of the aisle see the CCP as the root cause of the catastrophe that, more than two years later, is still devastating their lives.  
 In addition, both Republicans and Democrats believe, after watching China's repeated refusal (eg: [here](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/05/china-blocks-entry-to-who-team-studying-covids-origins) and [here](https://www.chiangraitimes.com/opinion/chinese-regimes-lack-of-transparency-on-coronavirus/)) to allow any investigation into the origins of its virus, that China's regime has been less than transparent in sharing what it knew -- and knows -- about the virus. House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., [stated](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9601553/House-Republicans-say-significant-circumstantial-evidence-COVID-leaked-Wuhan-lab.html):  
 "Beijing's continued obstruction of a transparent, comprehensive examination of the relevant facts and data about the source of the coronavirus can only delay the vital work ..."  
 The White House and Republican House members also have [called jointly](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9601553/House-Republicans-say-significant-circumstantial-evidence-COVID-leaked-Wuhan-lab.html) for more transparency and sharing of information -- further indicating bipartisan agreement about the lack of transparency by the Chinese government.  
 As Americans see the large number of container ships waiting off the West Coast to unload cargo, they realize that much of the material on those ships comes from China. The reasonable question they are increasingly asking is, why is America doing business with a country that our own government says practices [genocide](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/20/world/asia/china-genocide-uighurs-explained.html) and [steals](https://www.natlawreview.com/article/department-justice-s-national-security-division-chief-addresses-china-s-campaign-to) U.S. intellectual property and jobs?  
 China's standing in the U.S. is [eroding](https://www.wsj.com/articles/americans-negative-views-on-china-spike-polls-show-11614870001) rapidly, American companies are [moving out](https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/companies/american-and-other-western-companies-moving-out-of-china/ss-AALmIl7) of China, and in the upcoming election year, China will be a central focus of the political landscape. From 2020 to 2021 the [number of Americans](https://news.gallup.com/poll/337457/new-high-perceptions-china-greatest-enemy.aspx) who see China as the greatest threat to America doubled, from 22% to 45%. A whopping 63% of Americans see China's economic power as a threat. In 2018, that number was only 40%. As these views span the American political spectrum, it is worth noting that US President Joe Biden, right before Christmas, [signed into law](https://www.cnn.com/2021/12/23/business/biden-bans-xinjiang-imports-china-intl-hnk/index.html) the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, approved by a voice vote in the Senate and by a 428-to-1 margin in the House. This law will prevent the importation of goods and products produced in China's Xinjiang region unless it can be proved they were not made with forced labor.  
 American politicians will not be the only target of the American public. They also will target American companies that worship at the altar of sales and profits from China. They will demand that companies respond to the Chinese Communist Party's genocide in Xinjiang, political repression in Hong Kong, and threats against Taiwan.  
 American politicians typically lag behind where the American people are. America's politicians will therefore need to go big against China or in November of 2022, their constituents will send them home. Politicians will go big as they seek to one-up each other as to who is the strongest against China, both through their rhetoric and votes on legislation that confront China's dysfunctional behavior. President Donald Trump and the America First agenda may have triggered much of this shift the last few years, but both Republicans and Democrats will embrace it in 2022. In the Year of the Tiger, America will go big against China.  
 *Peter Hoekstra was US Ambassador to the Netherlands during the Trump administration. He served 18 years in the U.S. House of Representatives representing the second district of Michigan and served as Chairman and Ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee. He is currently Chairman of the Center for Security Policy Board of Advisors.*  
<https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18085/china-year-of-the-tiger>   
   
**Advanced Managing of the American People***By* [*Guest Writer*](https://newswithviews.com/author/guest/)*|January 10th, 2022 By Paul Engel* Does Congress have the legitimate power to enact any legislation they think is necessary?  
 Can Congress legitimately pass a law that requires car manufacturers to search your person without probable cause?  
 What happened to holding the guilty responsible for their actions rather than the innocent?  
 Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution is the Necessary and Proper Clause.  
 *To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.*  
**U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 18**  
 Does that mean Congress can pass any law which they think is necessary and proper? Enter the new law, H.R.3684 – Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. In Section 24220. Congress “finds” it necessary to require new cars to include drunk and impaired driving technology. The question we should all ask: Is that a power vested in the government of the United States?  
 I’m sure there are plenty of Americans out there who think requiring technology be put in cars to prevent drunk driving is necessary. Let me remind you of what William Pitt (the Younger) said:  
 *Necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom. It is the argument of tyrants; it is the creed of slaves.”*  
***William Pitt (the Younger), Speech in the House of Commons, November 18, 1783***  
 Like most Americans, I think operating a two-ton machine while impaired is dangerous and irresponsible. Does that mean it’s within the power of the federal government to impose their opinion of how best to deal with this problem on the the American people? It’s not a question of whether the technology is good or bad or even if this is a viable method of reducing drunk driving. Instead, it’s a question whether the federal government has the legitimate power to do so.  
 Congress’ Reasoning  
 Congress found several reasons why they should pass such legislation.  
 *(a) Findings.–Congress finds that–  
(1) alcohol-impaired driving fatalities represent approximately  
\1/3\ of all highway fatalities in the United States each year;  
(2) in 2019, there were 10,142 alcohol-impaired driving  
fatalities in the United States involving drivers with a blood  
alcohol concentration level of .08 or higher, and 68 percent of the  
crashes that resulted in those fatalities involved a driver with a  
blood alcohol concentration level of .15 or higher;  
(3) the estimated economic cost for alcohol-impaired driving in  
2010 was $44,000,000,000;  
(4) according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety,  
advanced drunk and impaired driving prevention technology can  
prevent more than 9,400 alcohol-impaired driving fatalities  
annually; and  
(5) to ensure the prevention of alcohol-impaired driving  
fatalities, advanced drunk and impaired driving prevention  
technology must be standard equipment in all new passenger motor  
vehicles.*  
[**H.R. 3684**](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684/text) **§24220**  
 Let’s assume that the first four statements are true. Does that mean Congress has the legal authority to tell car manufacturers that certain technology must be included in their products? Does Congress have the legal authority to tell the American people they must have and pay for this technology in their property, whether they want it or not? Where do property rights, liberty, and responsibility come into play?  
 Property and Liberty  
 *No person shall … be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law;*  
***U.S. Constitution, Amendment V***  
 In H.R. 3684 Congress once again is taking control of your property. When you purchase a vehicle, it’s your property. This legislation claims to allow the United States to further take control of that property by defining what technology must be in it. Furthermore, it claims the power to restrain your ability to purchase a vehicle without this technology. In his 1828 dictionary, Noah Webster defined liberty this way:  
 *Freedom from restraint, in a general sense, and applicable to the body, or to the will or mind. …*  
 *Civilliberty is the liberty of men in a state of society, or natural liberty so far only abridged and restrained, as is necessary and expedient for the safety and interest of the society, state or nation. A restraint of natural liberty not necessary or expedient for the public, is tyranny or oppression.*  
[**LIBERTY – Webster’s 1828 Dictionary**](http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/liberty)  
 You may be asking yourself what this has to do with drunk driving laws? If civil liberty is the state of society where you can live free, where the only restraints allowed are those necessary to the safety and interest of society, then we need to ask if section 24220 of the H.R. 3684 necessary for the safety of society?  
 Driving while impaired is not only a danger to the driver, but to anyone else around them. Therefore, a law punishing the act is necessary to the safety and interests of society and not a violation of one’s liberty. Does that, however, extend to the new vehicle requirements in H.R. 3684?  
 The primary purpose of the *advanced drunk and impaired driving technology* described in H.R. 3684 is to prevent the driver from driving while impaired. In other words, it’s an attempt to save the driver from him or herself, which then, by extension, makes society safer. Like any technology, it will not be 100% effective. Meaning there will be times when an impaired driver will not be stopped by this technology and other times when it will prevent a non-impaired driver from using their property. Not to mention the likelihood that there will be people who will find ways to defeat the new technology or simply purchase older cars that do not include it. It imposes a restraint on all citizens as a punishment for the actions of a few. If drunk, impaired driving is as dangerous as Congress says though, why not require this type of technology? Put another way, if you have nothing to hide, why oppose this legislation?  
 The answer is simple: Although I have nothing to hide, I have everything to protect. Impaired driving prevention technology has been available for years, and has been required as a punishment for those convicted of a crime. On the other hand, this legislation treats everyone as guilty, requiring they prove that they are not drunk without any probable cause. It deprives them of the liberty to not have to deal with or pay for technology without due process of law. It also deprives them of control of their property without due process of law. In the end, this makes it a violation of the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.  
 Commerce Clause  
 Congress claims the power to legislate motor vehicle safety standards under the Commerce Clause.  
 *To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;*  
**U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 — Commerce Clause**  
 Since most vehicles sold in the United States are manufactured either outside of the country, or within a handful of states, the car you drive was most likely sold over state lines. Hence, Congress claims the authority to “regulate” any aspect of motor vehicles. Was that what the Framers of the Constitution meant by regulating commerce?  
 *To subject to rules or restrictions; as, to regulate trade; to regulate diet.*  
[**REGULATE – Webster’s 1828 Dictionary**](http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/regulate)  
 This legislation, and indeed most of Title 49, regulate the product, not the commerce of the product. Can the regulation of commerce legally be used to violate the civil liberty of the American people?  
 Conclusion  
 I have to admit, this law posed a conundrum for me. My first instinct is to oppose it simply because, once again, we see Congress telling the American people how to live their lives. There are parallels between Section 24220 in H.R. 3684 and legislation such as fuel mileage, helmet, and seat belt laws that, while well intentioned, violate the rights of motor vehicle operators everywhere. On the other hand, drunk and impaired driving is a danger to others in society, which brings into question if it is a violation of civil liberty. I believe those who drive while intoxicated or impaired should be held accountable for the damage they do. I’m also in favor of sentences for drunk or impaired driving that require some sort of prevention system for the guilty. However, is the just response to treat everyone as a drunk driver until they prove otherwise?  
 Did our Founding Fathers imagine the Commerce Clause to be used not to simply to regulate commerce across state and national borders, but as an excuse to regulate anything that goes across these borders? Regulation of transportation is not a power delegated to the United States, so it remains with the states or the people. Yet Congress claims the power to regulate motor vehicle safety simply because the majority of those vehicles were, at some point, sold across state lines.  
 With all of the reports about stricter laws and harsher penalties regarding drunk or impaired driving, is Congress meddling in something that’s already being dealt with at the state level? And what about innovation? H.R. 3684 looks to passively monitor the performance of the driver. There are already technologies available to do so and more in development, from lane diversion and obstacle alerts, to monitoring the drivers eyes for attentiveness. While some of these technologies are available in modern cars, some are not ready yet. So I *f* the Secretary of Transportation is allowed to pick which systems will be approved, we’ll have no idea how many other technologies will not see the light of day. All because Congress thinks they know better that the states and the American people. If history is any guide, the people who wish to drink and drive will outsmart any ideas Congress can come up with.  
 Which brings me back to William Pitt (the Younger)  
 *Necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom. It is the argument of tyrants; it is the creed of slaves.”*  
***William Pitt (the Younger), Speech in the House of Commons, November 18, 1783***  
 The argument of Congress that this must be done to keep people safe, is just another tyrannical attempt to punishing the innocent for the crimes of the guilty. And while I believe the drunk driver should be punished for the harm they do, I am not willing to enslave myself to government simply because they say so. <https://newswithviews.com/advanced-managing-of-the-american-people/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Earthquake in Cyprus also felt in Israel**

***Magnitude 6.4 earthquake which hit Cyprus also felt in Israel. No reports of injuries or damages.***

*Elad Benari ט' בשבט תשפ"ב 03:31 11.01.22*

An earthquake that occurred in Cyprus overnight Monday was also felt in Israel.

The European Mediterranean Seismological Centre (EMSC) said the quake measured at 6.4 on the Richter scale and was at a depth of 2 km (1.24 miles).

The earthquake was felt throughout Israel, including in Tel Aviv, Be'er Sheva, Jerusalem, Haifa and Rehovot. There are no reports of injuries or damages at this time.

The Israel Police said that "a magnitude 6.4 earthquake occurred recently in the Cyprus area. The quake was felt in various areas around the country. Dozens of calls were recorded at 100 hotlines. There is no tsunami warning."

In late December, [an earthquake measuring 5.7](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/319472) hit Greece and was also felt in Israel. There were no reports of injuries or damages.

In October, [an earthquake in the eastern Mediterranean](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/315308) was felt across Israel.

According to the Geodynamics Institute of the National Observatory in Athens, the earthquake struck at a depth of 58 kilometers some 127 kilometers southeast of the island of Karpathos. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320236>

**North Korea fires suspected ballistic missile**

***Japan and South Korea say North Korea fired an unidentified projectile off its east coast.***

*Elad Benari ט' בשבט תשפ"ב 01:05 11.01.22*

North Korea has launched what could be a ballistic missile, Japan’s Coast Guard said early on Tuesday (local time), according to *The Guardian*.

South Korea’s military also reported that North Korea had fired an unidentified projectile off its east coast.

The incident marks the second time in recent days that North Korea has fired a missile. Last week, [Pyongyang said](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/319947) it had test fired a "hypersonic missile" that successfully hit a target.

Last Wednesday’s launch was the first by North Korea since October and [was detected by several militaries](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/319872) in the region, drawing criticism from governments in the United States, South Korea, and Japan.

The US State Department said the test violated multiple UN Security Council Resolutions and poses a threat to North Korea's neighbors and the international community.

North Korea regularly launches ballistic missiles and had a series of such tests in late 2021, the most recent of which was in October when it test-fired [a new ballistic missile from a submarine](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/315362). MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320234>

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**01/10/2022 NEWS**

**A Menorah Like You Have Never Seen –**

**A Lighting Through the Ages of Ancient Lamps**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7oPwADaTKOg**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7oPwADaTKOg)

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| **"Corruption is no stranger to Washington; it is a famous resident." -- Walter Goodman (1927-2002) American author, journalist, television critic** |

**Read the Prophets & PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!**

**That is the only hope for this nation!**

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| **Please**  **Remember**  **These**  **Folks**  **In**  **Prayer-**  **Check often**  **They**  **Change!** | **Pray that the world would WAKE UP! Time for a worldwide repentance!**  **ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world**  **Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.**  **Pray for CB – Heart attack with stent.**  **Pray for TH - Knee and Blood pressure problems.**  **Pray for J P– sick with flu bad episode 5 years ago**  **Pray for EL – Had clot embolized to brain – successful ‘clot buster’ but long road to go.**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 3:4And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said: 'Moses, Moses.' And he said: 'Here am I.' 5And He said: 'Draw not nigh hither; put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.' 6Moreover He said: 'I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

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| **Mortality / Morbidity analysis of JAB by lot number – Please Watch!**  **Reiner Fuellmich: “New Findings… Enough to Dismantle the Entire (VAX) Industry!” – There Is No Pandemic**  [**https://thereisnopandemic.net/2022/01/03/reiner-fuellmich-new-findings-enough-to-dismantle-the-entire-vax-industry/**](https://thereisnopandemic.net/2022/01/03/reiner-fuellmich-new-findings-enough-to-dismantle-the-entire-vax-industry/)    **Targeted Genocide: Deadly Vax Lot Numbers Identified**  [**https://www.brighteon.com/cc47526e-aadb-46db-adc7-7372f2dcdc1f**](https://www.brighteon.com/cc47526e-aadb-46db-adc7-7372f2dcdc1f)  **Morgan Wallace, RN BSN CCRN AGAC-NP slays it at NHCS School Board Meeting 1/4/22**  [**https://www.bitchute.com/video/SIgUnnncYK2W/**](https://www.bitchute.com/video/SIgUnnncYK2W/)  **David Martin Explains Why Forced Vaccinations Are ILLEGAL Under U.S. Law!**  [**https://rumble.com/vs9jrz-david-martin-explains-why-forced-vaccinations-are-illegal-under-u.s.-law.html**](https://rumble.com/vs9jrz-david-martin-explains-why-forced-vaccinations-are-illegal-under-u.s.-law.html)  **Dr. David Martin | Exposing the Coup D'Etat & the Plot to Steal America**  [**https://rumble.com/vql4ow-dr.-martin.html**](https://rumble.com/vql4ow-dr.-martin.html) |

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| Year end ETBPF Report for 2021  Thanks to the faithful support from a number of our readers, ETBPF has be blessed to be able to provide aid and assistance to a number of wonderful groups in Israel that are providing needed and lifesaving services to the people of Israel. All of these groups have been very carefully vetted for their financial accountability and focus on providing essential needs for the Israeli people. They are all aware that most of this support is from the Christian community and they are extremely grateful for our help and support. The included groups are:  Lev U’Neshama – helping with the many needs of those in Tzfadt  [www.levuneshama.com](http://www.levuneshama.com/)  Yad Lakashish - Helping the Jerusalem’s elderly with ‘respite work opportunities”  https://www.lifeline.org.il/  Latet - A program that assists elderly and Holocaust survivors  https://www.latet.org.il/en/  Itamar Foundation – Program to help with defense supplies to the ‘settlement’ of Itamar  https://touritamarsupportisrael.com/  Friends of the IDF (FIDF) Help for the soldiers of the IDF  https://www.fidf.org/  Yashar LaChayal – Agency for assistance to IDF soldiers  https://yasharlachayal.org/  Crossroads Center – Crisis intervention agency for English speaking youth in destress  https://www.crossroadsjerusalem.org/  Beit Haggai – “Last Chance” live in home for male orphans and problem youth  https://k-beithaggai.com/english/  CFOIC – Christian Friends of Israeli Communities – Help for “settlements’  <https://cfoic.com/>  Thank you for affording me the chance to be a help to these groups that are providing the service to these dear people. - rdb |

**Settlers threatened to bring down the government over Homesh**

***Samaria Regional Council head Yossi Dagan: "The people of Israel will not let this thing continue, the people of Israel will replace the government with a national government."***

*By* [*TOVAH LAZAROFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/tovah-lazaroff) *Published: JANUARY 9, 2022 19:33 Updated: JANUARY 9, 2022 21:03*



Avichai Boaron is seen speaking alongside a group of prominent settler leaders at a protest outside the Prime Minister's Office, on January 9, 2022.(photo credit: SAMARIA REGIONAL COUNCIL)

Settlers threatened to bring down the government over as they held a protest with hundreds of activists outside the Prime Minister’s Office in Jerusalem on Sunday.

“The healing government has become the evacuation government,” called out Samaria Regional Council head Yossi Dagan as he stood on a makeshift stage.

“The people of Israel will not let this thing continue, the people of Israel will replace the government with a national government.”

“We are here in front of your office, Prime Minister [Naftali Bennett], because the responsibility is on you.”

“We will sit here all week in a tent, even in the rain,” Dagan said.

At issue for the settler leaders and the hundreds of protesters with them, was the presumption that the IDF plans to demolish the [Homesh Yeshiva](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-689294), located in northern Samaria in the West Bank.

Visitors walk by the water tower on the ruins of the evacuated settlement of Homesh on August 27, 2019. Homesh was one of four West Bank settlements that Israel evacuated during the disengagement. (credit: HILLEL MAEIR/FLASH90)

They have also asked to authorize that seminary and to rebuild the Homesh settlement which it destroyed in 2005 in the aftermath of the Gaza pullout.

Speakers sat on a makeshift stage under the sign “Homesh will not fall again.”

Other signs stated that “the evacuation of Homesh is a prize for terror” and “we are not prepared to be quiet.”

Speakers then took issue with the government’s failure to hook West Bank outposts up to the electricity grid, particularly in light of the Knesset decision last week to do so for illegal Arab homes in the Negev in certain circumstances.

Mateh Binyamin Regional Council head Israel Gantz charged that the government was also ignoring illegal Palestinian buildings in Judea and Samaria.

“The Israeli government has crossed red lines. It is abandoning the south and abandoning the settlements,” he said.  
 Kiryat Arba and Hebron Council head Eliyahu Libman said, “We came here to tell this government, recover and recover fast.”

Beit El Council head Shai Alon said, “we have reached the breaking point in relation to this government. We have examined the government according to its deeds and the result is a disgraceful failure.”

Activist Avichai Boaron, an Amona outpost evacuee, said that this “government needs to go home. It has abandoned the security of the residents of Judea and Samaria,” he said.

The small rally began last week when the Samaria Regional Council opened a protest tent by the Prime Minister’s Office.

Parliamentarians Orit Struck (Religious Zionist Party) and Keti Shitrit (Likud) also attend the event. It will be followed by a second one on Monday, in which a number of Likud parliamentarians are expected to stop by the protest tent to lend their support to the campaign.

The terror attack that claimed the life of [Yehuda Dimentman](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/israeli-injured-in-terror-shooting-attack-in-west-bank-688958), 25, as he left the Homesh Yeshiva last month has breathed new life into the almost 17-year battle to rebuild Homesh, as the first step toward rescinding the 2005 Disengagement in which 21 settlements in Gaza and four in northern Samaria were destroyed.

The original Homesh settlement was built in 1980 on private Palestinian property that belonged to the nearby village of Burka. The High Court of Justice has ruled that the Palestinians in Burka have a right to farm the land in Homesh. [*https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/politics-and-diplomacy/article-692003*](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/politics-and-diplomacy/article-692003)[It appears that Bennett and friends days could definitely be numbered. The Women in Green and other sovereignty groups will support this strongly and it could be that this government will be facing a barrage of no confidence votes and another dissolution very soon. – rdb]

**New ‘Citizenship Law’ advances, months after ban on Palestinian spouses lapsed**

***Legislation pushed by Interior Minister Shaked would once again mostly bar Palestinians married to Israelis from living in Israel***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 5:40 pm*

Cabinet ministers gave first-stage approval Sunday to a bill that would again bar Palestinians who marry Israelis from receiving permits to live with their spouses in Israel, months after an earlier ban expired following a dramatic coalition fight.

The bill — widely referred to as the “Citizenship Law” — passed a vote in the Ministerial Committee for Legislation, which allows it to be fast-tracked through the legislative process. From there, the bill goes to the Knesset, where it must still pass three votes before becoming law.

Nine ministers voted in favor of the bill. Environmental Protection Minister Tamar Zandberg of the left-wing Meretz party voted against it and Diaspora Affairs Minister Nachman Shai of the center-left Labor party abstained.

Introduced at the height of the Second Intifada in an attempt to prevent terror attacks, the 2003 Citizenship and Entry Law largely barred Palestinians who married Israelis from obtaining permanent residency. Exceptions were later carved out for some spouses to receive two kinds of permits that gave residency but little else.

The law has been wildly controversial since its inception, as rights groups charge it discriminates against Palestinians and Arab Israelis. The Supreme Court upheld the law in a 6-5 decision in 2012 after a protracted legal battle.

But the coalition failed to renew the law last year, and it expired. Despite the fact that the law aligned with its policies, the right-wing opposition, led by Likud, voted against it in an attempt to embarrass the coalition.

The current, razor-thin Israeli coalition government includes both Meretz and the Islamist Ra’am party, neither of which is likely to vote in favor. Should the law again come to the Knesset floor, it would likely again need opposition backing to pass — but those parties have yet to indicate any willingness to change their vote.  
 Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked has since repeatedly stated that she intends to bring the law to another vote, though its chances of passing remain slim. And she has [ordered](https://www.timesofisrael.com/months-after-citizenship-law-falls-ban-on-palestinian-spouses-still-in-place/) her office to continue to implement the ban, even though the law is no longer on the books.  
 Around 12,700 Palestinians married to Israelis live in Israel with temporary documentation, required to constantly renew their fragile status in the country. For years, most were not permitted to drive or open bank accounts. If their Israeli spouse dies or they divorce, they could be deported — forcing their Arab Israeli children to either leave with them for the West Bank or stay behind without them.  
 The amendment was renewed on a yearly basis until it was overturned in a dramatic dawn vote in July. While Israel’s razor-thin ruling coalition had sought to pass the amendment again, two parliamentarians from Ra’am abstained, denying the government the necessary votes.  
 On paper, with the lapsing of the law, Palestinians married to Israelis are currently legally no different from any other foreign spouse. Israeli law grants foreign spouses residency in the country through a process known as family unification.  
 However, the Interior Ministry is controlled by Shaked, who has instructed ministry staff to continue as though the ban were still valid until further notice. Shaked has pushed for even stricter controls on Palestinian immigration to Israel in the past.  
 In a letter explaining the current policy in September, a senior Interior Ministry official said that Shaked had ordered the ministry to carry on as though the law remained in force while the office “examined the implications of the change.”  
 The government initially enacted the ban on Palestinian family unification in order to prevent terror attacks. The 2003 statute was passed after Hamas member Shadi Tubasi — who had received an Israeli identity card by marriage — killed 16 Israelis in one of the Second Intifada’s most brutal terror attacks.  
 Around 130,000 Palestinians were granted family unification rights during the 1990s, before the ban went into effect. According to the Shin Bet security service, some 155 of those people or their descendants have been involved in terror attacks since 2001.  
 Israeli politicians — including Foreign Minister Yair Lapid — have also increasingly defended the law as a demographic measure intended to maintain Israel’s Jewish majority.  
 “There’s no need to shirk from the essence of this law. It is one of the tools to ensure a Jewish majority in Israel, which is the nation-state of the Jewish people. Our goal is for there to be a Jewish majority,” Lapid tweeted shortly before the law lapsed in early July. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/new-citizenship-law-advances-months-after-ban-on-palestinian-spouses-lapsed/> [While I can certainly understand the need to be very selective in determining who would qualify for residency from the “PA” group because of all the terrorism, but if they are going to word it such that everyone from other localities can fall under the unification law then it really does look bad for Israel to simply exclude those from the “PA” and will lead to more accusations of apartheid. – rdb]p

**High-profile cases shine harsh light on Israel’s draconian interrogation tactics**

***As they dominate headlines, former Netanyahu aide Nir Hefetz and businessman Moshe Hogeg allege their testimonies were extracted cruelly; rights activists say that’s nothing new***

*By* [*Chen Shalita*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/chen-shalita/) *Today, 3:03 pm*

*This article was provided by the* [*Shomrim*](https://www.hashomrim.org/english) *independent media organization.*

The subjects at the center of two high-profile cases are alleging that Israeli interrogators forced them to endure humiliating and inhumane conditions outlawed in most Western countries in order to extract information — and it turns out that they’re far from alone.

Moshe Hogeg, a prominent businessman and owner of the Beitar Jerusalem soccer team, says that while in police custody he was interrogated after being deprived of sleep for days, and in between questioning was confined to a cockroach-infested holding cell.

In a recording of an interrogation of Nir Hefetz, who had been an aide to former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a detective can be heard warning that Hefetz’s family is in terrible danger, citing an imminent “bombshell” about to be released about him.

In Israel, laws governing such interactions are fuzzy at best. But the experiences of public figures like Hogeg, who is [under investigation for fraud and sexual assault](https://www.timesofisrael.com/court-lifts-gag-on-moshe-hogeg-sex-charges-including-underage-prostitution-offenses/), and Hefetz, a onetime Netanyahu adviser turned state witness in the corruption trial against the former premier, are shedding light on some of the arguably disturbing ways Israeli police investigators operate.

“When the media was up in arms over [Hefetz’s descriptions](https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-trial-witness-says-interrogators-threatened-to-destroy-his-family/) of his questioning, in our office the response was, ‘We see this — and a lot worse — every single day.’ I’m delighted that the issue is finally on the agenda,” says Michal Orkabi of the Tel Aviv Public Defender’s Office, where she monitors police interrogation techniques.

The situation as it exists in Israel today leaves the police to operate with great freedom and little oversight, experts say. Only the courts can stop them and they often do so too late, when the damage — both psychological and to the investigation — has already been done. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/high-profile-cases-shine-harsh-light-on-israels-draconian-interrogation-tactics/> [HUMMM? Sounds like these folks may be taking some lessons from the group in the Washington DC prison on prisoner abuse and how to persecute those who are your political enemies. – rdb]

**Abortion in Israel: A 'humiliating' process**

***Women in Israel seeking to terminate a pregnancy must face a legally mandated committee for permission; chief health officer promotes reforms to streamline procedure***

*i24NEWS | Published: 01.09.22, 19:24*

Health Minister Nitzan Horowtiz continues to advance a series of reforms that would expand access to abortion while removing barriers that women face when seeking the procedure.

Under current Israeli law, women do not have the automatic right to abortion.

In seeking one, a woman must request permission from a legally mandated pregnancy committee comprised of three representatives of the hospital or clinic that would perform the operation.

“The questions are very invasive. Questions like ‘Why don’t you use contraceptives or birth control?” executive director of the NGO Open Door Silvina Freund said. [Sorry but that sounds rather reasonable to me. – rdb]

Women in Israel describe the process as humiliating and attempts to reform the system were blocked for years, until now.

Horowitz recently proposed a set of reforms that would give the legislation a makeover.

The idea of the committees was to get women to do fewer abortions… This was canceled by [Horowitz],” said Dina Shalev, director of the NGO Lada’at Choose Well.

Although most requests are rarely rejected — less than one percent, according to Shalev — the committees are encouraged or even instructed to persuade women not to end their pregnancies.

“There is also a proposal to cancel the committees. This is something that Horowitz isn't putting forward himself, but some [parliament members] are,” Shalev noted.

“There’s still a long way until we get to that, but that’s the endgame.”

Until then, however, a specific reform would see the replacement of the committee with a more advisory approach.

“It will give women the freedom of choice,” Freund said. <https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/s1tqoqo3t> Abortion is the murder of a human being. The penalty in the Torah of Moses for striking a woman and causing a miscarriage is described in E*xodus 21: 22 “If people are fighting and hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely[*[*e*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus%2021&version=NIV#fen-NIV-2100e)*] but there is no serious injury, the offender must be fined whatever the woman’s husband demands and the court allows. 23 But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, 24 eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25 burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.*

It would seem that The Holy one takes it very seriously so perhaps we should also. – rdb]

**Health Ministry hotline collapses as new COVID testing rules stump Israelis**

***Long lines at antigen test sites, with many struggling to understand whether and when they should get tested; some reportedly opt not to take tests at all to avoid quarantine***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:50 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/F220109YS22.jpg)

People line up in a queue at the entrance to a COVID-19 rapid antigen Magen David Adom testing center in Jerusalem's Cinema City on January 9, 2022. (Yonatan Sindel/ Flash90)

Long lines were seen on Sunday at COVID-19 testing facilities throughout the country after new rules came into effect, with Health Ministry service and information centers malfunctioning and some Israelis reportedly refusing to take home antigen tests and “voluntarily” put themselves in quarantine.

Under the [new testing regulations](https://www.timesofisrael.com/health-ministry-shifts-emphasis-to-home-testing-as-surging-virus-strains-capacity/), those who are over 60 or at high risk are prioritized at PCR testing stations. Those who are under 60 and fully vaccinated are encouraged to conduct a rapid antigen test, either at home or at a testing station, and can use those results to get exemptions from quarantine if they are exposed to a confirmed coronavirus carrier.  
 Israelis have been swamping drugstores to purchase home antigen tests as the new rules took effect, though some health experts warned that they are far less accurate than PCR tests — particularly when it comes to detecting the Omicron strain of the coronavirus.  
 The new rules came amid a huge surge in infections driven by the highly infectious Omicron, which had strained PCR testing centers to the limit as more and more people came to get tested after coming into contact with carriers.  
 Since the change, antigen test centers have been flooded with people coming to get tested. On Sunday, some people reported waiting over three hours at a Jerusalem center in Ein Yael. Meanwhile, pharmacies have reported shortages of home test kits.  
 Several Hebrew media outlets reported that the Health Ministry’s phone hotline for inquiries about testing and the Green Pass rules collapsed, with people waiting for long periods of time to no avail. Some calls quickly got disconnected, and no service was given via the ministry’s WhatsApp service.  
 Ynet cited the ministry department handling the hotline as saying it was receiving about 45,000 calls every day, “which indeed creates heavy traffic.”  
 Many people have been trying to get information about the new testing rules, unclear on whether or when they should quarantine or get tested.  
 The Walla news site quoted several people as saying that since the new rules put the responsibility for getting tested on the general population, without enforcement, they don’t intend to get tested unless forced to.  
 “I had the disease in the past and the illness wasn’t terrible at all. What was terrible was the quarantine,” said a 22-year-old woman from Jerusalem identified only as Ariel. “I feel like there’s no reason for me to voluntarily put myself in 10 days of quarantine when I see [the virus] doesn’t affect my young friends. It feels like everyone is sick already. I will just take care not to see my grandparents in the next few weeks.”  
 The interviewees also cited other reasons not to get tested, including the unreliability of antigen tests — especially against the Omicron strain — the price of home test kits, and the lack of compensation for lost workdays.  
 The number of COVID-19 patients listed as seriously ill rose to 206, according to Health Ministry figures released Sunday. That figure was nearly double the 112 patients in serious condition recorded a week earlier. The number of hospitalizations rose from 338 a week ago to 524.  
 While the daily tally of 17,521 new cases Saturday was a slight dip from Friday’s record-setting 18,831 new cases, the test positivity rate climbed to levels not seen in over a year. Case numbers generally dip over the weekend due to vagaries in testing.  
 The positivity rate of 11.71 percent was the highest recorded since October 2020, though it came as Israel began accepting the less-accurate rapid antigen tests, while saving the more accurate PCR tests for over-60s and the unvaccinated, to reduce crowding at testing stations.  
 The death toll remained at 8,259, with no change since Friday. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/health-ministry-hotline-collapses-as-new-covid-testing-rules-stump-israelis/> [It would appear that a number of the Israeli’s have become fed up with the hysteria and are determined to simply live life. – rdb]

**COVID: new 'Deltacron' coronavirus variant discovered in Cyprus**

***A new variant has a similar genetic background to the Delta variant, together with 10 mutations from Omicron.***

*By* [*JERUSALEM POST STAFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/jerusalem-post-staff) *Published: JANUARY 9, 2022 01:46 Updated: JANUARY 9, 2022 19:50*

A new coronavirus [variant](https://www.jpost.com/health-and-wellness/coronavirus/protein-component-could-be-added-to-covid-vaccines-to-protect-against-new-variants-study-688504) nicknamed "Deltacron" has been discovered in Cyprus, local media reported on Saturday.

The variant has a similar genetic background to the Delta variant, as well as some of the mutations from Omicron, explained Dr. Leondios Kostrikis, the head of the laboratory of biotechnology and molecular virology at the University of Cyprus, according to the *Cyprus Mail*.

In total, 10 of the mutations from Omicron were found in the 25 samples taken in Cyprus. 11 of the samples came from people who were hospitalized due to the virus, while 14 came from the general population.

Kostrikis theorized that the fact that the frequency of the mutation among hospitalized patients was higher could point to a correlation between the new variant and hospitalizations.

Cyprus's Health Minister Michalis Hadjipandelas stated on Saturday that the new variant was not something to worry about at the moment and expressed pride in the country's scientists for discovering the new variant.

"The groundbreaking research and findings of Dr. Kostrikis’ team make us proud of our scientists as this research puts Cyprus on the international map when it comes to health matters," said Hadjipandelas, according to the *Cyprus Mail*.

Cyprus's Health Ministry plans to announce more information about the new variant in a press conference at the beginning of the week. The scientific name of the new variant has not been announced as of yet.

The announcement of the new variant comes just a week after a new coronavirus variant, B.1.640.2, was [discovered in France](https://www.jpost.com/health-and-wellness/coronavirus/article-691717). Experts have stated that it seems not to be a cause of concern. <https://www.jpost.com/health-and-wellness/article-691926>

**Israel's national library sees Arabic site traffic boom**

***One of most heavily trafficked resources on Arabic website is a newspaper archive with more than 200,000 pages of Arabic publications from Ottoman and British Mandate Palestine***

*Associated Press | Published: 01.09.22, 20:08*

Israel's national library says the number of visitors to its Arabic website more than doubled last year, driven by a growing collection of digitized materials and an aggressive outreach campaign to the Arab world.

Around 650,000 users, predominantly from the Palestinian territories, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Algeria, visited the National Library of Israel's English and Arabic sites in 2021, said library spokesman Zachary Rothbart.

One of the most heavily trafficked resources on the Arabic website is a newspaper archive with more than 200,000 pages of Arabic publications from Ottoman and British Mandate Palestine, said Raquel Ukeles, head of the library's collections.

A picture containing indoor, marketplace, plaza

Description automatically generated "We have been working on outreach to the Arab world, into the Arabic speaking public here in Israel for over a decade, and we have slowly built up a rich set of resources on our websites," she said. They include the digital newspaper archives, manuscripts, posters, electronic books and music, she said. They are open access, allowing scholars and curious web browsers to visit.

(Photo: The National Library in Jerusalem)

The Jerusalem library is home to an extensive collection of Islamic and Arabic texts, including thousands of rare books and manuscripts in Arabic, Persian and Turkish ranging from the 9th to the 20th centuries.

"We're in the midst of a project to digitize our entire collection, to scan all of our Arabic, Persian and Turkish manuscripts," said Samuel Thrope, curator of the library's Islam and Middle East Collection. "Ninety-five percent of it has already been completed."

Among the jewels in the crown of the collection are a 9th-century Quran from modern-day Iran with the earliest known example of Persian written in the Arabic script; an illuminated manuscript from 17th century India with illustrations of the life of Alexander the Great; and a 16th century Ottoman Turkish text on ophthalmology. <https://www.ynetnews.com/culture/article/ryyszooht>

**PA joins Arabs seeking to normalize ties with Syria’s Assad**

***The United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia, Oman, Iraq and Algeria have over the past few months signaled their desire to restore their relations with Syria.***

*By* [*KHALED ABU TOAMEH*](https://www.jpost.com/author/khaled-abu-toameh) *Published: JANUARY 9, 2022 18:27 Updated: JANUARY 9, 2022 19:48*

A Palestinian delegation visiting Damascus on Sunday delivered a letter from Palestinian Authority President [Mahmoud Abbas](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-691984) to Syrian President Bashar Assad.

The visit is seen in the context of efforts by the PA and some Arab countries to normalize and strengthen their relations with Damascus as part of an attempt to limit Iran’s influence in the region in general and Syria in particular.

Iran has been actively supporting the Assad government through arms transfers, economic aid and military advice. The Iranians have also sent thousands of fighters from various military groups to fight in Syria.

The [United Arab Emirates](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/could-uae-opening-to-syria-mark-major-shift-for-region-analysis-684586), Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia, Oman, Iraq and Algeria have over the past few months signaled their desire to restore their relations with Syria.

Abbas’s letter was handed to Syrian Foreign Minister Faisal Mekdad, who met with the Palestinian delegation headed by Jibril Rajoub, secretary-general of the Fatah Central Committee.

The letter “affirms the depth of relations between the Palestinians and Syrians and the Palestinian leadership’s desire to strengthen its relations with Syria,” said Ahmed Hils, a member of the Palestinian delegation.  
 The Palestinian leadership was “keen on the stability, security and territorial integrity of Syria during the period that Syria was targeted” by opposition groups during the civil war, he said.  
 Samir al-Rifai, the Palestinian ambassador to Syria, also said the Palestinian leadership was seeking to strengthen its relations with the Syrian leadership. Rifai said he did not rule out the possibility that Abbas would visit Damascus to meet with Assad.  
 Unlike Hamas, the PA leadership maintained its relations with the Syrian government after the eruption of the civil war in Syria in 2011.  
 Relations between Hamas and Syria were strained after the Islamist movement refused to side with Assad at the beginning of the civil war.  
 In 2012, the Syrian authorities raided and closed all Hamas offices in Syria, including that of the movement’s leader, Khaled Mashaal.  
 In 2019, Abbas became the first Arab leader to support the restoration of Syria’s activities in the Arab League.  
 The Arab foreign ministers decided in November 2011 to “suspend Syrian delegations’ activities in Arab League meetings” and “implement economic and political sanctions against the Syrian government.”  
 The move came after Syria failed to implement all its commitments under a peace plan proposed by the Arab League to end the violence and bloodshed. The plan included the release of prisoners, the withdrawal of security forces from the streets and the launch of talks between the government and opposition groups.  
 The Palestinian delegation is also expected to hold talks with leaders of various Syrian-based Palestinian factions to prepare for a meeting of the PLO Central Council (PCC), a key policy decision-making body.  
 The factions are opposed to the Oslo Accords between the Palestinians and Israel and have repeatedly urged the PA leadership to suspend its ties with Israel.  
 Abbas is hoping that the participation of the factions in the PCC meeting will bolster his standing among Palestinians, especially in light of the sharp decline in his popularity and growing discontent over his authoritarian rule.  
 However, the meeting, which was supposed to take place on January 20, has been postponed until further notice, PLO Executive Committee member Wasel Abu Yusef said Sunday. The reason for the postponement of the meeting was because of Abbas’s travels abroad, he said.  
 On Sunday, the 86-year-old Abbas arrived in the Egyptian resort of Sharm e-Sheikh to participate in the World Youth Forum conference. During the visit, Abbas is also scheduled to hold talks with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi. Abbas is being accompanied by Hussein al-Sheikh, head of the PA General Authority for Civil Affairs; Majed Faraj, head of the PA General Intelligence Service; and Mahmoud Habbash, religious affairs adviser to the PA president.  
 According to the London-based Action Group for Palestinians of Syria, more than 4,000 Palestinians have been killed since the beginning of the Syrian Civil War.  
 The Palestinian delegation currently visiting Syria has faced widespread criticism by many Palestinians and Syrians for ignoring the plight of the Palestinians living in Syria, the Action Group for Palestinians of Syria said.  
 “A number of Palestinian activists expressed anger over the Palestinian Authority’s disregard for the suffering of the Palestinians in Syria,” it said.  
 The group also criticized the Fatah delegation for holding a rally in Yarmouk refugee camp near Damascus, which has been severely destroyed during the fighting between the Syrian army and opposition groups, and many of its residents have been forced out of their homes.  
 “The activists called on the Palestinian Authority to exert pressure on the Syrian government to allow the residents of the camp to return to their homes as soon as possible and to release Palestinians held in Syrian prisons,” the group said. “During the years of the war in Syria, the Palestinians of Syria appealed to the Palestinian embassy in Damascus dozens of times to intervene to secure the release of the detainees held by the Syrian regime and halt the siege and bombardment of Yarmouk camp, but these appeals went unheeded.” <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-691996>

**Iran denies interim nuclear deal reached - report**

***A two-year deal was reportedly reached in Vienna by which the US would lift all sanctions placed on Iran by the Trump administration.***

*By* [*LAHAV HARKOV*](https://www.jpost.com/author/lahav-harkov) *Published: JANUARY 9, 2022 13:12 Updated: JANUARY 9, 2022 17:53*

[Iran](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-691905) denied a report that it had reached a two-year interim agreement with world powers on Sunday.

London-based Rai al-Youm reported that the sides completed a two-year deal in Vienna, by which the US would lift all sanctions placed on Iran by the Trump administration.

In return, all of Iran's advanced uranium would be transported to Russia.

Russia would reportedly serve as the guarantor of the agreement, in that it would return the uranium to Iran in the event of the US leaving the deal as it did in 2018.

"The report is totally wrong and fake," a source close to the Iranian negotiating team said, according to Iranian journalist Abas Aslani.  
 Negotiations continued on Tuesday, with the European delegations meeting with Iran’s chief negotiator Ali Bagheri Kani.  
 Russia's chief negotiator, Ambassador Mikhail Ulyanov, said he "share[s] the assessment" by the Iranians that the sides are starting to overcome their differences on the matter of sanctions.  
 "Progress is being made. But achieving the desired solution will require additional time and effort," Ulyanov tweeted.  
 Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei gave a speech on Sunday in which he referred obliquely to the Vienna talks. "Not surrendering to an arrogant enemy is one of the principles of the revolution," Khamenei said. "To negotiate, discuss, or sometimes interact with the enemy is another matter...We have not surrendered until today, and God willing, this will be the case in the future."  
 The talks in Vienna for Iran and the US to return to the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action are currently in their eighth round. That deal limited Iran’s nuclear program, while gradually lifting sanctions.  
 In recent years, Iran has worked on developing uranium metal and enriching uranium to 60%, far beyond the JCPOA’s restrictions and closer than ever to weapons-grade uranium, which is enriched to 90%.  
 Iran continued its JCPOA violations during its talks with Vienna, which were renewed on November 29, launching advanced centrifuges. Western parties to the talks with Iran – France, Germany and the UK directly, and the US indirectly – have repeatedly questioned the Islamic Republic’s seriousness in engaging in the talks and have said they will not allow them to drag on.  
 On Friday, French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian [told](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-691919) BFM TV and RMC Radio that progress has been made regarding the Iran nuclear talks although time is running out. “I remain convinced we can reach a deal. Bits of progress has been made in the last few days,” Le Drian said. “We have been heading in a positive direction in the last few days, but time is of the essence because if we don’t get an accord quickly there will be nothing to negotiate.”  
 Foreign Minister Yair Lapid urged French President Emmanuel Macron on Saturday to pressure Iran to halt its nuclear program. “I talked at length tonight with the President of France Emanuel Macron,” Lapid tweeted. “The conversation dealt with the regional challenges, the nuclear talks, Israel’s demand to put pressure on Iran and Israeli-EU relations.” <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-691962> [Don’t hold your breath on this one because the way things have been going they won’t agree to anything until Iran has the bomb and missiles and tries to strike Israel. – rdb]

**Cops find bomb, damning checklist on man lurking near conservative rally**

*By* [*Jack Davis, The Western Journal*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wj/) *Published January 9, 2022 at 1:27pm*

A Florida man with suspected antifa connections was arrested Thursday after police found a pipe bomb in his backpack.

Garrett James Smith, who turned 22 the day he was arrested, was nabbed outside the Pinellas County Courthouse where a rally was being held to protest the detention of a participant in the Jan. 6, 2021, [Capitol incursion](https://www.westernjournal.com/rep-banks-pelosi-blocking-certain-lawmakers-january-6-committee-avoid-damning-questions-role-incursion/). [So this gives you more of an indication that antifa was involved in the 1-6 issue and probably encouraged and enabled by the demon-rats – rdb]

Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri said the lawful protest opposed the detention of [retired Green Beret](https://taskandpurpose.com/news/army-special-forces-arrested-capitol-riots/) Jeremy Brown, according to [WTVT-TV](https://www.fox13news.com/news/pinellas-man-arrested-for-bringing-destructive-device-to-courthouse-jan-6-sheriff-says).

Brown faces charges of entering a restricted area and disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building as well as federal firearms charges, according to [WFLA-TV](https://www.wfla.com/8-on-your-side/heres-what-we-know-about-green-beret-tampa-congressional-candidate-arrested-in-insurrection-probe/).

As the rally took place, deputies spotted a man [dressed all in black](https://www.westernjournal.com/devastating-new-jan-6-footage-retired-general-defies-media-confirms-blm-antifa-capitol-break/), with a black face covering and a black backpack. The man ran from the protest.

"He was running fast, he was running away from something," Gualtieri said at a news conference on Friday, according to [The Post Millennial](https://thepostmillennial.com/alleged-antifa-member-targeted-florida-rally-with-a-bomb-more-explosives-found-at-his-house?utm_campaign=64487).

Once Smith was detained, police searched his backpack, where they found a black helmet and other items including a pipe bomb.

Deputies said M-80 fireworks were later found in Smith’s car. A search of the Oldsmar, Florida, residence Smith shared with his parents found what deputies called four grenade-type explosives and another pipe-style bomb, WTVT reported.

The backpack included what was labeled a “direct action” checklist.

The document included a drawn umbrella, which is an antifa symbol, according to the Post Millennial, while the helmet had an antifa “iron front” symbol painted upon it.

The list also included "clothing," "armor," and "gear," with "tips" listed below each category.

According to [Pinellas County Jail](https://www.pcsoweb.com/InmateBooking/SubjectResults.aspx?id=1884427) records, Smith faces three charges of making or possessing a destructive device and one count of loitering and prowling.

“Smith is what we call a sleeper, and these are the most concerning individuals because there are no opportunities to intervene and thwart their criminal activity before they actually act,” Gualtieri said, according to the [Tampa Bay Times](https://www.tampabay.com/news/crime/2022/01/07/oldsmar-man-had-explosive-devices-near-jan-6-anniversary-rally-in-pinellas-sheriff-says/).

The affidavit filed with Smith’s arrest had the word “antifa” under the section for “aggravating/mitigating” information, while “Antifa/Anti gov/Extrem,” was noted in another report, according to The Post Millennial.

Gualtieri said Smith has not spoken to police, and there is no certainty of [any affiliation](https://www.westernjournal.com/trump-gone-antifa-embracing-fascist-part-name-newest-targets/) with any group.

The sheriff’s office is collaborating with the FBI in the investigation of Smith.

Smith had recently returned from  Portland, Oregon, where antifa protests have been common, the sheriff said, according to WTVT.

Smith, who is held on $300,000 bond, faces three charges of making, possessing, and/or discharging a destructive device, and one count of loitering and prowling.

Gualtieri said after the arrest, deputies told protesters that they needed to disperse due to an incident. The protesters complied, he said, according to WTVT.<https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/cops-find-bomb-damning-checklist-man-lurking-near-right-wing-rally/>

**Germany to delay Covid vaccine mandate – media**

***Chancellor Olaf Scholz’s plans to introduce mandatory Covid-19 jabs in March are unfeasible, local media claims***

***Germany’s plans to impose nationwide compulsory vaccination against Covid-19 likely won’t come to fruition any time soon, not due to lack of will but because of bureaucratic hurdles, media reports suggest.***

*9 Jan, 2022 16:29*

In November, then-designated chancellor Olaf Scholz told Germany’s ZDF broadcaster that he expected a nationwide vaccination mandate to be introduced by February or March. Now, however, the regulation might not be in force until May or even June, the Tagesspiegel daily reported.

The delay is not a sign that Scholz’s government is any less determined to see Germans vaccinated but is merely due to a series of bureaucratic hurdles, the paper said.

The issue is expected to be debated in the Bundestag no sooner than late January – and because of holidays scheduled for most of February, a vote probably won’t be passed until late March. The bill would then go to the Upper House – the Bundesrat – which would likely not approve it until April, meaning the bill would possibly not come into force before early May unless special parliamentary sessions were called, German media said.

Dirk Wiese, an MP responsible for the project and a member of Scholz’s Social Democratic Party (SPD), sees no need to hurry. He told Tagesspiegel that the mandate would not have a “short-term” effect anyway and that it is intended more as a “precaution for the coming autumn and win*ter.”*

The mandate may also face opposition from the Free Democrats (FDP) – a junior ruling coalition member that appears to be increasingly critical of the initiative.

FDP health expert Andrew Ullmann told dpa news agency that as soon as Covid-19 adapts to the human population to an extent that it would only cause mild symptoms, any *“debate about compulsory vaccination will become superfluous.”*

According to Ullman, Germany also should follow the example of Italy, where compulsory vaccination was only introduced for those aged 50 and over.

The Bundestag has so far only introduced compulsory vaccination for medical specialists and care home staff beginning mid-March. Germany has also failed to meet Scholz’s goal to get at least 80% of people vaccinated with at least one dose by January 7. As of Sunday, January 9, approximately 75% of Germans have received one dose.

Almost 72% of the population are fully vaccinated and over 42% have received at least one booster shot, according to government [data](https://impfdashboard.de/). <https://www.rt.com/news/545512-germany-mandatory-vaccination-delay/> [More coercion and transgression of the Nuremburg accord. He would have the entire country with defective immune systems and dying like flies. Absolutely disgusting. Governments should have no say in the healthcare of citizens. That is personal private right. – rdb]

**Protest grows bigger after president vows to ‘piss off’ the unvaxxed**

***Macron’s words may have backfired after huge crowds took to the streets of France promising to piss him off instead***

*9 Jan, 2022 04:34*



At least 100,000 people took to the streets of France in protest against Covid-19 restrictions and mandates, after President Macron promised to make the lives of the unvaccinated increasingly hard until they accept the jab.

The huge crowds on Saturday were roughly four times larger than back on December 18, [according](https://www.france24.com/en/france/20220108-anti-vax-protesters-in-france-tell-macron-we-ll-piss-you-off) to police estimates. The protesters opposed, among other things, a nearly implemented government plan to make proof of vaccination against Covid-19 mandatory to use public transport, eat at restaurants, and attend events.

France’s National Assembly passed a bill this week which, if approved by the Senate, would introduce so-called ‘vaccine passes’ to replace the existing ‘health passes’. Under the current rules, a negative PCR or antigen test gives access to a pass that is valid for 24 hours. A vaccine pass, however, would only be issued to those who have been fully vaccinated. People who were infected with Covid-19 would have to receive a booster shot three to four months after contracting the virus in order to get a vaccine pass, Health Minister Olivier Veran said. In the meantime, they could use their recovery certificates.

Même si Macron veut les emmerder, des manifestants anti-vax défilent à Paris. Un cortège [#GiletsJaunes](https://twitter.com/hashtag/GiletsJaunes?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) ici, et des partisans de [@f\_philippot](https://twitter.com/f_philippot?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) ailleurs dans la capitale protestent contre le [#PassVaccinal](https://twitter.com/hashtag/PassVaccinal?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw). [pic.twitter.com/Obnywhn7BS](https://t.co/Obnywhn7BS)

— Clément Lanot (@ClementLanot) [January 8, 2022](https://twitter.com/ClementLanot/status/1479798954514685954?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

The crowd in Paris alone numbered at least 18,000, according to official estimates, with protesters heard chanting “We’ll piss you off!” in reference to Macron’s controversial comments.

Ten protesters were arrested and three police officers were reportedly injured in scuffles in the capital. At least another two dozen people were reportedly detained at numerous protests across other French cities.

Quelques uns des slogans avant le départ de la manif : «Lliberté, Liberté ! Vérité, Vérité ! Résistance, Résistance ». Et « Macron on t’emmerde ». [#manifs8janvier](https://twitter.com/hashtag/manifs8janvier?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)[pic.twitter.com/2t5BlK7KdK](https://t.co/2t5BlK7KdK)

— Pierre Bouvier (@pibzedog) [January 8, 2022](https://twitter.com/pibzedog/status/1479804829086195715?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

During an interview with Le Parisien on Tuesday, Macron said, *“I am not about pissing off the French people. But as for the non-vaccinated, I really want to piss them off.”*

Même Darmanin est obligé de reconnaître une très forte poussée de la mobilisation contre le [#PasseVaccinalDeLaHonte](https://twitter.com/hashtag/PasseVaccinalDeLaHonte?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) mais à Paris on était évidemment bien plus que 18 000 ! 😂 100 000 sans aucun problème ! [pic.twitter.com/gNrarWUWV2](https://t.co/gNrarWUWV2)

— Florian Philippot (@f\_philippot) [January 8, 2022](https://twitter.com/f_philippot/status/1479907718127312897?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Macron revealed that continuing to *“piss off”* unvaccinated French people *“to the end”* is his *“strategy,”* and boasted that only a *“small minority”* was resisting government restrictions.

*“How do we reduce that minority? We reduce it – sorry for the expression – by pissing them off even more,”* the French president said, explaining that the plan includes *“putting pressure on the unvaccinated by limiting, as much as possible, their access to activities in social life.”* [*https://www.rt.com/news/545479-french-protest-bigger-expected/*](https://www.rt.com/news/545479-french-protest-bigger-expected/)[France seems to have awakened and hopefully when their elections come they will pitch the leftists in the dust bin.- rdb]

**Millions told to stay home while mass Covid testing underway**

***The Chinese government is testing around 14 million people to avoid another coronavirus outbreak***

*9 Jan, 2022 10:12*

All residents in Tianjin, China have been advised to not leave their homes until they receive a negative result in the latest city-wide testing for Covid. The decision comes after 20 cases were detected.

China’s ‘zero tolerance’ approach to Covid-19 is now being applied in the northern city of Tianjin, which borders Beijing. On Sunday, its entire population of nearly 14 million was told to stay home while the authorities conduct mass testing for the virus.

Until a ‘green health code’ (for negative tests) is received, no one is allowed to travel or go about their daily routine. The code is used on Covid-tracing smartphone apps, which is required in many places, as well as public transportation. The government said it aims to test all residents within a couple of days.

Dozens of residential communities were sealed off on Saturday evening, and the entire city became a new area of concern after two cases were detected. The cases were caused by the Omicron variant and the patients had mild symptoms, state media reported on Sunday.

The first two confirmed patients are a 10-year-old girl and a woman who works in childcare. A cluster of 18 more people, mainly children from 8 to 13 years old, was then detected. Nearly 800 potential contacts tested negative.

At the moment, over 14 million people in two other Chinese cities, Xian and Yuzhou, are under lockdown. China’s coronavirus situation is attracting a lot of media attention as the country prepares to host the Winter Olympics in less than a month. <https://www.rt.com/news/545489-tianjin-china-covid-testing/> [It seems that the Chinese are having a bit of a problem. – rdb]

**California asks sick healthcare staff to come to work**

***The new guidance comes after the state issued a wide-ranging vaccine mandate***

*9 Jan, 2022 16:59*

Less than a month after issuing a strict vaccine mandate for healthcare workers, the California Department of Public health is now calling on workers with Covid-19 to come to work regardless, in a bid to cover staffing shortages. [California is truly the land of fruits and nuts. – rdb]

According to new guidelines issued by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) on Saturday, healthcare workers who test positive for Covid-19 will no longer have to isolate and can return to work immediately without a negative test, as long as they are not showing symptoms.

In a statement to [NBC News](https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/coronavirus/ca-healthcare-workers-raise-concerns-over-new-state-covid-19-protocols/2773937/?_osource=SocialFlowFB_BAYBrand), the CDPH described the new guidance as a “temporary tool” to mitigate staffing shortages and the increased demand being placed on healthcare providers due to a surge in Covid-19 cases. The CDPH added that hospitals should have workers with Covid-19 interact only with Covid-positive patients *“to the extent possible.”*  
 Healthcare workers and their unions have fiercely criticized the new policy.  
 *“Healthcare workers and patients need the protection of clear rules guided by strong science. Allowing employers to bring back workers who may still be infectious is one of the worst ideas I have heard during this pandemic, and that’s really saying something,”* Bob Schoonover of the California chapter of the SEIU trade union said.  
 Furthermore, the CDPH’s guidance also applies to workers in nursing homes, whose patients are most at risk of death from the virus. Nearly 10,000 residents of California nursing homes have died since the beginning of the pandemic, with deaths in these facilities accounting for 13% of the state’s total Covid death toll.  
 Before it was clearing the sick to return to work, the CDPH was asking hospitals to fire workers who wouldn’t get vaccinated or submit to twice-weekly testing. As of Friday, workers without a booster dose are considered unvaccinated by the CDPH. While a vaccine mandate has been in place in California since August, the CDPH [said](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/FAQ-Health-Care-Worker-Vaccine-Requirement.aspx) that it is *“not aware of another state with such comprehensive requirements”* after updating the order to require booster doses.  
 Though the CDPH said that its new booster requirement will not *“take staff away from already busy hospitals,”* California is not the only state suffering staffing shortages after issuing such rules. Rhode Island cleared infected staff to work in hospitals and nursing homes late last month after hundreds of employees were fired less than two months earlier for refusing to get vaccinated.  
 *“Oh crap. We don’t have enough people,”* one hospital worker told the [Providence Journal](https://eu.providencejournal.com/story/news/politics/2022/01/01/rhode-island-heathcare-workers-covid-positive-permitted-facility-staffing-crisis/9066882002/) as the post-mandate shortages became apparent. <https://www.rt.com/news/545514-sick-workers-vaccine-mandate/> [I do believe this is called eating crow by the CDPH. You gotta love it. Blockheads. – rdb]

[Chart

Description automatically generated](https://cdn.substack.com/image/fetch/f_auto,q_auto:good,fl_progressive:steep/https%3A%2F%2Fbucketeer-e05bbc84-baa3-437e-9518-adb32be77984.s3.amazonaws.com%2Fpublic%2Fimages%2F9078cd86-8071-49d7-9906-56bf776c3436_1182x788.png)**New big data study of 145 countries show COVID vaccines makes things worse (cases and deaths)**

***I missed this study. So did the mainstream media for some reason. But this study is yet another independent analysis that is difficult to refute: we have been misled by the CDC, FDA, and NIH.***

[*Steve Kirsch*](https://substack.com/profile/40661664-steve-kirsch) *09 Jan 2022 14 hr ago*

The next time you see you county health officer, President Biden, or Boris Johnson why not ask them if they can find a mistake in this study by Kyle A. Beattie entitled [Worldwide Bayesian Causal Impact Analysis of Vaccine Administration on Deaths and Cases Associated with COVID-19: A BigData Analysis of 145 Countries](https://vector-news.github.io/editorials/CausalAnalysisReport_html.html) (the [PDF version is here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DLlRa9rUqvW9pG1vNEsWMEydWwsmSMbe/view)).

The study found that the COVID vaccines cause more COVID cases per million (+38% in US) and more deaths per million associated with COVID (+31% in US).

The abstract says:

The statistically significant and overwhelmingly positive causal impact after vaccine deployment on the dependent variables total deaths and total cases per million should be highly worrisome for policy makers. **They indicate a** marked increase in both COVID-19 related cases and death due directly to a vaccine deployment that was originally sold to the public as the “key to gain back our fre**edoms.”** The effect of vaccines on *total cases per million* and its low positive association with *total vaccinations per hundred* signifies a limited impact of vaccines on lowering COVID-19 associated cases.

These results should encourage local policy makers to make policy decisions based on data, not narrative, and based on local conditions, not global or national mandates. These results should also encourage policy makers to begin looking for other avenues out of the pandemic aside from mass vaccination campaigns.

**In other words,** we were lied to

The vaccines are making this worse, not better. This is why we are not getting ourselves out of the hole. Mandating vaccines are making this

This is hardly the first study to reach those conclusions. These studies, all done independently, found the same thing—the more you vaccinate, the worse things get.

1. [The Lyons-Weiler paper](https://stevekirsch.substack.com/p/the-more-we-vaccinate-the-higher)
2. [The Harvard study](https://stevekirsch.substack.com/p/the-more-we-vaccinate-the-higher)
3. [The German study](https://stevekirsch.substack.com/p/new-study-from-germany-confirms-higher)
4. [The Denmark study](https://stevekirsch.substack.com/p/new-study-shows-vaccines-must-be) (which shows Dr. James was right; you have to boost every 30 days to maintain protection.
5. [German government data](https://dailyexpose.uk/2022/01/02/german-gov-data-suggests-fully-vaccinated-developing-ade/) (this is from [The Expose](https://dailyexpose.uk/))
6. [80% of the COVID deaths in the UK are vaccinated](https://dailyexpose.uk/2022/01/08/bbc-forgot-to-tell-you-4-in-5-covid-deaths-triple-vaccinated/)
7. [Lancet: 89% Of New UK COVID Cases Among Fully Vaxxed](https://principia-scientific.com/lancet-89-of-new-uk-covid-cases-among-fully-vaxxed/)

**The response to this new study by the health authorities is predictable**

I think I’ve figured out the pattern and can now confidently predict how health authorities worldwide will react to this stunning result: they will ignore it. Instead, they will mandate vaccines for everyone of every age ASAP. Am I right?

<https://stevekirsch.substack.com/p/new-big-data-study-of-145-countries> This should infuriate anyone with a brain and a conscience. I am almost ashamed that I am a physician. I have spent hours studying the COV issue and read most anything I can get my hands on. I have learned an enormous amount about vaccines in general and had a great refresher in immunology and epidemiology which was a significant part of my emergency and occ med practice. I reviled by what I see going on with the sanction of the so called medical societies and the medical board groups. They have become agent of Dr. Mengele. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**Lonely Nation**

[*Daniel Greenfield*](https://www.blogger.com/profile/13575285186581875356) [*January 08, 2022*](https://www.danielgreenfield.org/2022/01/lonely-nation.html)

There is both bad news and good news for Planned Parenthood these days. Even while abortion made a brief stop once again at the Supreme Court, its numbers are dropping.  
 A few years ago, abortion hit its lowest rate since it was legalized. The drop in abortion rates parallels the fall in birth rates. Both stem from a decline in pregnancies.  
 America isn’t becoming more moral, only more lonely.  
 A recent New York Times headline declared, “The Married Will Soon Be the Minority”. But it’s not just the married, but anyone in a relationship or who is connected to other people.

Marriage rates hit an all-time low around the same time, with the single population rising sharply. But the singles weren’t just postponing marriage in favor of extended relationships, because there was also a sharp drop in the rates of physical intimacy between men and women.  
 Americans were becoming more lonely even before the pandemic. The arrival of the pandemic divided families, cut off grandparents from grandchildren, parents from adult children, children from other children, and made the country an even more lonely and isolated place.  
 Over the pandemic year, the nation’s population grew [by only](https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2021/12/us-population-grew-in-2021-slowest-rate-since-founding-of-the-nation.html) 0.1%. According to the Census Bureau, that was “the lowest rate since the nation’s founding.” Its estimate also showed [that for the](https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2021/2021-population-estimates.html) first time "net international migration... has exceeded natural increase for a given year."  
 America’s population has been declining for a while, but the pandemic was particularly catastrophic with international migration easily topping excess births at 244,622 to 148,043.  
 The demographic snapshot of a society coming apart, the familial, civic, and cultural bonds between Americans dissolving even as growth comes from mass migration is a familiar story from Europe. Internally and externally, we are becoming a society in name only, linked by the legal technicalities of a vast bureaucracy and a disposable multinational consumer culture.  
 To understand the wave of wokeness and other political cults consuming our civic culture, we need only observe that a third of Americans now have no religion: a number that has doubled in under 15 years. Growing numbers have no family, no children, and little more than their jobs.  
 And that is why we have open borders. Someone has to fill all those jobs. Generations of Republican leaders defined America as a place where people came to work. Every illegal alien at the border was evidence that our way of life worked at least insofar as economics went. Likewise it appeared that our culture worked because it was so popular around the world.  
 Cold War logic reduced America to a marketplace. If the country passed the rigorous test of the market, then the rest was bound to fall into place. But after the Cold War came and went, mass migration and mass culture continued to hollow out the country. Free enterprise is vital to a free society, but it isn’t, for most people, the thing that gives them meaning and purpose.  
 A nation cannot exist as nothing more than a series of workplaces and stores in which tokens earned at the former are then spent at the latter. Mistaking the economic machinery for a nation is the fallacy of assuming that man is nothing more than the sum of his biological systems.  
 What happens to a society whose people have no reason to go on beyond their set routines interspersed with bouts of hedonism? What happens to a nation that loses its soul?  
 Europe had answered that question a generation or two before we did. Unfortunately we did not pay attention to the answer. America lasted longer because we retained our convictions of exceptionalism, our faith and our family ties longer than Europe did. But with every passing year the cities of the New World with their hipster elites and multicultural labor forces, and subsidized dying rural areas, resemble the decadence of the Old World that their ancestors once escaped.  
 The restrictions of the pandemic made sense to those elites in exactly the way that it infuriated the rural and working classes. Lockdowns, remote meetings, and masks allowed the elites to retreat further behind a digital iron curtain, serviced by unobtrusive servants, real and virtual, AI and gig workers, freed from having to even leave their apartments to enjoy the pleasures of life.  
 It never occurred to them, and still doesn’t, that most people don’t want to live that way.  
 Beyond the now famous population crash in New York and California, and the population rise in Texas and Florida, is the fact [that the](https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2021/12/us-population-grew-in-2021-slowest-rate-since-founding-of-the-nation.html) highest percentage population growth took place in Idaho, followed by Utah and Montana, while the largest percentage losses were suffered by Washington D.C., New York, and Illinois. Some of those numbers can be explained by people from the latter places making their way to the former. But that does not explain all of it.  
 Americans are experiencing an internal migration and counter-migration, traveling to city-states like New York City and Los Angeles County for economic purposes, and leaving them in pursuit of meaningful connections and a different way of life. It’s why one of the underreported stories in the nation’s demographics has been the black population leaving New York City for the South.  
 Behind the statistics, the columns of black numbers on white paper, is a spiritual crisis that is much more difficult to fit between the narrow lines of government statistical forms.  
 A nation needs vertical and horizontal connections, people to other people, and to something above them, a sense of awe and destiny, and without them it withers and dies. The pandemic reaffirmed to many elites their conviction that there are no meaningful connections, that other people are threats and irritants, and that man is just an intelligent ape existing on the random sufferance of a cruel universe that can blot all of us out in a single instant.  
 It is not at all irrational for anyone living with the conviction of fragility and meaninglessness to panic at the pandemic, global warming, or the threat of nuclear war. If the only order in the universe comes from the arrangement of its underlying forces, then doom is only a matter of time. And the only way to contain the catastrophe is by imposing a totalitarian order.  
 There is little room in this gloomy universe for the future. That’s why the hipster elites, in between Uber trips to bars and eateries, avoid human connections, escape into digital carpe diems, and reject the idea of having children because they don’t expect mankind to survive global warming, or of whatever crisis comes next to justify their lack of faith in the future.  
 Their needs, for clean floors, for customer service, or takeout, can be met by a disposable labor force in America or in China. Natural population growth just hastens the apocalypse anyway.  
 Against this tide of elite despair which permeates the culture that they produce and that has been all but written into law, some cultural resistance continues. Every child born is itself a form of resistance to this elite vision of a cold universe and its even colder technocratic counterparts on this world which would raise children in digital wombs to grow up to be the last of their kind.  
 In this generation, for the first time in our nation’s history, most Americans have abandoned hope that the future will be better. The low birth rates, the lack of relationships, and the social collapse are all the fruits of the same poisoned tree. Defeating that defeatism will not be easy and our leaders have offered little more than shopworn cliches as the nation’s culture declined.  
 But despair is not inevitable. It’s the vacuum that forms when there is nothing left to believe in.  
 Globalization atomizes us. It breaks us up into discrete and isolated groups in the name of diversity, in the name of progress, and in the name of making us more manageable. Fragmented people have less to aspire to beyond their creature comforts. They are easier to soothe with an expansion of the welfare state, a new hate object and smartphone model.  
 The alternative is to rebuild those connections that make life meaningful, national and familial, and without which nations turn childless and are easily swamped by mass migration.  
 The Left didn’t just open up the borders around the body of our nation, it hollowed out its soul. A lonely nation of isolates wrapped in their digital cocoons is easy prey for technocratic globalism.  
 These latest numbers are a warning sign that America is much closer to becoming Europe than we thought. To defeat the threat of demographic replacement and illegal migration, we have to build walls not only around our borders, but around our culture, our communities and our families. We have to not only fight against what we don’t want, but to fight for what we do.

[*Daniel Greenfield*](http://sultanknish.blogspot.com/)*is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's*[*Front Page Magazine*](https://www.frontpagemag.com/)*.* https://www.danielgreenfield.org/2022/01/lonely-nation.html

**World Order: Back to the Future**

*by* [*Amir Taheri*](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Amir+Taheri) *January 9, 2022 at 4:00 am* In the next few days we will witness a tsunami of diplomatic agitations spanning over Geneva and Brussels as American, Russian and European leaders try to create the impression that they know what is going on and what must be done about it.  
 The diplomatic marathon is set to start on January 9 with a US-Russia summit, something Russian President Vladimir Putin for weeks has been building up as a major event. It will be followed by a Russia-NATO encounter on January 12, reviving a process that began almost 30 years ago and was abandoned in the last decade. The final bouquet will come with a conference of all member states of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) with memories of the love-fest known as the Helsinki Accords.  
 The question is what each of the participants expects to gain from an exercise that is manifestly improvised in a rush and lacking a clear agenda.  
 The Russians say they will be seeking "security guarantees", whatever that means. The Americans and Europeans talk of "persuading Putin not to invade Ukraine", knowing that he neither wants nor can do so.  
 Putin is seeking a return to the power play formed in the 20th century when summit conferences first started with the so-called "Big Five", that is to say the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council: the US, Great Britain, France, the Soviet Union and pre-Communist China.  
 It morphed into the "Big Four" when China was excluded, before becoming the "Big Three" when France, under Charles De Gaulle decided to go "tous azimuts" [all-out]. Next, Great Britain, weakened massively by the loss of empire and economic decline, was pushed aside, leaving the US and the USSR as the "superpower" couple.  
 It is that "couple" that Putin hopes to bring back.  
 This is why he is talking of "raising issues of global concern" in a summit with US President Joe Biden who, on the other hand, hopes to cut Russia down to size as a middling power that could cause occasional nuisance but could never be regarded an equal partner in global leadership.  
 The whispering in Moscow is that Putin will try to tempt Biden with a number of promises.  
 These include persuading the Islamic Republic in Iran to re-endorse the Obama "nuclear deal", which President Donald Trump denounced as a sham. Tehran's acceptance of a new version presented by the US would give Biden his first diplomatic victory.  
 Putin may be exaggerating his influence with the Tehran mullahs but is certainly in a position to persuade them to tone down their aggressive behavior, something which could help reduce tensions in Iraq, Lebanon and Yemen where the mullahs play perturbation through proxies.  
 Next, Putin is also offering cooperation in Syria as part of a broader scheme to stabilize the Middle East.  
 Other promises would include taming Belarussian President Alexander Lukashenko and lowering the flame of conflict in Ukraine.  
 In exchange, Putin wants the removal of sanctions, a promise not to extend NATO to Ukraine, and to gradually accept the annexation of Crimea and South Ossetia, the virtual occupation of Abkhazia, and Russia's military presence in Transcaucasia, as so many faits accomplis.  
 The problem is that Putin's hope of reverting to the status quo ante, a balance of power that no longer exists, sounds more like a fantasy than a serious strategy. This is no longer a bipolar system in which a US-USSR accord could have an immediate impact on a crisis.  
 We know how the US persuaded Britain, France and Israel to halt the Suez War with a few telephone calls.  
 Yevgeny Primakov, the senior Soviet politician who played multiple roles during the Cold War, recalls in his memoirs how he was sent to Cairo in June 1967 to tell Egyptian leader Gamal Abdul-Nasser to accept a ceasefire with Israel. Nasser immediately complied although, as a military man, he must have known that no war is actually won until one side accepts defeat.  
 In the old world that Putin hopes to revive, the US could count on almost unconditional support from its European, Japanese and other allies. This is no longer the case as even small European powers, not to mention Arab and other Asian allies, try to shape policy options of their own on a case by case basis.  
 This is why Turkey, still a NATO ally, is gyrating in different directions, while a bunch of European Union members, including Germany, preach leniency in dealing with Moscow.  
 In the same old world, the USSR could bluff with the claim of influence on Communist China. That, too, is no longer the case. In fact, in next week's diplomatic marathon, China will be the elephant in the room.  
 While Putin's back-to-the-future gambit is aimed at reviving the last century, his Chinese counterpart, President Xi Jinping, takes 19th century imperialism as model for global power projection. Forging a neo-nationalist narrative that reminds us of British jingoism in the heyday of empire-building, Xi speaks of acquiring a blue-water navy and an ultra-modern nuclear arsenal while planning a network of bases, similar to the "coal stations" the British built for their empire, across the globe.  
 Last week, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi visited the first of those bases in Djibouti, and encouraged musings on acquiring other bases in Eritrea and the Comoros. Beijing has also built numerous "platforms" on South China Sea islands and is working on securing a base in the Solomon Islands in the Pacific.  
 What Xi may want to ponder is that all those "coal stations" and bases didn't save the British Empire, while the biggest nuclear arsenal in history didn't save the USSR from collapse.  
 For their part the Europeans, their lip-service to EU unity notwithstanding, are back to the 17th century and the Westphalian Treaties with the emphasis on "each for himself", in some cases reflecting the chauvinist mood in many European societies, dramatically illustrated by Brexit.  
 What about the US? If the current isolationist mood is as dense as some claim, the US is trying to crawl back to the old times when the Monroe Doctrine shielded it against troubles caused by others.  
 We may be witnessing what Montaigne called "branler" or jaywalking or dodging all problems without solving any.  
 With so many players trying to deal with the problems of the 21st century with solutions shaped in 17th, 18th, 19tt and 20th centuries, we are unlikely to witness the emergence of a new world order anytime soon, certainly not through this week's diplomatic razzmatazz.  
 *Amir Taheri was the executive editor-in-chief of the daily* Kayhan *in Iran from 1972 to 1979. He has worked at or written for innumerable publications, published eleven books, and has been a columnist fo*r Asharq Al-Awsat *since 1987.*  
 *This article was originally published by* Asharq al-Awsat *and is reprinted by kind permission of the author.*  
<https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18110/world-order>

**Like the Chinese Communist Party, Big Tech Disappears Doctors**[*Katie Pavlich*](https://townhall.com/columnists/katiepavlich/) *Posted: Jan 08, 2022 4:15 PM* At the beginning of the Wuhan coronavirus pandemic, a number of doctors in China sounded the alarm about an unknown, pneumonia-like virus sweeping through the country. Ultimately, it would reach the rest of the world.   
 Those doctors were swiftly punished by the Chinese Communist Party. They were locked away, never to be heard from again.   
 "As word of a mysterious virus mounted, Li Wenliang shared suspicions in a private chat with his fellow medical school graduates. The doctor said that seven people seemed to have contracted SARS — the respiratory illness that spread from China to more than two dozen countries and left hundreds dead in the early 2000s. One patient was quarantined at his hospital in Wuhan, China, Li said. He urged people to be careful,"  the Washington Post reported in February 2020. "Li and seven other doctors were quickly summoned by Chinese authorities for propagating 'rumors' about SARS-like cases in the area — but their warnings were prescient."   
 Before his arrest, Li said during an interview that, "It's not so important to me if I'm vindicated or not…What's more important is that everyone knows the truth."   
 Li later died from the disease. He was 34-years-old.   
 Now, a similar phenomenon is happening in the United States. Last week, highly successful and influential podcaster Joe Rogan interviewed Dr. Robert Malone for three hours on his exclusive Spotify program. Malone is the inventor of mRNA technology and has repeatedly issued warnings about politically motivated government health officials pushing Wuhan coronavirus vaccines onto vast populations without properly assessing the risk of serious injury. He's made his arguments in a nuanced, factual way and has made clear that while he is vaccinated, the push for universal jabs without adequate debate or study is dangerous. Further, he has argued the lack of scientific debate on these issues is also perilous.   
 "When you have a society that has become decoupled from each other and has free-floating anxiety in a sense that things don't make sense, we can't understand it, and then their attention gets focused by a leader or series of events on one small point, just like hypnosis, they literally become hypnotized and can be led anywhere," Malone argued.   
 After a portion of the show was uploaded to YouTube, the social media company took the video down, and Twitter permanently banned Dr. Malone from its platform.   
 Early on in the pandemic, Big Tech censored a group known as Frontline Doctors as it worked to treat the virus with long used and tested drugs like hydroxychloroquine and Ivermectin. Ivermectin won a Nobel Prize in 2015 for the successful treatment of billions around the world for a variety of ailments.   
 "Ivermectin is highly effective against a range of parasites, has limited side effects and is freely available across the globe. The importance of Ivermectin for improving the health and wellbeing of millions of individuals with River Blindness and Lymphatic Filariasis, primarily in the poorest regions of the world, is immeasurable. Treatment is so successful that these diseases are on the verge of eradication, which would be a major feat in the medical history of humankind," a Nobel Prize press release states.   
 Big Tech also punished and suspended regular Americans for sharing information provided by these doctors.   
 While doctors in America haven't been arrested — yet — for issuing warnings or dissenting from the government narrative about Wuhan coronavirus, the United States and other western countries in Europe have become increasingly like communist China. It is alarming that instead of learning from the devastating consequences of Chinese censorship, which led to the deadliest pandemic in 100 years, big government officials and their allies in the tech world are emulating the fatal behavior. <https://townhall.com/columnists/katiepavlich/2022/01/08/like-the-chinese-communist-party-big-tech-disappears-doctors-n2601571>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Israel set to demolish Gush Etzion vineyard dedicated to terror victim**

***Defense Ministry's Civil Administration notifies activist Jeremy Gimpel of plans to demolish Gush Etzion vineyard dedicated to terror victim***

*Israel National News ז' בשבט תשפ"ב 18:41 09.01.22*

Arugot Farm Courtesy

The Israeli Defense Ministry’s Civil Administration has notified Jewish activists in Judea and Samaria of its plans to demolish a vineyard planted in honor of a victim of Arab terror.

On Thursday, Jeremy Gimpel, one of the founders of the Arugot Farm, received notice from the IDF that the vineyard that he and his partners planted on state land five years ago is slated to be destroyed.

Gimpel was number 13 of the Jewish Home slate when Bennet first entered into politics as the head of the party in 2013.

“At the height of coronavirus pandemic, at a time when tourism has been hurt most, instead of supporting the educational farm centered around tourism, the government has decided to destroy the farm's vineyard,” Gimpel said Sunday.  
 Five years ago, the vineyard was planted in the Arugot Farm by the Schwartz family in memory of their son Ezra, an American Jewish yeshiva student who was murdered in Gush Etzion on his way to deliver food to soldiers.  
 “There is no one claiming private ownership of the Land. There is no lawsuit filed. There was no day in court. This seems to be a direct order from the Defense Ministry under the Bennett government.” Gimpel explained.  
 “Bennett is making history with this demolition order. There hasn’t been a vineyard uprooted or an orchard destroyed on state land without a claim to private ownership in more than 15 years.”  
 Gimpel said, “Some people are saying that he is taking his revenge on me personally. I don’t know if that’s true. Ultimately it doesn’t matter. He won’t answer my messages and his staff is not returning my calls. The lack of humanity in that party is beyond comprehension.”  
 “In one month the Bennett government has passed a law to legalize all of the illegal Arab building, struck down the law to legalize the new settlements in Israel, and now they are proactively destroying a five year old Jewish vineyard without any claim on the land.”  
 “We begged the land authority to not destroy the vineyards which we, as well as hundreds of volunteers have labored on for years - not to mention the hundreds of thousands of shekels of investment we have put into it. Despite the injustice of it, we asked them to wait for the Shmita year to end and we would relocate the vines to anywhere they want. One is not allowed to even work the land on the Shmita year, and for a Jewish government in the land of Israel to destroy a healthy vibrant vineyard in Judea feels - for lack of a better word - evil.”  
 “So far, the pleas of the partners of the Arugot Farm have been ignored. Planting trees in Israel is the most basic Zionist act and uprooting our vineyard in the middle of the Shmita year seems like a radical shift away from the party’s name “Yamina”. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320129> I know Jeremy Gimpel well and he is a most honorable and dedicated man. He is originally from the US and has dedicated his life to helping with he advancement and the establishment of Israel. This is really a terrible shame – rdb]

**'Death to Sara, death to Yair: We're on the way'**

***Threatening letter sent to Netanyahu family calling for "blood in the streets of Caesarea." Former premier files police complaint.***

*Israel National News ז' בשבט תשפ"ב 16:28 09.01.22*

Opposition leader MK Benjamin Netanyahu has submitted a complaint to police after receiving threats to his life and to the lives of his family members.  
 In a letter that was sent to the Netanyahu family, unknown persons wrote, “Death to Sara, death to Yair soon. We’re on the way,” in large letters, referring to the former premier’s wife and elder son. The letter continued, “We’re arriving in the country soon, solely in order to kill Sara and Yair Netanyahu. We want to see their blood flowing in the streets of Caesarea. Death to them.”  
 The writers added, “The State of Israel needs to be cleansed of the entire Netanyahu family. Only Avner [the younger son] is to be permitted to remain alive. Be warned.”  
 The letter was signed, “Three Israeli citizens in the United States – friends of Yigal Amir and Ohad Skornik.” Yigal Amir is serving a life sentence for killing former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin; Skornik was alleged to be a co-conspirator.  
 Last month, after the government decided to [cease funding](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/318493) security guards for the Netanyahu family, the [former prime minister published](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/318449) a video clip in which he related that, “In recent years, we have been receiving non-stop [threats](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/318476) – threats to harm me, my wife, and my children, even to murder them. We have received such threats in the past half year as well.  
 “Yesterday, an extreme-left-wing organization that calls itself CRIME MINISTER issued a direct threat against my wife and children. The writing is on the wall. We are talking about life-and-death. What else needs to happen [in order for this to be taken seriously]? Who will take responsibility if G-d forbid something happens to them?” <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320129> [This is really a very bad thing for the land of Israel (or anywhere else for that matter). The death of Rabin has sensitized Israel and the outcome is that threats can well turn into action. It is a bit like the Wiesel statement “when they say they are going to kill you believe them”. – rdb]

**Researcher: CDC's COVID-diabetes study is 'embarassing'**

***SF physician slams new CDC study showing association between COVID and diabetes in children. 'Wouldn't pass at a 7th grade science fair.'***

*David Rosenberg ז' בשבט תשפ"ב 17:58 09.01.22*

A prominent San Francisco health researcher has criticized a new study by the US Centers for Disease Control, calling the study “embarrassing”.

[On Friday](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320075), the CDC published an associative, retrospective cohort study which found a correlation between diagnosis with COVID-19 in children and an elevated risk of being diagnosed with diabetes.  
 The study drew on health insurance billing records from two companies, IQVIA and HealthVerity, looking at a pool of children billed by the insurers with medical record coding indicating COVID infections and comparing it to a group of children with no record of being diagnosed with the virus.  
 The CDC said the study indicated that among children, being diagnosed with COVID was associated with a 2.5-times greater risk factor for being diagnosed with diabetes 30 days after the COVID diagnosis.  
 But Dr. Vinayak Prasad, a San Francisco-based hematologist-oncologist, health researcher, and associate professor at the University of California at San Francisco, pushed back on the CDC’s claims Sunday, calling the study “problematic” and “embarrassing”.  
 “The CDC publishes an embarrassing study,” Dr. Prasad said. “This study has a lot of problems with it.”  
 “I think it is a problematic paper, obviously,” Prasad continued, noting that the study failed to account for basic confounders between children diagnosed with COVID and those who were not diagnosed with the virus.  
 “The goal of the analysis is to get a group of kids who had COVID-19, and a group of kids who in other respects are the same. They’re just the same age, the same sex. They controlled for those two. But they have to be the same socioeconomic status, the same racial makeup, the same BMI [body-mass index] and all the other risk factors that go into getting diabetes.”  
 “But they don’t do that. They’re not adjusting for race, for socioeconomics, for BMI. Those things are important determinants both for getting SARS-CoV-2…and also diabetes.”  
 “They’re not adjusting for those values, so you’re not finding the independent contribution of COVID-19.”  
 Prasad also highlighted the small absolute values found in the study, with just 68 COVID-positive kids in the IQVIA sample of 80,000 being diagnosed with diabetes within 30 days of the COVID diagnosis, or 0.08%. That figure was roughly 2.5-times higher, when adjusted for sample size, to the rate of diabetes found among those without a COVID diagnosis. Of the 400,000 children with no COVID diagnosis, 132, or 0.03%, were diagnosed with diabetes.  
 “The absolute risk of diabetes due to COVID (if you believed this is causal) appears to be an increase on par with a swiftly eaten bag of skittles.”  
 Researchers also failed to account for the large number of undiagnosed cases of COVID among children.  
 “This is only kids who present and have a COVID19 diagnosis. Seroprevalence is needed to find the real denominator of kids with COVID19. This will lower the absolute risks. COVID19 may be downgraded from a whole bag of skittles to a single, red skittle.”  
 Prasad further noted that the increased rate of diabetes diagnoses among children after documented COVID cases could in part be caused by pre-existing diabetes being discovered during blood testing children treated for COVID would be more likely to undergo than children with no diagnosis of COVID. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320129> [This is another half baked excuse for a study or a publication promoted by the FED agencies which is a totally useless piece of garbage and should never have been released. There are certain standards for publishing studies in the scientific community and this one doesn’t even come close, but of course most of what they have been doing for quite a number of years doesn’t meet any reasonable standards. – rdb]

**Jerusalem mayor Moshe Lion signs occupancy permit for largest synagogue in the world**

***Ger synagogue covers 377,000 square feet and was built to the highest standards of safety and beauty.***

*Orly Harari ז' בשבט תשפ"ב 22:30 09.01.22*

 MK Yaakov Litzman with Mayor Moshe Lion Public relations

Jerusalem Mayor Moshe Lion and his deputy Eliezer Rauchberger have signed the occupancy permit (tofes arba) authorizing use of a new building, for the largest synagogue in the world, the Ger *beit medrash* on Yirmiyahu Street in Jerusalem.

The enormous structure covers 35,000 square meters (377 thousand square feet), with the newly built wing occupying 12,000 square meters (130 thousand square feet).

Ophir May of the Jerusalem municipality oversaw the progress of the construction, which complies with the highest safety standards. The ceremony of signing the permit was a modest event that took place in the mayor’s private office, with Mayor Lion handing the permit to MK Yaakov Litzman, the Knesset representative of the Ger Hassidic group, and Rabbi Yohanan Weitzman, a Gerrer representative who sits on the Jerusalem city council.

“There aren’t many mayors who go around with the knowledge that they signed the permit for the largest synagogue in the world,” said Mayor Lion. “This is a truly historic occasion. The Ger Hassidic group is a cornerstone of Jerusalem and we are delighted to have finally reached the finish line with such success. Mazel tov, Gerrer hassidim, mazel tov!”

A picture containing road

Description automatically generated

The Ger synagogue in Jerusalem Public relations

Rabbi Rauchberger, who is also the head of the Jerusalem council’s construction and planning committee, noted that, “A construction project of this scope is something that Jerusalem has never seen before in recent history. We incorporated every conceivable safety feature and took into account the long-term goals for the building as well. I had the merit of accompanying this project for the duration and I am delighted that together with the representatives of Ger who were in charge of this project, we have reached its completion in minimum time with maximum splendor and beauty.”

“Three generations from now, Gerrer hassidim will enter the main Gerrer *beit medrash* and still remember which mayor it was who signed on the occupancy permit for this project,” added MK Litzman. “I would like to thank the mayor for all the assistance he provided for this project and in general, and may the great merit of this *mitzvah* stand in your stead and bring you success in all your work for the benefit of the community.”

Rabbi Weitzman added, “Throughout the construction process, both the mayor and Rabbi Rauchberger and their team of experts made themselves available whenever the need arose, from the weightiest questions to the tiniest of details. I have no doubt that we would not have been able to complete the project with such success without their continual assistance. Thank you!” <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320141>

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**01/09/2022 NEWS**

**2CELLOS - Despacito**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9LrEXF3USs**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9LrEXF3USs)

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| **"Men, to act with vigour and effect, must have time to mature measures, and judgment and experience, as to the best method of applying them. They must not be hurried on to their conclusions by the passions, or the fears of the multitude. They must deliberate, as well as resolve." -- Joseph Story (1779-1845) US Supreme Court Justice** |

**Read the Prophets & PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!**

**That is the only hope for this nation!**

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| **Please**  **Remember**  **These**  **Folks**  **In**  **Prayer-**  **Check often**  **They**  **Change!** | **Pray that the world would WAKE UP! Time for a worldwide repentance!**  **ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world**  **Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.**  **Pray for CB – Heart attack with stent.**  **Pray for TH - Knee and Blood pressure problems.**  **Pray for J P– sick with flu bad episode 5 years ago**  **Pray for EL – Had clot embolized to brain – successful ‘clot buster’ but long road to go.**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 3:1Now Moses was keeping the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the farthest end of the wilderness, and came to the mountain of God, unto Horeb. 2And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush; and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. 3And Moses said: 'I will turn aside now, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.'

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| **Mortality / Morbidity analysis of JAB by lot number – Please Watch!**  **Reiner Fuellmich: “New Findings… Enough to Dismantle the Entire (VAX) Industry!” – There Is No Pandemic**  [**https://thereisnopandemic.net/2022/01/03/reiner-fuellmich-new-findings-enough-to-dismantle-the-entire-vax-industry/**](https://thereisnopandemic.net/2022/01/03/reiner-fuellmich-new-findings-enough-to-dismantle-the-entire-vax-industry/)    **Targeted Genocide: Deadly Vax Lot Numbers Identified**  [**https://www.brighteon.com/cc47526e-aadb-46db-adc7-7372f2dcdc1f**](https://www.brighteon.com/cc47526e-aadb-46db-adc7-7372f2dcdc1f)  **Morgan Wallace, RN BSN CCRN AGAC-NP slays it at NHCS School Board Meeting 1/4/22**  [**https://www.bitchute.com/video/SIgUnnncYK2W/**](https://www.bitchute.com/video/SIgUnnncYK2W/) |

**Lapid speaks to Macron, calls for pressure on Iran as Vienna nuclear talks continue**

***The two also discuss bilateral relations; according to Foreign Ministry, Macron ‘reiterated his commitment to the security of Israel’***

*By* [*Amy Spiro*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/amy-spiro/) *Today, 10:47 pm*

**Foreign Minister Yair Lapid spoke with French President Emmanuel Macron on Saturday about the ongoing nuclear talks in Vienna between world powers and** Iran.  
 **Six weeks after the pair met in Paris, Lapid and Macron “held a long conversation,” according to Israel’s Foreign Ministry. The discussion centered on “nuclear talks and Israel’s demand to put pressure on Iran**,” said Lapid.  
 His **office said the two also discussed bilateral ties and that Macron “reiterated his commitment to the security of Israel and emphasized the importance he places on the warm relationship between Israel and France**.” **[Don’t trust that buzzard for anything. He is a slimy little globalist who has no care or concern for his own people as demonstrated by his stance on mandatory JABs and passports.. – rdb]**  
 The **French presidency did not immediately offer its own readout of the** call.  
 The **latest round of Iran talks resumed last week in Vienna just after the new year, following a three-week break for the holidays after the** talks restarted in November.  
 French **Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said Friday that he remained optimistic that a deal could be reached between Iran and world** powers on its nuclear program.  
 “I remain convinced we can reach a deal. Bits of progress have been made in the last few days,” Le Drian told BFM TV and RMC Radio, according to Reuters. “We have been heading in a positive direction in the last few days, but time is of the essence because if we don’t get an accord quickly there will be nothing to negotiate.”  
 During **their call on Saturday, Lapid also congratulated Macron on France’s assumption of the presidency of the Council of the European Union**, and “emphasized the importance of strengthening the relationship between Israel and the EU,” said the Foreign Ministry.  
 In late November, Lapid visited Paris and met with Macron at the end of a three-day trip to Europe seen largely as focused on the Iran talks.  
 At **the time, Lapid emphasized to Macron that sanctions must not be removed from Iran, and that only a credible military threat will stop** Tehran’s nuclear program.  
 Lapid also stressed to Macron in November Israel’s belief that Iran is merely buying time at the talks in order to continue making progress in its nuclear program, and to gain relief from crippling economic sanctions. Israel’s top diplomat also emphasized the need to develop an effective Plan B if talks fail.  
 Iran said on Monday that it has detected a new “realism” on the part of the Western countries taking part in the talks.  
 “We sense a retreat, or rather realism from the Western parties in the Vienna negotiations, that there can be no demands beyond the nuclear accord,” Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh told reporters.  
 However, “it is too early to judge if the United States and the three European countries [France, Germany and the UK] have drawn up a real agenda to commit to lifting sanctions,” he said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/lapid-speaks-to-macron-calls-for-pressure-on-iran-as-vienna-nuclear-talks-continue/>

**Visiting family of toddler shot dead, police and defense chiefs vow to find culprits**

***Benny Gantz and Kobi Shabtai also promise to crack down on gun violence while at home of Ammar Hujayrat, 4-year-old killed at playground by stray gunfire***

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/Image-from-iOS-29.jpg)*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 9:12 pm*

***Defense Minister Benny Gantz (left) pays a condolence visit to the family of Ammar Hujayrat in Bir al-Maksur, on January 8, 2022. (Defense Ministry)***

**Police chief Kobi Shabtai and Defense Minister Benny Gantz paid condolence visits on Saturday to the family of Ammar Hujayrat, a four-year-old boy who was shot dead on Thursday during a gun battle between criminals** while he was at a playground.

**Gantz visited the Hujayrat family in Bir al-Maksur along with Blue and White MK Mufid Mari, and Khaled Hujayrat, the head of the village’s local coun**cil.

**“We as a society must fight against crime and illegal weapons,” said Gantz**. “We are making every effort to prosecute those responsible, and to act to prevent the next killing. We have to work together — the government, leaders, families, to ensure that it can be safe to grow up anywhere in the country.”

**Shabtai separately paid a visit to the family on Saturday, along with other police o**fficials.

“We are making every effort to get our hands on those murderers,” said Shabtai. “I share in [the family’s] grief, their pain is our pain.”

Hours after Hujayrat was gunned down on Thursday by stray gunfire, police [detained multiple suspects](https://www.timesofisrael.com/two-suspects-arrested-in-fatal-shooting-of-4-year-old-boy-on-playground/) allegedly involved in the incident. On Friday, the Nazareth Magistrate’s Court extended the remand of four suspects said to be connected to the shooting; all deny involvement.

מפכ"ל המשטרה, רנ"צ יעקב שבתאי, הגיע הערב לביר אל מכסור לביקור תנחומים אצל משפחתו של עמאר חג'יראת בן הארבע שנרצח השבוע. "אנחנו עושים כל מאמץ על מנת לשים את היד על אותם מרצחים. אני משתתף בצערכם, כאבכם הוא כאבנו" [pic.twitter.com/y2txpXCf6f](https://t.co/y2txpXCf6f)

— משטרת ישראל (@IL\_police) [January 8, 2022](https://twitter.com/IL_police/status/1479870149767356416?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

**Police said they believed Hujayrat was hit by a bullet fired during a gunfight at a construction site some 300 meters (984 feet) away from the playgroun**d.

“This is a shocking incident of a toddler hit by gunfire from criminals using firearms with such ease, without any respect for human life, causing such a terrible tragedy,” police said in a statement hours after the killing. “We will do everything to reach the gunmen.”

Thousands of people turned out for [the boy’s funeral](https://www.timesofisrael.com/president-speaks-to-father-of-arab-child-shot-dead-in-north-expresses-horror/) on Friday.

President Isaac Herzog spoke with Muhammad Hujayrat, the father of Ammar, and expressed his “deep horror” at the child’s killing and offered the family his condolences. **MORE -** <https://www.timesofisrael.com/visiting-family-of-toddler-shot-dead-police-defense-chiefs-vow-to-find-culprits/>

**Over 31,000 new COVID diagnoses during weekend, as serious cases rise to 172**

***3 MKs test positive as Omicron surges; reports of reduced crowding at PCR test sites, but new long lines at antigen locations; expert says 50k daily cases likely in a week***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:39 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/F220106YA16-2.jpg)

***A healthcare worker takes swab samples from Israelis in a drive through complex in Modi'in, on January 6, 2022. (Yossi Aloni/Flash90)***

**Israel registered over 31,000 new coronavirus cases over the weekend, the Health Ministry said Saturday evening, with 18,806 diagnosed Friday and another 12,495 by Satu**rday evening.

**The number of seriously ill patients rose to 172 from 143** the day before.

**The positive test rate was at 9.5 perc**ent. The virus transmission number, R, indicating how many people each infected person passes the virus on to, dropped slightly from 1.96 to 1.95. The transmission rate is based on data from 10 days earlier and values above 1 show infections are spreading — the higher the number, the greater the rate.

**The total number of active cases stood at 108,239. The death toll remained at 8,259, with no change since Friday**.

Saturday’s data continued the upward trend in daily cases as the highly contagious Omicron strain of the virus surges through the country.

**Eran Segal, a computational biologist from the Weizmann Institute of Science who advises the government on the pandemic, told Channel 12 he expected the country will reach 40-50 thousand cases a day within a week**, though many of these may not be diagnosed.

**Still, he forecast that the number of serious cases would remain relatively low**, at some 250-350 in the coming week. He noted that Israeli data so far shows Omicron patients are five times less likely to suffer a severe case compared to Delta.

Segal also said **most current serious cases appear to be caused by Delta and not Omicron**, with vaccines offering stronger protection against the former. The vast majority of those in serious condition are unvaccinated.

Advertisement

**Three members of the Knesset were diagnosed over the weekend: Likud’s Haim Katz and Eti Atiya, and Shas’s Yoav Ben-Tzur**.

**Channel 12 news reported Saturday that with** [**new testing regulations**](https://www.timesofisrael.com/health-ministry-shifts-emphasis-to-home-testing-as-surging-virus-strains-capacity/) **prioritizing over-60s and the unvaccinated at PCR testing stations, crowds waiting for PCR tests had reduced drastically.** However, long lines were now being reported at antigen testing stations around the country as the younger population simply shifted to those.  
 **Individuals can also conduct rapid antigen tests at home, but there have been severe shortages in test kits** in recent days as Israelis raided shops for them.  
 Some **health experts have warned antigen tests are far less accurate than PCR tests — particularly when it comes to detecting Omicron. According to Channel 12**, new Defense Ministry data shows antigen tests may miss positive cases some 50 percent of the time.  
 **Prof. Galia Rahav, Head of Sheba Medical Center’s Infectious Disease Unit and Laboratory, said the current testing directives might need to be changed: She noted that currently people are told to test only once after contact** with a confirmed case, and should probably be told to test a second time after a few days to account for the virus incubation period.  
 She also said antigen tests currently only sample from nostrils, but that people should probably also swab their mouths first, as this can make detection more accurate.

Despite the skyrocketing infection numbers, Israel was set to open its borders Sunday to visitors for the first time since November, as officials have determined that border limitations are no longer relevant in containing the spread of Omicron.  
 Prime Minister Naftali Bennett has warned that Israel could hit 50,000 daily cases at the height of the wave, expected in some 2-3 weeks.  
 Omicron, first detected in South Africa, is more contagious but appears to cause fewer cases of severe illness and death than previous variants — especially among vaccinated people.  
 In **Israel as elsewhere, the variant is spreading so fast — straining testing, schools, hospitals and airlines — that some experts are urging a focus** instead on hospital admissions. Those, as well as deaths from coronavirus, aren’t climbing as quickly — the result, experts say, of protection offered by vaccinations. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/around-29000-new-covid-diagnoses-over-weekend-as-serious-cases-rise-to-172/>

**Who can travel to Israel and how, as country reopens to visitors on Sunday**

***As surging virus rates make impact of travel restrictions negligible, Israel to allow vaccinated and some recovered foreign travelers to arrive***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 4:56 pm*

**Israel is set to reopen its borders to vaccinated and some recovered foreign tourists starting Sunday, January 9, as coronavirus rates in the country spike to record levels, making the impact of travel bans negl**igible.

**The new rules enter into effect at midnight Saturday-Sund**ay.

On Friday, Israel shut down its list of “red” countries with high COVID-19 morbidity, ostensibly making travel possible to and from all nations.

Having kept its borders closed for most of the pandemic, Israel began to allow vaccinated tourists in at the start of last November, but by the end of that month had again banned the entry of foreign nationals in an attempt to hold off the Omicron variant, a ban that ends January 9.

**Despite the shift in policy, health officials still recommend avoiding any non-essential travel** as the virus continues to surge.

**Following is a guide to travel to Israel for foreigners as of January 9:**

* **Travelers must have been vaccinated (with at least two shots in most cases) or recovered from the virus within the last 180 days. Vaccination** must take place at least 14 days before departure.
* Vaccines recognized are Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, Sinovak, Sinopharm, Johnson & Johnson (single shot), Covishield, and Sputnik V (must get a serological test in Israel). Travelers must present a vaccination certificate.
* Currently **Israel only recognizes recovery certificates from the European Union, based on** a positive NAAT test. Recovered, non-vaccinated individuals from other countries can not enter at this time.
* Travelers must present a negative PCR test result from within 72 hours of their flight. They must also submit [an online entry form.](https://corona.health.gov.il/en/flights/)
* A second PCR test will be administered at Ben Gurion Airport upon arrival. Travelers must proceed to quarantine until a negative result is received or until 24 hours have elapsed, whichever comes first.

For borderline cases and questions, travelers are encouraged to contact the Health Ministry hotline at +972-8-624-1010 (English menu is available). <https://www.timesofisrael.com/who-can-travel-to-israel-and-how-as-country-reopens-to-visitors-on-sunday/>

**National blackout hits Lebanon; power company blames protester sabotage**

***Firm says activists stormed key substation and disconnected equipment, causing major disruptions amid ongoing crisis***

*By* [*AFP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/afp/) *Today, 10:22 pm*

**Lebanon’s state electricity company said Saturday that its power plants had stopped working after protesters stormed a key substation and tampered with the electrical equipment**.

The **small Mediterranean country is already grappling with round-the-clock power cuts that last at least 20 hours a day due to a financial crisis that has hampered key imports, including fuel for power stations**.  
 **Demonstrators angered by the blackouts stormed an Electricite du Liban substation in the Aramoun region north of Beirut on Saturday, EDL said** in a statement.  
 “**Protesters disconnected a 150-220 kilovolt power transformer and opened circuit breakers connecting the Zahrani power plant to the Aramoun station**,” it said.  
 “This caused **disturbances on the electrical grid… which led to a total blackout across Lebanese territory** as of 17:27 (1527 GMT).”  
 The disruption will pile more pressure on private generators that are already struggling to keep up with the near-total absence of state power.  
 **Private generator owners have hiked prices** and rationed supply in recent months, with costs surging after the government gradually lifted fuel subsidies.  
 The **average generator bill for a Lebanese family usually costs more than the monthly minimum wage of 675,000 Lebanese pounds — now worth just $22**, as the local currency hits record lows against the dollar on the black market.  
 The international community has long demanded a complete overhaul of Lebanon’s ruinous electricity sector, which has cost the government more than $40 billion since the end of the 1975-1990 civil war.  
 Lebanon has reached an agreement on bringing Jordanian electricity and Egyptian gas into the country via war-torn Syria, while Shiite movement Hezbollah has separately started hydrocarbon deliveries from Iran. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/national-blackout-hits-lebanon-power-company-blames-protester-sabotage/> **[Did you know the amount of the monthly minimum wage in Lebanon? The equivalent of $22.00! Obviously that is a country which is supposed to be rather advanced and used to be considered the riviera of the Eastern Mediterranean and is now in the pits economically. – rdb ]**  
   
**Iran imposes sanctions on Americans over 2020 killing of Soleimani  
*Iran's Foreign Ministry said the 51 Americans had been targeted for what it called "terrorism" and human rights violations.****By* [*TOVAH LAZAROFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/tovah-lazaroff)*, REUTERS Published: JANUARY 8, 2022 17:21 Updated: JANUARY 8, 2022 21:12* **Iran on Saturday imposed sanctions on dozens more Americans, many of them from the US military, over the 2020 killing of** [**General Qassem Soleimani**](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-691788) **in a drone strike**.  
 **The move came as talks continued in Vienna Saturday between Tehran and five world powers — Russia, China, France, Germany and Great Britain** — on the lifting of crippling US sanctions imposed by the former Trump Administration.  
 The **meeting of the working group to remove sanctions is part of the overall eighth round of Vienna talks to revive the 2015 Iran deal that included Tehran the five world powers** and the United States, which left the deal in 2018 and now seeks to return to it.   
 Vienna talks involving the US, have been held indirectly, with Washington focused on bringing Tehran back into nuclear compliance with the deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.  
 In **a move that spoke to continued Washington-Tehran tensions, Iran's Foreign Ministry said 51 Americans had been targeted for what it called "terrorism" and human rights violations**. The step lets Iranian authorities seize any assets they hold in Iran, but the apparent absence of such assets means it will likely be symbolic.

***A GIRL makes her feelings known during a condolence ceremony for Iranian Maj.-Gen. Qassem Soleimani, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on January 7. (credit: REUTERS)***

**The ministry said in a statement carried by local media that the 51 had been targeted for "their role in the terrorist crime by the United States against the martyred General Qassem Soleimani and his companions and the promotion** of terrorism and violations of fundamental human rights".

Soleimani, the commander of Iran's Quds Force, the overseas arm of the elite Revolutionary Guards, was killed in Iraq in a drone strike on Jan. 3, 2020, ordered by then-President Donald Trump.

**Those added to Iran's sanctions list included US General Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and former White House national security adviser Robert O'Brien**.

**In a similar move announced a year ago, Iran imposed sanctions on Trump and several senior US officials** over what it called "terrorist and anti-human rights" acts.

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, speaking on the second anniversary of Soleimani's assassination, said this week Trump must face trial for the killing or Tehran would take revenge.

**Iran charged that** [**Israel's role in the Soleimani killing**](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-691413) **showed that it was a force of global insta**bility.

"The Zionist regime’s admission that it was involved in the assassination of General #Soleimani showed that hostility to this champion of fighting against terrorism in the region, was the link connecting all forces of evil in the world."

Israel opposed the original Iran deal as well as attempts to revive, out of concern that a bad deal only empowers Iran.

On Friday French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian told BFM TV and RMC Radio that progress has been made regarding the Iran nuclear talks although time is running out,  
 **Western diplomats have indicated they are hoping to have a breakthrough by the end of January or early February, but sharp differences remain with the toughest issues** still unresolved. Iran has rejected any deadline imposed by Western powers.  
 "I remain convinced we can reach a deal. Bits of progress have been made in the last few days,"Le Drian said. "We have been heading in a positive direction in the last few days, but time is of the essence, because if we don't get an accord quickly there will be nothing to negotiate."  
 The eighth round of talks, the first under Iran's new hardline President Ebrahim Raisi, opened on December 27 and have included some new Iranian demands to a working text.  
 **Another positive sign this week was the arrival in Vienna of South Korea's Vice Foreign Minister to discuss with Iran, the United States and other parties the possible release of $7 billion of frozen Iranian assets** held in the Asian country because of US sanctions.  
 Any **release would need to be approved by Washington**. **[Considering the fact that the Obamanation is probably still pulling most of the strings and he has already in the past given billions to the Iranian terrorist group that will probably be a done deal and may never make the news spread. – rdb]**  
 The **ministry said in a statement that the vice minister had agreed with the Iranians that the release of the frozen assets "should take place in an urgent manner**."  
 "It will be discussed at the sanctions removal working groups in Vienna," an Iranian official said, clarifying that the funds would not be released immediately.  
 Western powers have said progress was too slow and negotiators had "weeks not months" left before the 2015 deal becomes meaningless.  
 **In an interview with Al Jazeera on Thursday, Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian also suggested the situation was positive, but repeated Tehran's position that all sanctions must be lifted and that Washington should provide guarantees that it will not pull out a**gain.  
 Little remains of that deal, which lifted sanctions against Tehran in exchange for restrictions on its atomic activities. Then-president Donald Trump pulled Washington out of it in 2018, re-imposing US sanctions, and Iran later breached many of the deal's nuclear restrictions and kept pushing well beyond them. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-691905>

**Have archaeologists finally discovered the long-lost temple of Hercules?**

***Archaeologists in Spain have found the remains of a series of buildings which they believe to be the lost temple of Hercules.***

*By* [*ARIELLA MARSDEN*](https://www.jpost.com/author/ariella-marsden) *Published: JANUARY 7, 2022 03:00 Updated: JANUARY 8, 2022 12:14*

***A statue of Hercules and a lion (photo credit: FELIX MITTERMEIER/PIXABAY)***

**Researchers in** [**Spain**](https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/article-691478) **found the remains of a series of buildings which they believe to be the temple of the Greco/Roman mythological hero Hercule**s.

Using information obtained through documentary and archaeological data, researchers from the Territorial Delegation and the University of Seville conducted a number of research trips to the area between Chiclana de Frontera and San Fernando in Andalusia, Spain.

**The information obtained from these trips revealed a different environment from what was previously believed to have existed in the area. Researchers now believe there was a coastline there that was anthropized (transformed or adapted by people) with a possible** dock.

**The newly discovered information about the area matches information about the temple of Hercules from ancient writers of the time. In order to confirm their suspicions, the archaeologists will investigate the area and the data they have about it in an attempt to reconstruct the history** and determine chronology, typology and the uses of each of the structures they discovered.

 Hercules (or Hercales; known to the Romans as Melqart) is a heroic figure of Greek mythology who was then adapted to fit Roman mythology. As the son of Zeus (or Jupiter), Hercules was a demigod who had various adventures. He is considered the god of strength and heroes.

***Remains of a Roman temple. (credit: DIMITRI SVETSIKAS/PIXABAY)***

**The** [**temple**](https://www.jpost.com/archaeology/article-691768) **of Hercules is well-known to have been a popular pilgrimage site thousands of years ago and was believed to have been visited by the likes of Julius Caesar, but its location was lost, and** archaeologists have been seeking it for years.

"We researchers are very reluctant to turn archaeology into a spectacle, but in this case, we are faced with some spectacular findings," Francisco José García, director of the University of Seville's Prehistory and Archaeology Department, told *El Pais*. <https://www.jpost.com/archaeology/article-691828>

**Former governor accuses Biden of having 'vaccine idolatry'**

***Warns that 'follow the science' mantra just not working***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published January 8, 2022 at 5:55pm*

**One of the problems America faces in fighting COVID-19 is that the president has a "vaccine idolatry," and it is not workin**g.

**Those are the comments from Bobby Jindal, the governor of Louisiana fr**om 2008-2016, a 2016 candidate for the GOP nomination for president and now head of the Center for a Healthy America at the American First Policy Institute.  
 **He warns, in a column at** [**Real Clear Policy**](https://www.realclearpolicy.com/articles/2022/01/07/bidens_vaccine_idolatry_is_not_working_810996.html) **that there has to be more to the discussion about COVID and vaccines than "follow the science**."  
 "**Mindlessly chanting 'follow the science' seeks to delegitimize conservatives without considering the merits of their arguments. 'Follow the science' did not apply when Democrats questioned vaccines, and public health experts advocated delaying their approval while Trump was in office. 'Follow the science' does not apply when serious researchers explore whether herd immunity is a workable strategy**, risk-based approaches should differ by age and other demographics, or the costs of eradicating COVID exceed the benefit beyond making it endemic and largely survivable," he explained.  
 "**Biden’s strident rhetoric castigates mandate opponents as opposing science and favoring** COVID. He seems more interested in browbeating than persuading the unvaccinated, and ignores the reasonable pro-vaccine, anti-mandate, and anti-school closures position that worked for Glenn Youngkin. One can believe in vaccines' efficacy without believing them panaceas. Biden should follow the science and adopt a more holistic approach, as his vaccine idolatry is not working," he found.  
 He pointed out that Biden promised to resolve COVID when he was elected but failed, "prematurely" declaring victory on July 4 so he could focus on his still-unsuccessful "Build Back Better boondoggle."  
 "As America’s COVID deaths in his first year exceeded those in President Trump’s last year, liberals are eager to blame conservatives for refusing to 'follow the science,'" he wrote. "Biden has framed vaccination as self-evident patriotic duty — rather than a personal choice based on risk tolerance and individual circumstances — giving liberals another excuse to feel morally superior."  
 The **Supreme Court heard arguments Friday on Biden's latest mandates that people be given the shots or else**.  
 Bottom of Form

But Jindal pointed out Barack Obama, and Joe Biden, "opposed health insurance mandates" before they were for them.  
 Democrats **along the way have supported Biden's agenda, while Republicans have opposed it, but Biden undercut his own arguments when he snapped he was "losing patience**" with the unvaxxed, Jindal wrote.  
 The problem for employers is that if they insist workers accept the shots, they lose workers.  
 "**States have broad police powers they can invoke in emergencies. The Supreme Court ruled in the 1905 case of Jacobson vs. Massachusetts that states can mandate vaccines, but federalism allows states powers denied to Biden," Jindal said. "Courts and legislators have curtailed emergency powers the longer the pandemic lasts, a**s governments have time to enact policies through normal legislative processes. Over half of the states passed laws limiting public health authority," he explained.  
 He concluded, **"Biden’s obsession with vaccines and masks causes him to neglect tests and treatments, seeing them as distractions that will be rendered obsolete by universal vaccination**. Vice President Harris admitted they did not anticipate and prepare for more transmissible Delta and Omicron variants. The CDC in June said vaccinated individuals no longer needed to be tested, and the administration failed to approve tests available in Europe. The mixed messaging and uneven demand caused Abbott Laboratories to lay off workers, cancel supplier contracts, and destroy millions of tests. Biden’s mandate that unvaccinated employees be tested weekly creates even more unmet demand. While America has led other nations in developing and securing vaccines, the U.K. and Germany have done a better job providing rapid tests," he explained.  
 He said Biden "should be giving Americans options for managing the omicron surge and creating confidence among the vaccinated. He instead defines success in case numbers rather than more pertinent measures like serious cases, mortality, and hospital capacity, undervaluing the loss of freedom, privacy, and normalcy."  
 Jindal said Americans now are suffering from "COVID fatigue" as government has overpromised and underdelivered under Biden, who has created uncertainty over vaccinations, boosters, masks, quarantines and more. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/former-governor-accuses-biden-vaccine-idolatry/>

**Christian leader warns LGBT agenda is targeting 'the pulpit' itself**

***Goal is 'criminalization' of whatever Christian speech is no longer politically attractive'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published January 8, 2022 at 1:23pm*

**The LGBT movement, if it is successful in its campaign to persuade governments to restrict what is said about the same-sex agenda, eventually will target even the gospel of Jesus Christ as told in the Bible, warns a key Christian le**ader.  
 "Let's just state the obvious**. If the government can tell you it is illegal to teach biblical truth on the issue of human sexuality, the array of LGBT issues, understand two things. Number one, it won't stop with LGBT and understand, eventually it means the criminalization of whatever Christian speech is no longer politically attractive**. And that eventually will mean everything that is revealed in scripture, most essentially, the gospel of Jesus Christ," warned Albert Mohler, in an online [column.](https://albertmohler.com/2022/01/03/briefing-1-3-22)  
 **Mohler, the president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary**, the flagship school of the Southern Baptist Convention, continued, "Right now in this turning point between 2021 and 2022, we see the shape of the challenge coming to the Christian church even more clearly, or even more ominously. We are about to find out where the biblical Christians are on both sides of the Atlantic, and as you and I know, on both sides of the American/Canadian border."  
 The **Christian Institute,** [**citing his comments,**](https://www.christian.org.uk/news/al-mohler-rising-spectre-of-conversion-therapy-bans-threatens-gospel-freedom/) **noted his reference to bans in both the U.K. and the U.S. on "conversion "therapy**."

**Multiple local governments have banned that, contending that it can harm patients if counselors explain to them alternatives to adopting and endorsing same-sex or transgender ideologies**.  
 In **some locations, the agenda-driven laws have left it illegal to counsel someone against a same-sex relationship, but allows them to be counseled toward that activity**.  
 The institute warned the Mohler's comments come as a proposal is coming in Canada to ban "conversion therapy" and similar proposals are being considered in the U.K. and Ireland.  
 He explained how that ideology contradicts the Bible's plain teaching that God "made us male and female and he gave us the unalterable rules of human sexual behavior and conduct."  
 **The result is that LGBT activists don't simply want a change in the law on a single issue, but they also are wanting to "criminalize and sanction and make illegal any confrontation on biblical terms of their own new m**orality."  
 The **result could be restrictions in pulpits, and even what conversations parents have with their children**.  
 Mohler explained those pursuing the radical ideology state, "Look, you simply have to take the issue of orientation as if it is morally neutral. Any orientation is as good as any other orientation."  
 That's evident, he said, from proposals in both Canada and Britain.  
 "But let's get to the biggest issue of Christian concern, these particular bills could have the effect of chilling the preaching, restricting the liberty of the pulpit in Christian churches, and even could extend to potentially criminalizing personal conversations and even outlawing certain kinds of conversations between parents and children," he said.  
 "It is happening. And we have seen this coming. We've seen this issue, this challenge taking shape, and you see now the fact that many who are writing what they consider to be and claim to be a platform of sexual liberation are not only calling for a change in the laws, they're not only changing the entire society, they want to criminalize and sanction and make illegal any confrontation on biblical terms of their own new morality."  
 He **warned the legislation in Canada, which is taking effect this week, explicitly states that anything suggesting a chosen LGBT lifestyle "is in any way inferior" to heterosexual standards is "a myth**."  
 "**But the bigger threat is, of course, that this will be extended throughout society, inexorably, unavoidably, to every other context, including Christian institutions, Christian organizations, and even Christian churches. This is legislation that no one in Canada wants to admit is directed to the pulpit**, but make no mistake, it's directed to the pulpit," he said.  
 And parents, he said.  
 "This is a new morality, which now comes with not only the persuasive power of the government of the state, but now with the coercive power of the state, even criminalization. The legislation in Canada is genuinely radical and that's a matter of pride for Canada's liberal government whose justice minister, David Lametti, said in a statement, 'The consensus demonstrated by parliamentarians in Canada is part of an emerging global consensus surrounding the real and lifelong harms for conversion therapy victims and survivors. In fact, with these changes to the criminal code,' he said, 'Canada's criminal laws on conversion therapy are among the most comprehensive in the world,'" he wrote.  
 "What happens when a young person, or age is in this case not necessarily important, but let's say a young person goes to talk to a Christian counselor, that Christian counselor, according to this legislation, is not legally able even to discuss in biblical terms the sexual orientation issue or how that would apply in Christian holiness to our understanding of biblical morality and God's intention for Christians living out the Christian life," he said.  
 It won't be long before Christian teachers are "brought up on charges," he warned.  
 In the U.K., the plan is to make it illegal to start therapy from the point that being LGBT is wrong. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/albert-mohler-warns-lgbt-agenda-targeting-pulpit/> **[I would suggest a review of Romans if you have forgotten what much of this is about. Both First and second covenants are quite explicit about acceptable behavior and Romans is quite clear that this is to be expected in the time before the end of days. – rdb]**

**Commentary:**

**Democrat Party is a Wholly Owned Satanic Subsidiary of the Luciferian Globalists***By* [*Dr. Mike Spaulding*](https://newswithviews.com/author/mikespaulding/)*|January 8th, 2022* The Democrat Party is a wholly owned Satanic subsidiary of the Luciferian Globalists who are making what they hope is their final power play right now in Washington D.C. and all across this nation. With few exceptions, the Republican Party is clueless about how to stop this *coup d’état i*n broad daylight. In fact, many of them are riding alongside of their Democrat counterparts in the take-down of America and are just as culpable.  
 Satan, with the assistance of the Chinese owned U.S. entertainment, media, and education systems, aided and abetted by the tyrannical judicial and civil governments at every level, has done an effective job reprogramming and literally dumbing- down Americans. Now we see little more than *programmed zombies* marching to the orders and propaganda of evil doers.  
 God has appointed watchmen in every generation. When the watchman’s cry is heeded, disaster is averted. When the watchman’s cry is ignored, a nation suffers and is often conquered and enslaved. Yet, today, we have Christians, even pastors, saying that we should not cry out that something is wrong or stand against it. Christians scorn those who warn, accusing them of being divisive.  
 The stark reality of America today is that we have become an abomination and deserve the severest judgment by God. After you read the list below, ask yourself, “What is righteous about any of this?” Then ask yourself a second question: “Why do woke Christians, the woke church and the self-proclaimed evangelical left support these things or remain silent about them?”  
 Murder of the unborn  
 Selling aborted baby parts  
 Same-sex “*marriage*”  
 Allowing illegal immigrants to vote  
 Elimination of national borders  
 Adoption of identity, special interest politics  
 Supporting anarchy and “*sanctuary*” for people illegally in America  
 Expansion of the welfare state that enslaves people in poverty  
 Continuous attacks on the God they claim to serve  
 I have heard some Christians retreat from addressing all of this by the pious platitude of “Well, we just need to preach the Gospel.” Of course we need to preach the Gospel! That is not in question. However, how does preaching the Gospel prevent people from trafficking humans for sex and money? They are not listening to you or anyone else preaching the Gospel. How does preaching the Gospel to Marxist Communists, which is to say, Satanists, stop their stated goal of destroying America and, in the process, the church? The leadership of Black Lives Matter and Antifa are all Satanic*useful idiots* marching to the orders of their master, Satan.  
 When I hear people say we just need to just preach the Gospel, I fear I am looking at a spineless coward who does not have the courage to stand against evil and do hand-to-hand combat with the enemies of God. Or, perhaps, the one who falls back on the excuse of “we just need to preach the Gospel” thinks that it is the sum total of what he or she is required to do for the Lord Jesus. That person is very much like the one who believes they have served God by attending church once a week.  
 People who think all we need to do is preach the Gospel are most often looking for a convenient way of escaping the call to duty as a soldier of Christ. There is often a battle that goes on for the heart and mind of an individual before they are willing or ready to hear anything about salvation through faith in Jesus. Conversations with those who are willing can take time when a humanistic worldview must be replaced with a biblical one.  
 I have made the observation many times before, and I make it again now: Preaching the Gospel is going to abortion clinics, literally state-sanctioned murder mills, and pleading with women not to end their child’s life. There are other options besides murdering the innocent, and people need to hear about them.  
 Preaching the Gospel is going to shame parades and telling homosexuals, lesbians, transgenders, and pedophiles, as well as others suffering under the bondage of sin, that God did not create them that way. There is freedom from their darkness through Christ.  
 Now, please understand that Jesus Christ does not call us to follow Him because of what we already are. Jesus does not call us to follow Him because He will fulfill our dreams, plans and goals that we have established. Jesus’ desire is to fashion us into servants that bring glory and honor to Him. Jesus bids us to follow Him because of what He desires to make us.  
 Here is what it means to follow Jesus and carry your cross daily: it means that you will stand in *stark contrast* to the world at large. It means that your time and energy are not spent vainly trying to keep up with what the world says is important.  
 Your life and actions will be a protest against an ungodly world. You will be scorned by the world, misunderstood by your family and woefully out of step with what the world values and exalts.  
 A.W. Tozer remains a giant of the faith nearly sixty years after he went to be with Jesus. He wrote about the apostasy of the days in which he lived. It has grown exponentially worse since then. Tozer observed:  
 *Today we need prophetic preachers – not preachers of prophecy merely, but preachers with a gift of prophecy. The word of wisdom is missing. We need the gift of discernment again in our pulpits. It is not the ability to predict that we need, but the anointed eye, the power of spiritual penetration and interpretation, the ability to appraise the religious scene as viewed from God’s position, and to tell us what is actually going on.*  
 *What is needed desperately today is prophetic insight. Scholars can interpret the past; it takes prophets to interpret the present. Learning will enable a man to pass judgment on yesterdays, but it requires a gift of clear seeing to pass the sentence on our own day.*  
 *If Christianity is to receive a rejuvenation, it must be by other means than any now being used. If the Church in the second half of this century is to recover from the injuries she suffered in the first half, there must appear a new type of preacher.*  
 *Another kind of religious leader must arise among us. He must be of the old prophet type, a man who has seen visions of God and has heard a voice from the Throne. When he comes (and I pray God there will be not one but many), he will stand in flat contradiction to everything our smirking, smooth civilization holds dear.*  
 *He will contradict, denounce and protest in the name of God and will earn the hatred and opposition of a large segment of Christendom. Such a man is likely to be lean, rugged, blunt- spoken and a little bit angry with the world.*  
 *He will love Christ and the souls of men to the point of willingness to die for the glory of the One and the salvation of the other. But, he will fear nothing that breathes with mortal breath.*  
 The world will try to define you by their terms. The world will tell you that you are naïve, ignorant, bigoted, intolerant, and all sorts of other things for opposing their demonic agenda and for refusing to kneel before their golden statue of state and its de facto religion of humanism. Understand that these people are under the command of their father, the devil, and are to be pitied and opposed.  
 Let us not shrink back from the battle raging all around us. The soul of America and the testimony of the church are at stake. As Paul wrote to the Philippian believers so I remind you: *Courage exalts Christ!*  
 *According to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.* — Philippians 1:20  
 I encourage you with one final thought. In the book of Daniel we learn that there will be people who abandon God in the heat of battle. They will listen to the lies of the enemy of God and will side with the lawless one. However, there is a remnant that will remain faithful to God. This prophecy has come to pass today. It has happened in advance of the rise of the lawless one who will by intrigue deceive many.  
 *By smooth words he will turn to godlessness those who act wickedly toward the covenant, but the people who know their God will display strength and take action.* — Daniel 11:32  
 Those who know God will display strength and take action! Amen and amen!  
 Semper Fidelis to Jesus Christ!  
 Pastor Mike  
 © 2021 Mike Spaulding – All Rights Reserved  
 E-Mail Mike Spaulding: drmichaelspaulding@gmail.com  
 *[This article is an excerpt of the book* [Church & State: How the Left Used the Church to Conquer America](https://www.gatekeepersonline.com/product-page/church-state), *which brought together authors Pastor Greg Locke, Dr. Michael Brown, Denise McAllister, Pastor Cary Gordon, Jeff Dornik, JD Rucker, Pastor Ken Peters, Dr. Robert Oscar Lopez, Dr. Mike Spaulding, Pastor Sam Jones and Dustin Faulkner. This team of authors exposes the strategy employed to overthrow America through the infiltration of the Evangelical Church.* [*Order your copy today*](https://www.gatekeepersonline.com/product-page/church-state)*!]* https://newswithviews.com/democrat-party-is-a-wholly-owned-satanic-subsidiary-of-the-luciferian-globalists/

**America’s Carrying Capacity: Or, How Many Third World Invaders Can We Afford?***By* [*Sidney Secular*](https://newswithviews.com/author/sidney/)*|January 8th, 2022* Illegal aliens, “legal” aliens, and refugees increasingly stream into the US as part of a vast global swarming of third-worlders into Western nations aided and abetted by the powers-that-shouldn’t be. Immune to charges of “white privilege,”because few if any are white, they are tempted to come because they see successful essentially white countries will coddle and support them once they arrive. Many of their relatives have already battened upon the nation’s body like hordes of leaches sending scads of money to their families at home and, of course, money talks. This money sent by “immigrants” to the third world only intensifies the desire to immigrate to Anglo land and the chain migration of near and not-so-near relatives makes that desire possible.  
 Thus, it is relatively simple to round up caravans of invaders to make the trek north, especially when George Soros is providing cushy bus transportation, food and accommodations. Parenthetically, you didn’t really believe the photos of thousands trudging along in the wilderness shoulder to shoulder twenty abreast towards the promised land were real, did you? Looked staged, no? They were likely paid as extras in documentaries to inflame American pity, tax support and charity payments.As well, the adults among them know they can get past porous borders since there are no actual consequences for doing so but merely some temporary inconvenience –if that! Meanwhile, children along with drugs come in with the “refugees” making the whole thing a great money maker for the traffickers in both kids and drugs.  
 Then there is another consideration: the money illegals earn in the US does us no good, since little of it is circulated in our economy, as normal wages would be. Neither do these people pay taxes though they benefit from tax-funded social programs. As a result, adding more illegals means more money leaving the country and added welfare payments to support or partially support many of those who earn money, frequently “off the books.” As another consequence of our boundless stupidity, more and more US hospitals shut down unable to serve the everyday health needs of the hordes of invaders, each with several kids, who use emergency rooms as doctor’s offices and ambulances as taxi cabs.  
 The current zeitgeist, worth zilch to true patriots and anyone of intelligence, dictates that Christians in the West must support the rest of the world’s inhabitants regardless of the consequences to themselves and their nations. They are assured that they must bleed themselves dry to the point of destroying their own resources. Liberal atheists and those liberal “Christians” too guilt-ridden to admit their disassociation with what remains of Christianity, are for all intents and purposes the same insofar as to being drowned by the world’s detritus without giving it a second thought; that is, if they could actually think without being swept away in mindless emotional outbursts.  
 Whites form the bulwark, ballast, and base of the current system, but they are losing population in relative numbers and have pretty much lost clout as their demonization proceeds apace. They produce about 2.03 children per propagating couple, which is well below the 3.0 or more needed just to maintain their absolute numbers and even this is now under attack by the “LGBT community” that has declared war on science, biology and sanity. What will these parasites do when their unwilling hosts can no longer host them in the style to which they have become accustomed?Usually the fate of a failed host is death and the parasites go elsewhere to seek another.  
 Around the establishment of Earth Day and the introduction of the worship of the goddess Gaia, environmental and conservation interest groups turned their concerns from overpopulation–  something they saw as behind the environmental despoilation and the depletion of natural resources. This was an outgrowth of the concern over our materialistic way of living with which the hippie culture took great issue though many of those same hippies had no problem benefitting from that which they condemned! Suddenly, the overpopulation issue was dropped as a concern at least in the West since it was apparent that the new invasion of illegals was by far the major source of the population increase and the consequent despoilation, especially in the border areas. The newly sanctified illegals were to be worshipped and supported rather than criticized–  and removed!  
 To a certain extent, this change in zeitgeist was contested within some environmental groups, but when the Sierra Club, the most prestigious of them succumbed to the new policy dropping overpopulation as a major issue, other environmental groups followed suit. The establishment had to cover their crime of opening the floodgates to the “foreign” types in 1965 in the US and Canada, so they stifled discussion of overpopulation as a major problem. Out of mind is out of sight, so to speak, if you’re of a mind to not notice bad stuff happening.  
 Since 1965 the libbers and RINO “sickophants” have been agitating for open borders and have pushed schemes to relax all barriers to entry of foreigners. They would like for the issue of overpopulation to become passe and for any and all foreigners –  other than white Europeans –  to pass unimpeded over our borders and eventually to eliminate borders altogether. Indeed, before the opening of the New Millennium, the North American Union was well in the works including a “national” currency. That it did not come to pass as did the European Union, was not the fault of the globalists who are to blame for the current situation. Indeed, under their tutelage, these “one-worlders”have let criminals in,refusing to deport them –  a matter that has led to the injury and death of many *citizens* of our country! They have created sanctuary zones where immigrant criminals are accommodated and coddled while continuing their criminal activities with little worry about prosecution. This is but a step towards the “Alien Nation” that Peter Brimelow wrote about in his book of that title. The entire nation will soon *be* alien–  *and hostile* –  to its natural citizens!  
 The 1965 changes in immigration policy represented a “twofer,”providing cheap labor to displace American workers and adding to the “demonrat” voting base. It also represented another type of gain by the globalists in that the very concept of citizenship could be diluted to the point of irrelevance and the patriotic connection between Americans and their nation could be nullified. Another goal of our treasonous leaders was furthered by assuring that America’s mighty“middle class” – the thing that has made our nation unique in the world since our founding! – would be eventually eliminated through the overwhelming burden of the taxes required to support the invaders through the many programs established for their benefit. As an added insult, these “refugees” were permitted to use programs *not* created for their benefit such as affirmative action.  
 False memes were mouthed using guilt to manipulate the masses whenever a campaign was mounted to give the immigrants special benefits or privileges such as amnesty. We were told we were a nation of immigrants although most of us were born here and the whole “melting pot” claim was a fiction created by a Jew named Israel Zangwill and used in a 1908 play entitled “The Melting Pot.” Zangwill was a Jewish immigrant from Czarist Russia and a dedicated advocate of Zionism and “Territorialism,” – a Jewish political movement calling for the creation of the Jewish state of Israel. The result of this fiction was that for years after the play appeared, Americans were being told that we are a “mix of different cultures” despite the fact that we remained *90% ethnically and culturally European* until the immigration act of 1965, an act that was passed with the promise that it would not change the cultural and racial makeup of the United States.  
 As well, the distinction between colonists and immigrants was *intentionally* confused by teaching that the original colonists murdered the original native population and established black slavery in the New World while the Founders did not address the issue. The early English settlers were colonists, not immigrants in the true sense of that word. To further malign our founding, the values of Western Civilization were *devalued* as having been created to make blacks worthy only to be slaves. Yet, the first black to become an actual slave under the law rather than an “indentured servant” had been purchased by Anthony Johnson, a black man who came to the New World as a slave but worked his way to freedom. Johnson bought another black man and when that man wanted to buy his way out of slavery, Johnson took him to court and had him declared a slave for life! However, prior to this monumental event, there had been plenty of white slaves in the colonies before 1651 a fact that is quickly and conveniently forgotten!  
 Among the lies Americans have been told was the claim that non-white immigrants were needed to do the work Americans wouldn’t do probably because none of those companies engaging workers were willing to pay a decent wage!Remember, when these “immigrants” weren’t around this work had always been done when required! Of course, American workers expected to be paid and that meant the company made less money and the purchaser of the service paid more for it. That’s the way of the free market. However,because Americans were being squeezed by increasing tax burdens and higher prices, we naturally became more cost conscious and willing to employ immigrant labor because they worked for less and were sometimes paid “under the table!” That seemed to be great for everybody, but very soon we found that this sort of “double-dealing” led to disaster. We stopped thinking about what would happen if all citizens did that. That was not only unfortunate, but it was also another blow to America’s moral character.  
 Another aspect of the problem arose when lower level, blue collar and service jobs that had always provided our youth with needful learning experiences and the value of hard work at the beginning of their adult work lives became “unavailable.” These jobs also provided an opportunity to save some money and thus learn its value and get their adult lives off to a good start! It prepared America’s youth with the financial discipline required to deal with such things as down payments on the purchase of a home and with those mortgages necessary to maintain one. The budgeting of money cannot be taught unless the person involved *has money to budget!* And interestingly enough, most people who obtain money from other than hard work tend to spend it as if it were easily replaceable and for them, perhaps it is. Hence, stealing money or being given money does not lead to frugal habits with it. Nothing does that but hard work.  
 Now many of our young people have no skills to earn a living and as a result hang around until they finally are ready – or more truthfully are *able,* to leave home though many are now into their 30s. This “lifestyle” does not prepare them to be adults and they often tend to be immature for much longer periods, sometimes for the rest of their very unfulfilling lives! They marry later –  *if* they marry at all! – and wind up having few or no children and thus, are not part of a stable household. Of course, this scenario has become one cause of our declining population rate.  
 With “Sloppy” Joe’s installation as puppet, the stage was set for a nearly unfettered infiltration of unfathomable numbers of below-the-border peons and various types of perps such as drug pushers, pregnant women seeking anchor babies, girls and boys to be trafficked as prostitutes and players for porn productions, etc. An underclass is being set up as a permanent, disposable pool of cheap labor for the service and sex industries and manual labor.  
 Pushing his chutzpah to the limits, Biden wanted to bring back into the US illegals who had been deported under previous administrations as criminals. That idea seems to have been put on hold for now but like everything else libber, it will come back to haunt us at some future point as a proposal or secretive practice if we get too complacent or, we don’t get rid of the present “government.”  
 Let’s look at the numbers, a situation that may leave the reader numb. In 2021, Biden facilitated an invasion of two million illegals, double the “normal” one million, plus an unknown number that sneaked in undetected. In a “normal” year, one million legal immigrants are also added to the population. Many of these legals are illegals who have “graduated” and made it without being deported, as they should have been. Some of these new legals may be of a higher intellectual or moral caliber than the rest, but few are part of the white “majority” (for the moment!), and some will have difficulty assimilating at least while we still have an American culture. We average close to one million babies produced by all categories of immigrants annually, many of the “anchor category,” that is, a misreading of the 14th Amendment (itself not a legally ratified amendment) that has been validated by the immigration law of 1965. Legal or not, however, this situation is proceeding as if it *were* legal with little signs of it being stopped!  
 So altogether, we have at least 4.6 million people added to the population annually, nearly all of them third-worlders. That’s over and above annual deaths. At that rate, at least 35 million more people will have been added to the population by 2030. That makes the US the third fastest growing country in the world behind India and China. How can our country feed, water, house, educate, and create jobs for such a number? Especially as the productive population (mostly whites) falls while the unproductive and even costly criminal population (most of whom are minorities) rises exponentially? If we are forced to rely on electric, solar, and wind with gas, oil, and nuclear being eliminated, is there any way in the world we will have enough power to keep us out of the dark? The grid is shaky enough now and we are fast learning that many of our enemies have “energy weapons” that could send us back to the stone age in a very short time.  
 But there is more to the problem than electrical energy. Right now, seven states face extreme water shortages – Florida, Georgia, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and, of course, California. Yet *all* those states keep receiving invaders as well as being magnets for the snowbirds and retirees seeking warmer climes. By 2050, another 100 million people, nearly all immigrants, will have been added to our population, raising it from 330 million to 440 million. Since the population increases will be greatest in and around the nation’s metropolitan areas, it means the populations of our 35 largest cities will be doubled. New York City’s population would jump from 8.3 million to 16.6 million if, of course, the Big Apple hasn’t been eaten by the liberal enemies of civilization–  and the city’s mayor. The gridlock in these places could become even more unmanageable and the pressure on the infrastructure, already antiquated, will undoubtedly break down. Could we deal with the results of such a scenario and especially with the unimaginable crime levels that are already far higher than they were but a few years ago? Natural resources are finite and the Earth can only yield so much, and so unending population growth *within limited areas of the planet* will have to come to a halt sometime soon or the result will be chaos.  
 But in the end, it’s not the number of people but rather, as I’ve tried to point out here, the type of people and their ability to live within the culture and better it. No one can say that what is being “imported” into the West and especially America today meets *any* of these qualifications. On the other hand,not too long ago, those trying to prevent the predicted and undesirable “de-population” movement, pointed out that if you put all the people in the world in a “crowd,” they would fit into Rhode Island– hardly our biggest state –  and with room to spare! No, the problem is not the *number of people* but the fact that people who are not mutually suited to live in our society are being forced upon us and displacing us – the original population! This is intentional and is designed to foster exactly what is happening. The Japanese understand this and that is why they do *not* welcome great numbers of immigrants into their nation. Indeed, they don’t want people who insist on their own culture, such as the Muslims. As the Japanese Prime Minister said recently, it was his duty to protect ***the Japanese people!*** Sadly, nobody has that understanding of what should be done for Americans and Europeans!  
 How we address the issues not just of numbers *but of culture* is the concern we should be addressing. Even if we halted immigration altogether right now, the US population would continue to expand as the immigrant birth rates will force the matter. We will have exceeded our “carrying capacity” long before the population levels off sometimes after 2050 because these people are not “pulling their weight,”and by that time, *our* culture and way of life will no longer exist.  
 **Post Scriptum:** We must also be aware that warnings against “overpopulation” are fueling the desire by the New World Order elites and their “tech” geniuses to produce “vaccines” designed to do just what many are calling for – that is, to reduce the planet’s population to what they consider to be “manageable levels.” But like everything else, it becomes a matter of *whose ox is being gored!* And given that at the moment, the group being condemned to extinction are the very people who raised mankind from the Stone age to the stars and ended the much condemned slave trade at least between Africa and the New World – *that is, the White Race!* – I suggest that we look most carefully at whatever is presented as a “cure” for our present “overpopulation.”  
References:  
www,[NumbersUSA.org](http://NumbersUSA.org) (see video “Immigration, Poverty and Gum Balls”)  
[www.cis.org](http://www.cis)  
(see the articles by Dr. Steve Camarota, “immigrant birth rates’) and “Anchor baby births annually’)  
 Book published in March 2021: “America’s Overpopulation Predicament: Blindsiding Future Generations”, by Frosty Wooldridge, available on Amazon or call 1-888-519-5121. <https://newswithviews.com/americas-carrying-capacity-or-how-many-third-world-invaders-can-we-afford/>

**Open Letter to President Biden: Nuclear Deal with Iran Will Be a Disaster**

*by* [*Majid Rafizadeh*](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Majid+Rafizadeh) *January 8, 2022 at 5:00 am* The Biden administration's Iran policy appears to be quite simple: keep negotiating with the ruling mullahs and offering concessions to revive the 2015 nuclear deal and eliminate the Iranian regime's threat.  
 The nuclear deal reached in 2015, however, had already proved that it did *not* eliminate the Iranian regime's threats. After the agreement, access to the considerable funds freed up by the deal had the reverse effect: it allowed Tehran to pour ever greater sums into the coffers of groups such as Lebanon's Hezbollah and the Yemeni Houthis. Nations such as Israel, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain were largely ignored by the Western powers, despite their clear concerns over the direct threat that enriching these groups presented.  
 US President Joe Biden previously suggested that Iran, in the aftermath of the 2015 nuclear deal, had ceased being a "bad regional actor", [writing](https://edition.cnn.com/2020/09/13/opinions/smarter-way-to-be-tough-on-iran-joe-biden/index.html):  
 "... I will offer Tehran a credible path back to diplomacy If Iran returns to strict compliance with the nuclear deal, the United States would rejoin the agreement as a starting point for follow-on negotiations."  
 This is an easy view for someone thousands of miles away from the Middle East, but for those living there, dealing with Hezbollah's weapons caches and Syrian militias wreaking death and devastation, Iran, through its proxy networks, has become more malign than ever.  
 Tehran seeks to sow instability in the region because it benefits from chaos in other countries. It was through instability in Lebanon, for instance, that Iran was able give birth to Hezbollah. It was in the midst of the conflict in Iraq that Iran formed powerful militia groups there. It was through the war in Syria that Iran armed and empowered additional proxies. It is through the crisis in Yemen that Tehran is able to strengthen its ties with the Houthis. The list goes on. Where there is instability, the ruling mullahs of Iran expand their influence.  
 The nuclear deal did not stop Iran from [advancing](https://en.radiofarda.com/a/reuters-exclusive--iaea-found-uranium-traces-at-iran-atomic-warehouse--diplomats/30153176.html) its nuclear program. During the deal, in 2018, several [reports](http://isis-online.org/uploads/isis-reports/documents/The_Plan_Iran_Archive_20Nov2018_Final.pdf), later [proven](https://en.radiofarda.com/a/reuters-exclusive--iaea-found-uranium-traces-at-iran-atomic-warehouse--diplomats/30153176.html) to be accurate, warned that Iran was conducting secret nuclear activities. Israel's then Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, [pointed](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2018-11/news/israel-claims-secret-nuclear-site-iran) out in his speech to the UN General Assembly in 2018 that Iran had a "secret atomic warehouse for storing massive amounts of equipment and material from Iran's secret nuclear weapons program." At the same time, two non-partisan organizations based in Washington, DC -- the Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS) and the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies (FDD) -- also [released](http://isis-online.org/uploads/isis-reports/documents/The_Plan_Iran_Archive_20Nov2018_Final.pdf) detailed reports about Iran's undeclared clandestine nuclear facilities.  
 On top of that, at home, the empowered regime of the mullahs escalated its human rights violations. Human Rights Watch [reported](https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2018/country-chapters/iran) that Iran's judiciary "continued to execute individuals at a high rate" – [including](https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2018/country-chapters/iran) the execution of women and children.  
 "Iranian courts, and particularly the revolutionary courts regularly fell short of providing fair trials and used confessions obtained under torture as evidence in court. Authorities routinely restrict detainees' access to legal counsel, particularly during the investigation period.... Scores of human rights defenders and political activists remain behind bars for their peaceful activism...authorities in the security apparatus and Iran's judiciary continued to target journalists, online media activists, and human rights defenders in an ongoing crackdown, in blatant disregard of international and domestic legal standards."  
 It would help if the Biden administration therefore realized that reverting to the policy of Obama administration, where the US believes that the nuclear deal is adequate to confront the Iranian regime, actually risks undermining peace and stability in the Middle East even further, as well as empowering the regime to suppress its population more unsparingly than ever.  
 *No* amount of appeasement and *no* deal is going to change the core pillars of the Iranian mullahs' revolutionary principles, which include anti-Americanism, antisemitism, supporting terror groups, and [brutally repressing](https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2021/country-chapters/iran) their own population. The theocratic establishment uses international and regional agreements, such as its [election](https://www.voanews.com/a/middle-east_voa-news-iran_irans-election-un-womens-body-draws-outrage-rights-activists-us-silence/6204997.html) last April to the UN Commission on the Status of Women, to advance its revolutionary ideals.  
 The Biden administration might begin to understand, nearly four decades after the establishment of the mullahs' regime, that, as Henry Kissinger [remarked](https://dailycaller.com/2016/05/24/the-risk-of-iranian-terror-the-straits-of-hormuz-in-danger/), "The exercise of diplomacy without the threat of force is without effect."  
 *Dr. Majid Rafizadeh is a business strategist and advisor, Harvard-educated scholar, political scientist, board member of Harvard International Review, and president of the International American Council on the Middle East.* <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18095/iran-biden-nuclear-deal>   
   
**Biden Preparing to Repeat Clinton and Obama’s Mistake with Iran**[Wes Martin](https://townhall.com/columnists/wesmartin/) Posted: Jan 08, 2022 12:01 A  
 Before President Biden proceeds any further with his desire to resurrect the failed Nuclear Weapons Deal Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), he needs to read two recently released documents: State Department’s Bureau of Counterterrorism Annual Report and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi’s draft budget for 2022-2023. Each document is a validation of the other.  
 The Bureau of Counterterrorism Report identifies Iran as a “State Sponsor of Terrorism,” a designation first rendered in 1984. The report specifically mentions: “Tehran’s support for Hizballah, Palestinian terrorism groups in Gaza, and various terrorist and militant groups in Iraq, Syria, and elsewhere throughout the Middle East.”  
 Also addressed in the Counterterrorism Report is State Department’s 2019 designation of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization. Just prior to this designation, the U.S. Defense Department released its study identifying the IRGC as being involved in the killing of 603 American service-members in Iraq since 2003.  
 President Biden's belief in negotiating with this terrorist nation shows his complete failure to understand the Middle-East philosophy of “When I am in a position of weakness, how can I negotiate. When I am in a position of strength, why should I?”  
 For the time being, the United States is in a position of strength. Newly-installed Iranian President Raisi is determined to change that. The budget he proposes proves Raisi’s intent to increase Iran’s commitment to expanding hostile actions throughout the Middle East and the world.  
 Known in Iran as the “Hanging Judge,” Raisi’s direct involvement and rulings against those in disagreement with the fundamentalist government go all the way back to the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Raisi was a key architect of the 1988 purge and murder of tens of thousands of Iranian dissidents. For over five decades, he has been enforcing the religious extremist government’s suppression, imprisonment, torture, and execution of dissidents throughout the country. Raisi’s mission is now to serve as the architect of advancing Khamenei’s terrorism inside Iran and throughout the world.  
 This is made very clear in Raisi’s budget, which is broken into two parts. The first portion is the “General Government Budget” which funds standard daily administrative operations. The second portion, which amounts to “Fundamentalist Regime Maintenance," finances all of Iran’s internal oppression and international exportation of terrorism.  
 Included in this portion are expenditures for the conventional military, the IRGC, the Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS), and other support organizations. In Raisi’s budget, twice as much funding is dedicated to the second portion than the first. What President Biden should recognize as a warning for bad things to come is that within this second portion is the nuclear development program.  
 For decades Iran has been claiming its nuclear research was for “peaceful atomic energy purposes.” Success in Iran’s mockery of the White House was achieved with nuclear weapons deals with both the Clinton and Obama administrations, culminating with the JCPOA. President Obama sidestepped mandated Senate approval by claiming the JCPOA was not a treaty, only a deal. Ignored was Former Chair of the Israeli Atomic Energy Commission David Bergman’s warning, “By developing atomic energy peaceful uses, you reach the nuclear option. There are not two atomic energies.”  
 Even President Reagan’s “trust, but validate” standard was ignored. Iran, in control of the when and where of the validation inspections, has continuously violated the JCPOA. President Trump was justified in canceling America’s involvement in this failed agreement and his implementation of severe economic sanctions on Iran.  
 President Biden is looking to re-energize the JCPOA. To help make this happen, Wendy Sherman has been brought back on the government payroll to serve as Deputy Secretary of State. Her claim to fame, prior to heading U.S. involvement in the 2016 JCPOA negotiations, was having worked as a senior representative on nuclear weapons negotiations with North Korea. That was certainly no stunning success, as North Korea is now a nuclear-armed nation. I lost track of how many times to Congress I have corrected misinformation they received from Sherman. She has been a key-participant in two nuclear-level failures in a row, and Biden is intent on having her leading the way for a third.  
 Raisi will get his budget approved by parliament. Prisons and gallows are filled with Iranian citizens, to include political leaders, who disagreed with the fundamentalist government of Iran. Once Raisi is armed with nuclear weapons, he will be in a position of strength and his pretense of negotiating will be over.  
 Biden’s biggest Middle East mistake of 2021 was the incompetent withdrawal from Afghanistan. His biggest Middle East mistake of 2022 is shaping up to be re-entering into a deal with Iran, which will surely allow this terrorist nation to complete its research and development into becoming a nuclear power. President Biden has two documents readily available to provide the necessary information to make the right decision. The question is, will he read them and take the correct action or follow the mistakes of Clinton and Obama? <https://townhall.com/columnists/wesmartin/2022/01/08/biden-preparing-to-repeat-clinton-and-obamas-mistake-with-iran-n2601494>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Antigen tests miss nearly half of COVID-19 cases**

***Nearly half (47%) of confirmed cases not detected by antigen tests; 37% detected in antigen tests tested negative in PCR tests.***

*Israel National News ו' בשבט תשפ"ב 21:51 08.01.22*

**New data published Saturday night on Hadashot Sof Hashavua showed that rapid tests miss approximately half of COVID-19 diagno**ses.

The Defense Ministry's Administration for the Development of Weapons and Technological Infrastructure took all of the antigen tests conducted this week by the various testing companies, and **discovered that just 1.8% of those who underwent official antigen tests received a positive result - a rate far below that of the PCR tests**.

**The rate of those testing negative on antigen tests despite testing positive on PCR tests was 47%.** At the same time, the percentage of those testing positive on antigen tests but negative on PCR tests was 37%.

Professor Gili Regev from Sheba-Tel Hashomer Medical Center suggested a simple way to improve the efficacy of antigen tests: "Testing only the nose apparently misses Omicron [cases]. We need to place the swab in the pharynx, and move from there to the nose. Only then will the sensitivity rise."

[Earlier this week](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/319941), internal Health Ministry data revealed that among the general public, the antigen tests miss result about 50% of the positive cases recorded by the PCR tests. Among those aged 18 and over, the antigen tests missed 61% of positive cases. For the unvaccinated, the antigen test misses 72% of those who are subsequently verified through a PCR test. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320084> [**This is not at all surprising because the PCR test is NOT to be used for diagnostic purposes. It will too often show false positives because of residual genetic material of similar characteristics to the proteins being tested for. That was stated explicitly by the man who devised the test. What this means is that if Israel (or other countries) are using the PCR as the definitive test they are having extremely high rates as a result of false positives and the numbers are meaningless. – rdb]**

**Police documented beating protesters in Jerusalem**

***At least ten people detained during protest over death of Ahuvya Sandak outside national police headquarters in Jerusalem.***

*Israel National News ז' בשבט תשפ"ב 02:25 09.01.22*

The **Honenu legal aid organization on Saturday night received reports of at least 10 people who were detained during a demonstration over the death of Ahuvya Sandak, which took place outside the national police headquarters in** Jerusalem.  
 The **protesters reported that police used severe violence against them**.  
 **Footage from the scene showed a Border Police officer kicking one of the protesters, and another Border Police officer punching him in the back**. An attorney on behalf of the Honenu organization assisted the detainees at the police station.  
 The Israel Police said, "Tonight, a riot broke out near the national Headquarters in Jerusalem by dozens of young people. During the disturbance, there was an intermittent blockage of the main traffic lane and a number of rioters confronted the police, insulted and cursed them."  
 "After **disobeying the dispersal order given by a local police officer, the police acted to repel the disturbances and evacuate the road, and seven arrests were made of people who violated public order**. Meanwhile, the police located in the possession of two of the suspects assault weapons - folding knives and a bat. We will continue to allow protests within the boundaries of the law, but we will not allow a breach of public order, a violent riot and a risk to road users in violation of the law."  
 Protesters [have demonstrated](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/318471) several times in Jerusalem in recent weeks against the conduct of the police in the case of Sandak, [who was killed during a police chase](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/315883) in the Binyamin region more than a year ago.  
 In one protest, dozens of young people and adults [protested in Zion Square in Jerusalem](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/317195). The protesters intermittently blocked the path of the Jerusalem Light Rail. Police officers made arrests and kept the demonstrators off the tracks.  
 During [a demonstration](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/316763) a week earlier, 21 people were arrested at the Chords Bridge in Jerusalem. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320092> **Israeli police are known for being no nonsense and extremely forceful. – rdb]**

**Drug smuggling attempt thwarted along Egyptian border**

***IDF troops foil smuggling attempt, confiscate 100 kg of drugs.***

*Israel National News ו' בשבט תשפ"ב 18:10 08.01.22*

**IDF troops on Friday night thwarted a drug smuggling attempt worth 2,000,000 NIS ($649,450.60) along the Egyptian bord**er.

**Overnight, IDF observation troops spotted a number of suspects attempting to smuggle drugs from Egypt** into Israeli territory.

IDF troops operating to thwart the smuggling attempt confiscated approximately 100 kilograms (220 lbs) of drugs.

The drugs were then transferred to the Israeli Police for further processing.

In [November](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/317249), IDF troops began searching for a suspect who had been spotted near Metula in northern Israel. The suspect escaped, but the IDF confiscated 41 bags containing drugs and a package of ammunition, all together worth hundreds of thousands of shekels, which the suspect had abandoned at the scene. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320074>

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| Dear Friend, Supporter and Prospective Ambassador,  At the end of every fiscal year, I usually send an End of the Year Letter to inform everyone how and what Lev U’Neshama was doing to help our families in Tzfat. I’m writing this letter instead of an End of the Year Report because LUN is in a difficult situation. I’ll explain . . .  Lev U’Neshama began in December 2001. Our programs evolved according to community needs. We work to efficiently use supporters donations.  Lev U’Neshama is a registered Israeli Amutah (non-profit charity organization). We have no overhead, no rent, no salaries, no perks. All donations go to those in need. We are the machine, fueled our donors that we may provide for: Food Fund, Holiday Food Fund, Education Fund and Slush Fund (emergencies). We currently help 82 families regardless of their religious affiliation.  This fall I asked Felicia, my “right hand”, to take our annual census and to update family information. I schmooshed the Education Fund and the Slush fund into one, temporarily, and called it the Winter Fund.  After contacting the first 22 families on our list, we had received requests for 64 pairs of shoes, 22 pairs of eyeglasses and we gave one new, warm blanket per family (limited because of resources). We are unable to provide children's winter jackets as we had intended to do.  With additional donations we were able to fill the requests for 15 additional families; 53 pairs of shoes, 10 pairs of eyeglasses (and one blanket). As of the first week in December, nine families had their requests filled; 52 pairs of shoes, 10 eyeglasses (and one blanket).  Donations could not keep pace with the demands and I have 1,000 NIS remaining and 44 additional families who need to be evaluated for their requirements.  Our ability to continue helping requires additional donations. Any amount is a tremendous help.  We serve families having a disabled parent, some with disabled children, single parent families, widows, parents working part time with delayed or insufficient salaries to cover their basic family needs.  Some of our families have a meter in their homes into which they insert coins to buy a period of electricity since they are unable to pay a regular electric bill. Homes here generally do not have centrally heating so space electric space heaters are placed around the home; no electricity - no heat, no lights, no refrigerator, etc.  Some can only afford phone service allowing incoming calls but they can’t call out. One mother, awareFelicia had called two times, thought it must been important so her husband watched the children and she walked a considerable distance at night to knock on Felicia’s door. After a tearful 1 ½ hour conversation, we learned more about the family’s plight. The mother lost her job because the store where she worked was closed and the husband lost his work because that business also closed. There are many heartbreaking stories . . .  Two local merchants and a local optician provide Lev U'Neshama generous discounts which you can see by the these low prices:  1 pair of shoes: $33   1 eye exam and eyeglasses: $66    1 blanket: $33  The average cost for the requests of one family: 7 pairs of shoes, 2 pairs of eyeglasses and one blanket total $406. For each block of 9 families it would total about: $2,715   For the sake of the children in the remaining 44 families, please -  1) make a donation by selecting one or more of the above items to fund.  2) share a copy of this letter with family, friends, colleagues, synagogue friends, church group, etc.  3. Send this letter prefaced with your personal comments, to others via email.  We critically need more donors to join in the effort to complete the Winter Project. Additionally, more donors will help maintain our other programs and enable us to help more families. We have some on a waiting list for food assistance.  Donations may be made by PayPal using the recipient email address of: [mortsmo@aol.com](mailto:mortsmo@aol.com)  US checks (Canadian checks in US funds) may be sent to my daughter in Denver and made payable to her:  Terri Smolensky  Send to: Terri Smolensky, 177 S Syracuse St.  Denver CO 80230  USA  If someone else needs a US tax receipt, that can be arranged, please contact me.  We are very eager to hear from you. Your help is sorely needed. Become an Ambassador for Israel and Lev U’Neshama. Please spread the word to others to join our effort to help Tzfat’s struggling families!  Yaffa Smolensky, Volunteer Program Manager  Lev U’Neshama, Tzfat Israel  email: [mortsmo@aol.com](mailto:mortsmo@aol.com)  Web site: [www.levuneshama.com](http://www.levuneshama.com/) (donations can be made on this web site on the “How You Can Help” page.) |

**01/08/2022 NEWS**

**PLEASE NOTE: Google (gmail) has begun censoring these postings. It was reported to me an alert “dangerous misinformation” was attached to a number of peoples and difficulty opening. You can get it at ETBPF.org if you need an alternative. - rdb**

**Arabs and Jews in Israel's mixed cities rebuild after 2021 violence**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2aMpY5Zx6k**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2aMpY5Zx6k)

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| **"To put it baldly, there are two ways to become wealthy: to create wealth or to take wealth away from others. The former adds to society. The latter typically subtracts from it, for in the process of taking it away, wealth gets destroyed. A monopolist who overcharges for his product takes money from those whom he is overcharging and at the same time destroys value. To get his monopoly price, he has to restrict production." -- Joseph E. Stiglitz (1943-) American economist, public policy analyst, professor** |

**Read the Prophets & PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!**

**That is the only hope for this nation!**

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| **Please**  **Remember**  **These**  **Folks**  **In**  **Prayer-**  **Check often**  **They**  **Change!** | **Pray that the world would WAKE UP! Time for a worldwide repentance!**  **ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world**  **Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.**  **Pray for BB – Intractable sciatica pain.**  **Pray for TH - Knee and Blood pressure problems.**  **Pray for EL – Had clot embolized to brain – successful ‘clot buster’ but long road to go.**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 2:21And Moses was content to dwell with the man; and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter. 22And she bore a son, and he called his name Gershom; for he said: 'I have been a stranger in a strange land.' 23And it came to pass in the course of those many days that the king of Egypt died; and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. 24And God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. 25And God saw the children of Israel, and God took cognizance of them.

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| **Mortality / Morbidity analysis of JAB by lot number – Please Watch!**  **Reiner Fuellmich: “New Findings… Enough to Dismantle the Entire (VAX) Industry!” – There Is No Pandemic**  [**https://thereisnopandemic.net/2022/01/03/reiner-fuellmich-new-findings-enough-to-dismantle-the-entire-vax-industry/**](https://thereisnopandemic.net/2022/01/03/reiner-fuellmich-new-findings-enough-to-dismantle-the-entire-vax-industry/)    **Targeted Genocide: Deadly Vax Lot Numbers Identified**  [**https://www.brighteon.com/cc47526e-aadb-46db-adc7-7372f2dcdc1f**](https://www.brighteon.com/cc47526e-aadb-46db-adc7-7372f2dcdc1f)  **Morgan Wallace, RN BSN CCRN AGAC-NP slays it at NHCS School Board Meeting 1/4/22**  [**https://www.bitchute.com/video/SIgUnnncYK2W/**](https://www.bitchute.com/video/SIgUnnncYK2W/) |

**IDF releases photos from downed drone showing alleged Hezbollah operatives**

***Security source says images appear to show members of the Lebanese terror group’s special forces training in how to use drones, in first such glimpse for Israel***

*By* [*AFP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/afp/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:08 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/FIfWhaSWUAAH9Nd.jpeg)

Alleged Hezbollah drone operators, as seen in an image released by the IDF from a downed Hezbolah drone, January 7, 2022 (IDF Spokesman)

The Israel Defense Forces said Friday that drones captured after being flown across the frontier from neighboring Lebanon have provided insight into the growing aerial surveillance capabilities of the Iran-backed Hezbollah terror group.

Lebanon and Israel are technically in a state of war and drones have become a regular feature of their heavily guarded border.

Images extracted from one drone downed in August showed what the IDF said were Hezbollah drone operators and pictures of other drones, as well as an aerial shot of a northern Israeli community and military post.

An Israeli security source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he believed the footage showed Hezbollah special forces training in how to use drones, which he said was the first such glimpse for Israel.

A second source said that five drones seized last year — including a small observation drone [downed on Tuesday](https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-hezbollah-drone-downed-after-flying-over-border-from-lebanon/) — belonged to Hezbollah.

“We are learning about the enemy and the enemy is learning about us,” said the second source, also speaking on condition of anonymity. “It is kind of a learning race between Hezbollah and us.”

سمح بالنشر: مسيّرة تابعة لحزب الله أسقطت مؤخرًا كانت تحوي صورًا سرية يبدو انها للقوات الخاصة التابعة للحزب خلال تمرين خاص بتشغيل طائرات مسيرة. كما سجّل ارتفاعًا في عدد مسيرات [#حزب\_الله](https://twitter.com/hashtag/%D8%AD%D8%B2%D8%A8_%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%84%D9%87?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) التي أسقطتها قوات جيش الدفاع في الأشهر الأخيرة [pic.twitter.com/4Il3zogPSB](https://t.co/4Il3zogPSB)

— افيخاي ادرعي (@AvichayAdraee) [January 7, 2022](https://twitter.com/AvichayAdraee/status/1479386880345001984?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Israel is a leader in developing and using drones in warfare, but it is seeing its technological superiority challenged by arch-foe Iran, which is also developing unmanned aerial vehicles for military use.

The drones used by Hezbollah were not necessarily Iranian made, but rather ordinary commercially available devices, the second source said.

“It is so easy to just take a drone from the store and gather intelligence and do whatever you imagine,” he said.

[A picture containing outdoor, tree, ground, dirt

Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/Hezbollah-Drones-e1641569527673.jpeg)

An undated photo released by the Israel Defense Forces on January 7, 2021, that allegedly shows Hezbollah members operating a drone in Lebanon. (Israel Defense Forces)

Maj. Avichai Adraee, the IDF’s Arabic-language spokesman, said the military’s Galilee Division has recently begun using a special system against Hezbollah drones along the border, leading to a marked increase in the number downed by Israeli forces. He did not give further details about the system.

According to the Walla news site, at least 74 drones flown by Hezbollah crossed into Israeli territory last year, compared to 94 in 2020 and 54 the year before that. Most of the drones were downed.

In September, Hezbollah said it had shot down an Israeli drone over Lebanon.

Hezbollah operates out of Lebanon, which is struggling in the midst of a dire economic crisis. The first security source said the economic woes did not appear to have lessened Hezbollah’s drone program. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-releases-photos-from-downed-drone-showing-alleged-hezbollah-operatives/> [The more drones they take down and capture now the fewer there are for them to deal with when the Hezbollah decides to attack. – rdb]

**Investigators said to find that flotation device failed in deadly helicopter crash**

***Report says electrical short hampered pilots’ ability to control helicopter during crash landing; aircraft hit water on its right side and sank with two crew members still on board***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:08 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/F220104ST111.jpeg)

Israeli soldiers search for parts of a crashed military helicopter after a military helicopter crashed off the coast of the northern Israeli city of Hafia, January 4, 2022. (Shir Torem/Flash90)

Investigations into a fatal IDF helicopter crash at sea that killed two pilots has found that a flotation device on the aircraft was damaged on impact and failed to deploy properly, leading to the aircraft sinking to a depth of 12 meters, Channel 12 reported Friday.

The unsourced report said the findings came after air force investigators completed the collection of all the helicopter parts and debris.

The report contradicted statements made by IAF Brig. Gen. Amir Lazar, who told reporters earlier this week that the flotation device had deployed properly.

The helicopter, a Eurocopter AS565 Panther, known by the IAF as an “Atalef,” or bat, is specially designed for naval operations and is able to make emergency landings directly on the water with a built-in flotation device.

According to Lazar, this flotation system was activated by the pilots as they made the emergency landing and it deployed correctly, which allowed a naval officer on board to escape. “We don’t know why the pilots’ didn’t,” he said at the time.

The helicopter went down just before 9 pm on Monday. An initial investigation found that the aircraft apparently suffered a malfunction in its left motor, forcing the pilots to make an emergency landing at sea.

Capt. Ron Birman managed to bail out of the helicopter, but the pilots, Lt. Col. Erez Sachyani and Maj. Chen Fogel, did not and were found by rescuers, lifeless, still strapped into their seat belts in the cockpit, Lazar said.

According to Channel 12’s Friday report, subsequent investigations found that the malfunction and fire on the left motor also caused an electrical short in the helicopter that affected the ability of the pilots to properly control the helicopter as they brought it down for a crash landing.

As such the helicopter hit the water with force on its right side, damaging part of the flotation device and eventually causing the helicopter to sink to a depth of 12 meters.

While Birman was able to escape as the helicopter hit the water, the report said, the pilots could not get out.

Birman, who is recovering from a broken vertebra and mild hypothermia, on Tuesday described how he tried multiple times to pull the pilots out of the aircraft but was unable to do so.

“I was able to get myself out of the sinking helicopter and then, after many attempts to get my friends Sachyani and Fogel out, I was rescued by a naval police patrol,” Birman said in a video statement released by the military. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/investigators-said-to-find-that-flotation-device-failed-in-deadly-helicopter-crash/> [All of our technical abilities sound so good but the can and do fail. We can’t put our faith and our future totally in the hands of so called ‘wonder technology”. It is only the Creator that determines our ultimate fate. – rdb]

**Price hikes in Israel highlight long-term issues plaguing economy**

***Israel tops OECD's list of countries with largest gap between rich and poor and price increases on basic goods will only make that gap wider; experts warn Israelis need to be smarter and make wiser decisions about purchases***

*The Media Line | Published: 01.07.22, 10:16*

When one of Israel’s largest food producers announced it was increasing the prices of many staple products, public outrage was widespread. Owned by the Swiss firm Nestlé, Osem informed supermarket owners that it would increase the prices of hundreds of products by an average of 5%, starting next month.

The expected rise in prices exposes yet again well-known issues the Israeli economy has been dealing with for decades.



A supermarket in Tel Aviv (Photo: Nadav Abas)

“Raw materials, packaging, and transportation costs have skyrocketed,” read the announcement by Osem. “This is unprecedented. After an extended period during which we have absorbed the price increase, we are forced to update our retail prices.”

Condemnation was quick to come, as called to boycott the company. There is concern that if Osem will succeed, other companies will follow. Dairy prices are also expected to rise in the coming weeks as the price of raw milk has increased.

“As consumers, we do not have to accept this,” said Sharon Levin, director of communications and public affairs for Paamonim, an NGO aimed at giving Israeli families financial education. “Consumers need to be smarter and make wiser decisions about our purchases.”[ The primary option a consumer has is simply not to by an overpriced product. HOWEVER since this pricing issue is literally worldwide and primarily related to the globalists reset agenda as manifest in the COV plandemic with the hysterical response that governments made literally everywhere, you can understand that suppliers of goods are going to have major problems. The goal of the WEC and the likes of Soros and Schwab is to take down the world’s economies and go to a cashless society which they can control. We become their drones – rdb]

Hikes in electricity, water, gas prices, and municipal taxes have many Israelis feeling the brunt of a global economy reeling from the pandemic-induced crisis but also other tendencies of recent years.



Prices of hundreds of products will increase by an average of 5% (Photo: Shutterstock)

“This is likely a result of a general rise in prices in the market, something that a boycott cannot solve,” said Prof. Joseph Zeira of the Bogen Family Department of Economics at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. “In the **past decade, there has been a massive monetary expansion in the Western world**, including Israel. This inevitably results in a rise in prices.” [When you print ‘funny money’ based on NOTHING tangible you get inflated prices because you dollars/shekels loose their value. Tangibles retain their relative value but paper is just paper (in Germany in the 1930’s you could paper your walls with Deutschmarks. – rdb]

Osem has tried to raise prices in the past, but former Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon pressured the conglomerate into backing down. Current minister Avigdor Liberman projects less concern about the already high cost of living in Israel, perhaps signaling to Osem that this time there will be no government pressure. There was criticism from other cabinet ministers but it is difficult to see the public outcry changing the mind of Osem or other companies.

“Mass protest movements can have a significant political impact, but usually boycotts are less impressive on the economic level,” said Prof. Benjamin Bental, principal researcher and Economics Policy Program chair at the Taub Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a global rise in commodity prices and in transportation and shipping costs. Increased demand and limited supply have also impacted prices. Osem is riding on a global trend, and it is difficult to imagine it caving to public criticism, however loud it may be.

The cost of living in Israel has increased in recent years. In 2021, for the first time ever, Tel Aviv was ranked by The Economist [as the world’s most expensive city](https://www.ynetnews.com/business/article/bj6200cekt). A hike in prices of groceries and transportation [played a major role](https://www.ynetnews.com/business/article/hku3ifukt) in the unflattering ranking. Not only do residents in Tel Aviv feel the high cost of living; for most Israelis, the reality is expensive.



COVID caused a global rise in commodity prices

(Photo: AFP)

One of the main reasons for the increase in the cost of living in the appreciation of the Israeli shekel in recent years. This makes the local cost of products and services high when compared to the US dollar.

For lower-income families, such a change in the prices of basic products has a major impact. Approximately 20% of the budget of the lower decile families in Israel is allocated to food.

“This is significant,” said Zeira. “This will increase the gaps in Israel. … Income is eroaded and poorer families have fewer defenses against this. This is where the government needs to act," added Zeira.

“Food prices play a large role in the cost of living,” said Bental. “When there are deviations because of market forces and changes in supply and demand, this will have an impact.”

In the summer of 2011, hundreds of thousands of Israelis participated in weekly protests against the high cost of living in the country. The movement changed the political discourse and had some impact on economic policies with reforms on certain issues. Still, many of the problems plaguing the Israeli economy have not changed, one of them being the presence of monopolies.



2011 Israeli social justice protests (Photo: Alex Kolomoisky)

In the food sector, Osem has a monopoly on many of the products it sells. “This is the main problem,” said Bental. “Not only does Osem control the market, but it also controls much of the import of certain products to Israel. Therefore, what is needed is that the decision-makers will create policies that break this monopoly, rather than a boycott.”

During the social protests over a decade ago, there were calls to end the presence of monopolies in Israel. With a strong economy, the country could let go of the notion that Israel needs to close its economy in order to protect itself. Israel’s main economic engine, the high-tech sector, operates under no restrictions and is completely open to competition, with huge success.

 “There was a perception that what characterizes the newly independent state was financial independence and self-sufficiency,” said Bental. “This policy led to extreme protection of domestic produce, barring almost all imports and contributed to the development of monopolies.”

The near future will be challenging for the government (Photo: Yoav Dudkevitch)

The near future will be a challenging one for Israelis, but also for the government. The recent appointment of a permanent head for the Israel Competition Authority leaves room for hope that the issue of monopolies in the market will be addressed.

“We are entering a period in which prices are going to rise and wages will remain largely the same,” said Levin. Israel’s robust economy is not enjoyed by all its citizens and the impact of price increases highlights this.

The government, inaugurated last summer, vowed to bring down the cost of living. How it will do so remains to be seen. “The words and the tone are right, but we need to see action,” Bental summarized. <https://www.ynetnews.com/business/article/bj34erenk> [Israel is almost a magical location but for those living there it is often a terrible economic hardship. There is an old adage for Israel economics: “If you want to be a millionaire in Israel bring 2 million with you when you come. ETBPF has for years been promoting and with the help of our faithful readers been supporting multiple groups which we have carefully vetted for ‘economic and fiscal responsibility’ in order to let them know that we in East Texas and many in the Christian and Jewish community understand and try to help as we can. In a week or so I can have a report ready on the groups we have been able to help provide funds this past year. – rdb]

**Daily COVID-19 cases near record 17,000 as new testing rules take effect**

***As case count continues to hit highs, under-60s and fully vaccinated now told to take less accurate antigen tests; serious cases climb to 143, but transmission rate ebbs slightly***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:36 am*

New health data Friday showed Israel’s daily cases approached 17,000 the previous day, setting another new record for the greatest number of new infections reported in a single day since the start of the pandemic.

Driven by the ultra-contagious Omicron variant, 16,830 cases were diagnosed on Thursday. Another 4,032 cases were identified on Friday by 8 a.m. But with official testing sites now deprioritized for much of the population, the number of unreported cases is expected to be higher.[ Remember those are just positive tests if they aren’t sick with symptoms. – rdb]

On Friday Israel ended the so-called “red” list of countries with high-infection rates, as coronavirus rates in the country spiked to record levels, making the impact of the travel bans negligible. All countries were removed from the list starting at midnight, reopening the skies to dozens of destinations where travel had been severely curtailed in a bid to slow the Omicron variant from infiltrating the country.

The move comes two days before Israel will reopen to vaccinated international travelers, on Sunday, January 9.

Under the [new testing regulations](https://www.timesofisrael.com/health-ministry-shifts-emphasis-to-home-testing-as-surging-virus-strains-capacity/), those who are over 60 or at high risk are prioritized at PCR testing stations. Those who are under 60 and fully vaccinated are encouraged to conduct a rapid antigen test, either at home or at a testing station, and can use those results to get exemptions from quarantine.

Israelis have been swamping drugstores to purchase home antigen tests as the new rules take effect and cases skyrocket, though some health experts warn that they are far less accurate than PCR tests — particularly when it comes to detecting Omicron.  
 Channel 13 news said in recent days it had received internal Health Ministry figures suggesting that only 50 percent of those who have Omicron will test positive on rapid antigen tests, with even higher false-negative rates among those who are unvaccinated. The figures could not be independently verified.  
 One health official told Channel 12 news that the old rules requiring exposed Israelis to get a PCR test were unsustainable due to the burgeoning numbers, but warned that negative antigen tests were not accurate and would skew the figures.

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett warned on Sunday that Israel would likely see 20,000 new daily cases by the end of the week, and could hit 50,000 daily cases at the height of the wave.  
 Omicron, first detected in South Africa, is more contagious but appears to cause fewer cases of severe illness and death than previous variants — especially among vaccinated people.  
 As Omicron drives the fifth wave of infections, the positive test rate on Thursday hit 8.22 percent out of the nearly 320,000 tests carried out.  
 The Health Ministry said the virus transmission number, R, indicating how many people each infected person passes the virus on to, dropped slightly from 1.99 to 1.96. The transmission rate is based on data from 10 days earlier and values above 1 show infections are spreading — the higher the number, the greater the rate.  
 With the number of cases rising, there has also been an increase in the number of those seriously ill. Health Ministry figures showed there were 143 patients in serious condition as of Friday morning, up from 134 the day before. There were 56 people defined as critical. The vast majority of those in serious condition are unvaccinated. (At the height of the previous wave driven by the Dela variant, Israel had some 700 patients in serious condition.)  
 According to Channel 12 news, experts have told Bennett that the wave is expected to crest in three weeks. The unsourced Wednesday report said that health experts expect the number of serious COVID cases to peak at around 1,200 — similar to the previous peak during the fourth wave driven by the Delta variant.  
 But another unsourced Channel 13 report suggested that Israeli health experts believe there could be up to 2,500 serious cases in the coming weeks.  
 With one new fatality recorded over the past 24 hours, the death toll stood at 8,259 on Friday.  
 In Israel as elsewhere, the variant is spreading so fast — straining testing, schools, hospitals and airlines — that some experts are urging a focus instead on hospital admissions. Those, as well as deaths from coronavirus, aren’t climbing as quickly — the result, experts say, of protection offered by vaccinations.  
 The number of vaccinated people has been rising steadily, but is limited in part by segments of the population who have been slower to roll up their sleeves. There is additionally a vocal anti-vaccination lobby.  
 About 63% of people in Israel have been vaccinated twice, while around 46% have received three shots, and just 2%, or 195,000 people, have received a fourth dose as of Friday morning.  
 Israel is believed to be the first country to widely roll out a fourth vaccination to people 60 and older, as well as those with compromised immune systems. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/daily-covid-19-cases-near-17000-as-new-testing-rules-take-effect/>

**US experts say Israel’s ‘forever-boosting’ strategy not effective in long run**

***Scientists tell NYT that boosting antibody levels not a guarantee against Omicron infections, suggest better to wait for vaccine tailored to variant***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 5:49 pm*

As Israel begins rolling out fourth COVID-19 vaccine doses and other nations push booster shots amid the spread of the highly contagious Omicron variant, some US health experts are questioning whether “forever-boosting” is an effective long-term strategy for dealing with the coronavirus.

Speaking with The New York Times, the scientists said periodically offering booster shots to entire populations does not appear viable, nor make sense scientifically. [DUH! You mean someone has finally figured out that if it hasn’t really been working before to prevent disease and the spread of disease it is probably stupid and useless to keep doing the same thing over and over? – rdb]

“This doesn’t seem to be a sustainable long-term strategy, for sure,” Deepta Bhattacharya, an immunologist at the University of Arizona, [told the newspaper](https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/06/health/covid-vaccines-boosters.html).  
 Beyond the medical effectiveness, they cited likely public vaccination fatigue, noting that while around 73 percent of adults in the United States have received two vaccine shots, only a third so far have gotten a booster. In Israel, which first began administering booster shots over the summer, nearly 6 million people have received at least two doses, while far fewer — over 4.3 million — have gotten a third.  
 “It’s not unheard of to give vaccines periodically, but I think there are better ways than doing boosters every six months,” Akiko Iwasaki, an immunologist at Yale University, was quoted as saying, adding that there were other approaches to “get us out of this forever-boosting kind of a situation.”  
 Among the potential alternatives mentioned in the report were a vaccine specifically targetting the Omicron variant, a “pan-coronavirus vaccine” that targets parts of the virus that do not evolve; combining the current shots with nasal or oral vaccines that help better prevent infection by blocking the virus from entering the body; and waiting longer periods between administering doses.  
 While backing a third shot for Americans, the experts said increased antibody levels are not a guarantee against infection from Omicron, and that the immunity boosters provide may be transient.  
 “Even with that amount of antibody, it’s very hard to stop the virus for very long,” said virologist Shane Crotty of the La Jolla Institute for Immunology in California.  
 Crotty said a shot tailored to Omicron could “do a better job” against the virus, which several of the major vaccine manufactures have begun developing. Ali Ellebedy, an immunologist at Washington University in St. Louis, echoed Crotty.  
 “It doesn’t make sense to keep boosting against a strain that’s already gone,” Ellebedy said. “If you are going to add one more dose after three, I would definitely wait for an Omicron-based one.” [What an amazing deduction that is. – rdb]  
 Scientists also said that there is more benefit to ensuring that most of the world gets vaccinated, which would slow the emergence of variants, as opposed to rich nations offering additional boosters.  
 Scott Hensley, an immunologist at the University of Pennsylvania, said the emergence of Omicron changed his position on boosters, but that there was little reason to follow Israel in offering fourth doses because other immune cells remained effective against the virus after three or even two shots.  
 Another immunologist said vaccines were succeeding in reducing serious morbidity and hospitalizations, and that Omicron showed trying to prevent infection altogether was not possible.  
 “People that are vaccinated really are doing very well in terms of hospitalization,” said Michel Nussenzweig of the Rockefeller University in New York.  
 The report also noted that there is not yet data on whether fourth vaccine doses are effective.  
 On Wednesday, Prime Minister Naftali Bennett [said](https://www.timesofisrael.com/week-into-trial-bennett-claims-4th-vaccine-shot-provides-immunity-boost/) the fourth Pfizer vaccine shot causes a significant boost in antibodies within a week after taking it, citing interim data from Israel’s landmark study on the matter.  
 However, since the trial at Sheba Medical Center began just a week earlier, there is no data on whether the number of antibodies maintains itself over time after the first week, or whether the antibodies provide better protection against catching — or developing serious illness from — the Omicron variant, which has shown an ability to break through other vaccine defenses.  
 Bennett, who has pushed ahead with expanding Israel’s fourth dose program despite the lack of data, claimed that the fourth dose “expresses a much better protection than without that shot, both regarding infection and regarding serious illness.” [So how must stock does Bennett have in Pfizer? - rdb  
 “The fourth vaccine is safe, that is certain. The fourth vaccine very likely works,” he added.  
 Sheba’s trial program, which began with 150 medical staff being given the shot, is many times smaller than normal drug trials, which usually involve thousands of volunteers who results are tracked for months. But it is also the only known study of the effects of a fourth dose, with Israel pinning hopes that the extra booster may help keep the variant from overwhelming hospitals and shutting down normal life.  
 National coronavirus czar Salman Zarka admitted Monday that little is known about the fourth dose, but urged those eligible to get it anyway.  
 “We’ve seen that the amount of antibodies is always dropping and so recommend that you, 60-and-overs and medical staff, get the fourth dose,” he said at a press conference. “I’ll say transparently, the data we have on a fourth shot is limited. Many experts think it provides extra protection to populations at risk.”  
 Zarka later told the Kan broadcaster that it was too early to discuss making the fourth shot available to others as well, but predicted it would be discussed in the near future.

Along with people over 60 and medical workers, Israel is also offering fourth doses to the immunocompromised. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-experts-say-israels-forever-boosting-strategy-not-effective-in-long-run/> [This kind of thinking by Bennett and much of the medical group that simply follow the insipid mantras of grouch Fauci and CDC is unbelievably ignorant and naive. – rdb]

**PA arrests three Palestinians in Jenin, including escaped Gilboa prisoner's son**

***Gunmen took to the streets of the refugee camp to protest the arrest, with some opening fire.***

*By* [*JERUSALEM POST STAFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/jerusalem-post-staff) *Published: JANUARY 8, 2022 01:36 Updated: JANUARY 8, 2022 02:55*



A member of Palestinian security forces stands guard in Bethlehem, in the West Bank (photo credit: MUSSA QAWASMA / REUTERS)

Palestinian security forces arrested three young Palestinians in Jenin refugee camp, including the son of [Zakaria Zubeidi](https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/gilboa-prison-escapees-the-sheriff-of-jenin-and-the-emir-of-islamic-jihad-678846), one of the terrorists who escaped from Gilboa prison, Hebrew media reported early Saturday morning.

The three Palestinians reportedly resisted arrest, so police detained them by force. The reason behind their arrest is still unclear.

Reacting to documentation of the arrest, gunmen took to the streets of the refugee camp in protest, with some opening fire. Palestinian Authority (PA) officials from Ramallah have been working with field activists in the refugee camp to calm the area, according to [*Haaretz*](https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/politics/1.10523117).

תמונות כאלו מזמן לא נראו בגדה.תיעוד של חמושים יורים לכיוון המוקאטעה בג'נין. זה כבר לא ירי בודד,זה אווירה של תסכול וכעס וגם כאוס ביטחוני.מי שלא מבין מה מתפתח כדאי לחזור למה שפרסמתי קצת לפני חודש <https://t.co/KgynX3jGbo> [pic.twitter.com/JZquliE9xO](https://t.co/JZquliE9xO)

— Jack khoury.جاك خوري (@KhJacki) [January 7, 2022](https://twitter.com/KhJacki/status/1479579435984642049?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Zakaria Zubeidi was the former Jenin chief of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, Fatah’s armed wing, and later made recent headlines after escaping prison in September along with five other terrorists by digging a tunnel. All of the inmates were eventually recaptured.

Zubeidi is reportedly a “symbol” of the Second Intifada, which erupted in September 2000, and was even praised by Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hamas and Fatah upon his escape from [Gilboa prison](https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/gilboa-prison-escapees-the-sheriff-of-jenin-and-the-emir-of-islamic-jihad-678846).

Fatah's ZAKARIA ZUBEIDI 370 (credit: Reuters)

Had Zubeidi returned to his home in the [Jenin Refugee Camp](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/israel-border-police-seek-terrorist-in-jenin-five-palestinians-dead-676821), Israel would never have been able to recapture him, masked gunmen and political activists said in September.

Zubeidi was reportedly in close contact with several Israelis, including journalists covering Palestinian affairs, and briefed them on the latest developments in Jenin.

According to both Palestinian and Israeli sources, Zubeidi had survived at least four assassination attempts by Israel. He and his men were known to terrorize and intimidate Palestinians in the Jenin area.

In February 2019, he was arrested by the IDF and charged with carrying out at least two shooting attacks on civilian buses in the West Bank.

[Another incident](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/students-killing-sparks-protests-against-pa-in-jenin-687911) in Jenin last month involved the death of a 21-year-old nursing student at Arab American University, which sparked protests in which demonstrators clashed with PA security forces. <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-691879>

**Iran displays missiles amid nuclear talks with world powers**

***State television says missiles in central Tehran are the same types as those used to strike US bases in Iraq after Soleimani killing***

*By* [*AP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ap/) *Today, 4:20 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/AP22007383712846.jpg)

A cleric walks past Zolfaghar, top, and Dezful missiles displayed by the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, at Imam Khomeini grand mosque, in Tehran, Iran, Friday, Jan. 7, 2022 (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Iran displayed three ballistic missiles at an outdoor prayer esplanade in central Tehran on Friday as talks in Vienna aimed at reviving Tehran’s nuclear deal with world powers flounder.

The missiles — known as Dezful, Qiam and Zolfaghar — have official ranges of up to 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) and are already-known models, the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard said.

Diplomats from countries that remain in the 2015 nuclear deal — Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China — are working with Tehran to revive the accord, which had sought to limit Iran’s nuclear ambitions in exchange for lifting economic sanctions.

A picture containing sky, outdoor, road, missile

Description automatically generated American diplomats are present at the nuclear talks in Vienna but they are not in direct talks with Iranians. The accord collapsed in 2018 when then-president Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew the United States from the deal and re-imposed sanctions on Iran.

A report by Iranian state television said the missiles on display were the same types as those used to strike US bases in Iraq.

A woman walks past Qiam, left, Zolfaghar, top right, and Dezful missiles displayed by the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, at Imam Khomeini grand mosque, in Tehran, Iran, Friday, Jan. 7, 2022 (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)

The display came on the second anniversary of a ballistic missile attack on bases housing American troops in Iraq in retaliation for the US drone strike that killed top Iranian general Qassem Soleimani in Baghdad in 2020.

The Iranian military mistakenly shot down Ukraine International Airlines Flight PS752 with two surface-to-air missiles after the attacks, killing all 176 people on board. After days of denial, the Guard publicly apologized, blaming an air defense operator who authorities said mistook the Boeing 737-800 for an American cruise missile.

An Iranian military court in November held a hearing for 10 people suspected of having a role in downing the Ukrainian airliner.

State TV said a commemoration ceremony for the victims was held in Tehran’s main cemetery with the presence of their families as well as officials. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-displays-missiles-amid-nuclear-talks-with-world-powers/>

**Iran ready for bilateral talks on downed jet, ignores call for reparations**

***Canada, Britain, Sweden and Ukraine said they had abandoned efforts to talk to Tehran about reparations and would try to settle the matter according to international law.***

*By REUTERS*

*Published: JANUARY 7, 2022 16:00*



Security officers and Red Crescent workers are seen at the site where the Ukraine International Airlines plane crashed after take-off from Iran's Imam Khomeini airport, on the outskirts of Tehran, Iran January 8, 2020. (photo credit: NAZANIN TABATABAEE/WANA (WEST ASIA NEWS AGENCY) VIA REUTERS)

Iran said on Friday it was prepared to hold bilateral talks with concerned countries over a [Ukrainian airliner downed](https://www.jpost.com/international/article-691625) by its forces in 2020, ignoring a joint statement on reparations made by Canada and other states whose citizens were killed.

Canada, Britain, Sweden and Ukraine said on Thursday they had abandoned efforts to talk to Tehran about reparations for an airliner brought down by Iran and would try to settle the matter according to international law.

Most of the 176 people killed when Iran shot down the Ukrainian airliner in January 2020 were citizens from those four nations, which formed a group aiming to hold Tehran to account.

"Despite certain countries' illegal actions and attempts to exploit this tragic event ..., [Iran](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-691807) remains ready to negotiate bilaterally with each of the relevant states," Iran's Foreign Ministry said in a statement on state media.

It said any talks should respect "sovereignty, domestic laws and international obligations."

General view of the debris of the Ukraine International Airlines, flight PS752, Boeing 737-800 plane that crashed after take-off from Iran's Imam Khomeini airport, on the outskirts of Tehran, Iran January 8, 2020 (credit: SCREENSHOT/REUTERS)

Tehran says its Revolutionary Guards accidentally shot down the Boeing 737 plane, which was hit at a time when tensions were high between Iran and the United States. Tehran blamed a misaligned radar and an error by the air defense operator.

A Canadian court this week awarded nearly $84 million plus interest to the families of six people who died. In June, Canada said it had found no evidence that the downing of the plane had been premeditated. <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-691857>

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/01/AP22006656192775.jpg)**As 26 die in mass protests, Kazakh leader orders use of lethal force on ‘terrorists’**

***President Tokayev warns: ‘Those who don’t surrender will be eliminated’; Russia-led troops arrive to guard government institutions***

*By* [*Dasha Litvinova*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/dasha-litvinova/) *Today, 11:59 am*

A police car on fire as riot police prepare to stop protesters in the center of Almaty, Kazakhstan, January 5, 2022. (AP Photo/Vladimir Tretyakov)

MOSCOW (AP) — The President of Kazakhstan said Friday he authorized law enforcement to open fire on “terrorists” and shoot to kill, a move that comes after days of extremely violent protests in the former Soviet nation.

In a televised address to the nation, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev blamed the unrest on “terrorists” and “militants” and said that he had authorized the use of lethal force against them. “Those who don’t surrender will be eliminated,” Tokayev said.

He also blasted calls for talks with the protesters made by some other countries as “nonsense.” “What negotiations can be held with criminals, murderers?” Tokayev said.

Earlier Tokayev declared that constitutional order was “mainly restored” after the country was engulfed in unprecedented unrest in recent days.

“An anti-terror operation has commenced. Law enforcement agencies are working hard. Constitutional order has been mainly restored in all regions of the country. Local authorities are in control of the situation,” he was quoted by his spokespeople as saying Friday.

The president added, however, that “terrorists are still using weapons and are damaging people’s property” and that “counterterrorist actions” should be continued.

A person wearing glasses

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Kazakhstan’s President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev attends a meeting of presidents of ex-Soviet nations which are members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, at Konstantin Palace in Strelna, outside St. Petersburg, Russia, December 28, 2021. (Yevgeny Biyatov, Sputnik, Kremlin Pool Photo via AP)

Kazakhstan is experiencing the worst street protests since the country gained independence three decades ago. The demonstrations began over a near-doubling of prices for a type of vehicle fuel and quickly spread across the country, reflecting wider discontent over the rule of the same party since independence.

Protests have turned extremely violent, with government buildings set ablaze and scores of protesters and more than a dozen law enforcement officers killed. Internet across the country has been shut down, and two airports closed, including one in Almaty, the country’s largest city.

In a concession, the government on Thursday announced a 180-day price cap on vehicle fuel and a moratorium on utility rate increases. Tokayev has vacillated between trying to mollify the protesters, including accepting the resignation of his government, and promising harsh measures to quell the unrest, which he blamed on “terrorist bands.”

In what was seen as one such measure, the president has called on a Russia-led military alliance for help.

The alliance, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, includes the former Soviet republics of Kazakhstan, Belarus, Armenia, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan and has started deploying troops to Kazakhstan for a peacekeeping mission.

Kazakh officials have insisted that the troops will not be fighting the demonstrators, and instead will take on guarding government institutions.

A group of military vehicles driving through the snow

Description automatically generated with low confidence

In this screengrab from a video released by the Russian Defense Ministry Press Service, military vehicles of Russian peacekeepers parked to be uploaded on Russian military planes at an airfield outside Moscow, in Russia to fly to Kazakhstan, January 6, 2022. (Russian Defense Ministry Press Service via AP)

Kazakhstan’s Interior Ministry reported Friday that 26 protesters had been killed during the unrest, 18 were wounded and more than 3,000 people have been detained. A total of 18 law enforcement officers have been reported killed as well, and over 700 sustained injuries.

Skirmishes in Almaty were still reported on Friday morning. Russia’s state news agency Tass reported that the building occupied by the Kazakh branch of the Mir broadcaster, funded by several former Soviet states, was on fire.

However, the Almaty airport — stormed and seized earlier by the protesters — was back under the control of Kazakh law enforcement and CSTO peacekeepers, Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov said Friday. The airport will remain shut until Friday evening, local TV station Khabar 24 reported, citing the airport’s spokespeople.

In other parts of the country, some things started to go back to normal. In the capital, Nur-Sultan, access to the internet has been partially restored, and train traffic has been resumed across Kazakhstan.

The airport in the capital is operating as usual, Khabar 24 reported. According to the TV channel, airlines will resume domestic flights to the cities of Shymkent, Turkestan, and Atyrau, as well as flights to Moscow and Dubai, starting from 3 p.m. (09:00 GMT) Friday <https://www.timesofisrael.com/amid-unrest-kazakh-leader-orders-use-of-lethal-force-on-terrorists/> [Wars and rumors of wars in “diverse” places – rdb]

**‘Risk of conflict is real’ – NATO chief**

*8 Jan, 2022 00:14*

***NATO boss says the alliance is ready to negotiate with Russia, but does not rule out a ‘conflict’***



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg talks during a press conference at the NATO headquarters in Brussels on January 7, 2022. © AFP / John Thys

NATO is open to hearing Moscow’s concerns, the bloc’s head Jens Stoltenberg said on Friday. However, he added that any moves to reduce Ukraine tensions must be reciprocal, and not undermine the European “security order.”

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg explained the bloc’s approach to negotiations with Russia during a press conference on Friday, following an extraordinary meeting of the member states’ foreign ministers.  
 The alliance’s boss squarely blamed the deteriorating relations and tensions around Ukraine on Moscow, reiterating the claims of a “military build-*up”* allegedly conducted by Russia on its neighbor’s borders. The allegations have been consistently dismissed by Moscow, which insists any movement of troops within its own territory is strictly its domestic business.  
 *“The risk of conflict is real. Russia’s aggressive actions seriously undermine the security order in Europe,”* Stoltenberg insisted on Friday.  
 At the same time, the official signaled that the NATO bloc was not eager to enter a war with Russia over Ukraine. While the West has repeatedly warned Russia over severe “consequences*”* should it *“invade”* its neighbor – a charge repeatedly denied by Moscow – Ukraine is not a NATO member and an attack on it does not invoke the bloc’s collective defense, Stoltenberg reminded the journalists at the press conference.  
 ***We have to remember that Ukraine is a very close partner. We provide support to Ukraine, but Ukraine is not covered by NATO’s collective defense clause because Ukraine is not a NATO member. They are a partner.***  
 The bloc is ready to engage with Russia on outstanding security issues, but Moscow should not expect any one-sided concessions from the alliance, Stoltenberg warned. He also expressed confidence that the US won't make any concessions to Russia at the expense of the bloc’s European members.  
 *“We are ready to engage in arms control with Russia, conventional and nuclear, but that has to be reciprocal,”* Stoltenberg stated. *“That’s a different thing – imposing one-sided restrictions ... we can’t end up in a situation where we have second-class NATO members where NATO as an alliance is not allowed to protect them.”*  
 The top diplomats of NATO members got together for an online summit ahead of the upcoming US-Russia talks, as well as the first meeting of the NATO-Russia Council in years. The US-Russia talks, set to be led by high-level officials of the two nations, is scheduled to begin in Geneva on January 10. The NATO-Russia Council meeting, set to be the first one since 2019, is expected to take place on January 12. <https://www.rt.com/russia/545406-nato-moscow-conflict-ukraine-stoltenberg/> [If NATO goes to war with Russia I think I would put my money on Russia because the EU group has been grossly underfunded and undermanaged for years always relying on the USA and the current status of the USA military administration is pathetic. More rumors of wars. – rdb]

**Constitutional expert: Public rejecting Dems' 'insurrection' story line**

***Cites Pelosi's demand that party members 'preserve the narrative'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published January 7, 2022 at 7:13pm*

Democrats, for the last year, mostly have been unanimous in describing the protest-turned-riot at the Capitol last Jan. 6 as an "insurrection."

They explain it was nothing less than an organized conspiracy to take over control of the U.S. government.

That's critical to the leftists in the party, as members hope by describing it that way, they eventually can convince the public that those loosely connected – such as President Trump – can be called "insurrectionists."  
 That would allow them to call out a Civil War-era provision that forbids those who have participated in an "insurrection" from holding office in the United States again.  
 They hope that will prevent what obviously has become one of their worst nightmares: Trump on the 2024 presidential ballot.  
 But constitutional expert Jonathan Turley, in his [online column,](https://jonathanturley.org/2022/01/07/preserve-the-narrative-the-public-rejects-the-insurrection-claim-in-new-polling/#more-182715) says they've already lost.  
 "In the day long events commemorating January 6th, Speaker Nancy Pelosi made a telling statement to her fellow members and the public at large. Pelosi declared 'It is essential that we preserve the narrative of January 6th,'" he explained.  
 "Part of that narrative is that this was not a riot but an 'insurrection,' an actual 'rebellion' against our country," he said.  
 Bottom of Form

"Pelosi’s concern over the viability of that narrative is well-based as shown by a recent CBS News poll. The majority of the public does not believe that this was an 'insurrection' despite the mantra-like repetition of members of Congress and the media. The public saw that terrible day unfold a year ago and saw it for what it was: a protest that became a riot. (For full disclosure, I previously worked as a legal analyst for CBS News)," he wrote.  
 While "reporters and commentators" refer to the "insurrection" as fact, Americans do not, and most consider it a "protest that went too far," he said.  
 He continued, "Using the term insurrection is now a litmus test. In the age of rage, one’s legitimacy is based on your volume and fury. After the attack, I wrote that this was not an insurrection, but it was a desecration of our constitutional process. When I have used 'riot' in columns, I have received a torrent of emails objecting to the characterization as proof of being an apologist or 'Trumper,'" he said.  
 But he pointed out "insurrection" and "sedition" are legal terms and after the FBI investigated thousands, and charged hundreds, for the Jan. 6 events, "Not one is charged with insurrection or sedition or conspiracy to overthrow the country. The vast majority are charged with relatively minor offenses of trespass or unlawful entry or property damage- the type of charges that are common in protests and riots."  
 The conduct at the time was "disgraceful," he said, and prosecutions are legitimate.  
 But, he said, "It is simply not an insurrection."  
 "This was a protest fueled by reckless rhetoric that was allowed to become a full riot by a shocking lack of security preparations by the Capitol police and the District of Columbia. A large national guard deployment was rejected and critical intelligence not shared by officials planning for the long-planned protests. Again, the fault still remains with the rioters themselves but this would have remained a protest if Congress had taken obvious steps of fencing and guard deployments," he said.  
 Now, he said, "Democratic members and groups are again calling for members (and Trump himself) to be disqualified from running for future offices under the 14th Amendment. The 'disqualification clause' was created for actual rebels who attempted to overthrow the government in the Civil War. Self-described 'pro-democracy' advocates like Marc Elias believe that nothing says democracy like barring people from voting for the candidates of their choice."  
 But he warned it's not working.  
 "Even when the public is not given the choice by CBS of calling this a riot rather than an insurrection, the truth emerges like water finding a way out. The poll also shows the limits of not just Speaker Pelosi but the mainstream media in preserving such narratives. Despite the endless drumbeat of coverage referring to the day as an 'insurrection,' the media cannot get the public to ignore what they witnessed — any more than getting viewers to accept reporting on largely 'peaceful' protests with images of burning buildings in the background."  
 [It was just a day earlier](https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/turley-democrat-plans-disqualify-candidates-dangerous-iran/) Turley warned the Democrats' hope to disqualify Republicans from running for office actually "dangerous."  
 "What is maddening is that Democratic groups and commentators are seeking to remove as many as 120 Republicans from the ballots in the name of democracy," he explained. "It is like burning books in the name of literacy. Yet, on this anniversary of the January 6th riot, members of Congress and Democratic groups want to block voters from reelecting their preferred representatives. Like villages in Vietnam, it appears that some members and activists believe that you have to destroy democracy to save it from itself."  
 He continued, "Some in the United States are now toying with the idea for the 2022 or 2024 elections. While more modest than the Iranian model, the Democratic calls for disqualification are just as dangerous. What is most maddening is that this anti-democratic effort is cloaked in democratic doublespeak." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/constitutional-expert-public-rejecting-dems-insurrection-story-line/> [This country was formed by people who were dissatisfied with the governance which existed and therefore revolted. If the leftist demon-rats persist, they could well see that happen again. Their lies and continual deceptions and push for a socialist/communist based nation simply is unacceptable to a majority of Americans. – rdb]

**Gingrich: Pelosi is 'the person who is the most responsible' for Jan. 6 violence**

***'It was her job to ensure that there was adequate police'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published January 7, 2022 at 12:24pm*

Newt Gingrich, the former speaker of the U.S. House, is charging that the current speaker, octogenarian Democrat Nancy Pelosi, is the one at fault for the Jan. 6, 2021, riot that damaged the U.S. Capitol.

"I think she is the person who is the most responsible for what happened," Gingrich said. "It was her job to ensure that there was adequate police, and if they didn't have adequate police it was her job to ensure that the National Guard was there."

[Fox News](https://www.foxnews.com/media/newt-gingrich-nancy-pelosi-capitol-riot-jan-6-ingraham-angle) reported Gingrich appeared on "The Ingraham Angle" late Thursday to discuss the anniversary of the riot that left one protester dead – by a shot from a Capitol policeman.

Several other protesters died of natural causes at that time, and several police officers either died by natural cause or suicide in the aftermath.

The riot developed when a few dozens or hundreds from a crowd of thousands broke windows to enter the building, take selfies, and vandalize.

Some 700 people have been charged, mostly with crimes like trespassing.

They were protesting Congress' schedule that day to vote to accept Joe Biden as president, following an election that two analyses have concluded was impacted by Democrat activism.

First, a study revealed that Mark Zuckerberg's $420 million, handed over to leftists in key positions in elections offices with instructions often to recruit Democrat voters, essentially bought the election for Biden.

Further, the Media Research Center found in an analysis that enough people would have changed their vote away from Biden had legacy and social media not suppressed accurate reporting about scandals involving the Biden family that he would have lost the vote and President Donald Trump would be in office today.

Gingrich knows Pelosi's job, as he did it, some years ago.

He said, "So a lot of this, I think, is a dance by the Democrats, who don’t want us to look very closely at what actually happened.

"If you’ll notice, the political committee they’ve created is, in fact, only looking at political things. They’re not looking at the various ringleaders who’ve not been arrested. They’re not looking at a lot of the details about whether or not the FBI was as involved as provocateurs.

"We know, for example, in Michigan that the FBI was deeply involved in creating an entire project to kidnap the governor, and then pretend it was being done by White nationalists, when in fact all the leading figures were FBI activists.

"So there’s reason to question everything about what happened on Jan. 6.

"Again, as a former speaker, I was deeply offended that anybody would do what they did on the Capitol grounds, but as a former speaker I was also really offended that the current speaker, Pelosi, failed so totally in her job, which was to make sure this didn’t happen.  
 In fact, Democrats on the anniversary of the violence turned the day into a political diatribe against Trump.

Biden, Kamala Harris and Pelosi all held forth for reporters, and Biden specifically delivered a speech against Trump filled with "vitriol, divisiveness and nastiness," Gingrich said.

[WND has reported](https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/republicans-investigating-jan-6-serious-questions-pelosi/) that Republicans, in fact, are investigating Jan. 6 themselves, as Pelosi set up her own partisan committee to review the day, refusing to seat GOP members of Congress picked by their party.

They delivered a letter to her this week pointing out that there are questions about the day she needs to answer, including why she is continuing "to obstruct Republican access to House records relating to the security preparedness of the Capitol complex."

"This double standard only adds to the evidence that Democrats are weaponizing events of January 6th against their political adversaries," explained a letter to Pelosi. "If you are truly interested in working with Republicans to improve the Capitol security posture, I demand that you direct all House officers immediately to stop obstructing our oversight.

The letter to Pelosi is from Ranking Member Rodney Davis and was posted online:

She has refused to answer other questions from the GOP, and apparently has instructed House staff to do the same.

The letter cites previous questions from Republicans, including about why a request from then-Chief of Capitol Police Steve Sund asking for National Guard support was denied, did then-Sergeant at Arms Paul Irving get instructions from her office before denying Sund's request, and what guidance did Pelosi and her staff hand out leading up to Jan. 6.

"Like our requests to the House Sergeant-at-Arms, the House Chief Administrative Officer, and the House General Counsel – all of whom report directly to you – you have refused to respond. These records and communications are material to understanding the decision making by law enforcement officials before and during the violence of January 6th. Without these records, we cannot complete a thorough and comprehensive review."  
 Rep. Jim Jordan, one of those nominated for the committee but rejected by Pelosi, noted that testimony so far is in conflict.  
 "The Capitol Hill police has said that they asked for the National Guard to be present Jan. 6. The sergeant of arms has said, 'No, you didn’t.' One guy says, 'We asked for it.' The other guy says, 'We didn’t.' The guy who says, 'We didn't,' reports directly to the speaker and won’t turn over the documents. The guy who said we did ask for the National Guard — they have given us the information," Jordan said.  
 [WND has reported](https://www.wnd.com/2021/12/pelosis-partisan-jan-6-commission-headed-court-defendants/) that Pelosi's committee likely will end up in court as defendants, as multiple targets picked by the committee are challenging it on constitutional grounds.  
 And [WND has reported](https://www.wnd.com/2021/11/pelosis-claim-pentagon-failed-act-jan-6-debunked/) that Pelosi has claimed the Pentagon under the Trump administration delayed sending National Guard troops to the U.S. Capitol during the Jan. 6 breach, but an inspector general found otherwise.  
 The Defense Department IG concluded the Pentagon responded appropriately and in a timely fashion to urgent requests for National Guard assistance, [Just the News reported](https://justthenews.com/government/security/pentagon-did-not-delay-aid-sending-national-guard-troops-capitol-january-6).  
 "We also determined that DoD officials did not delay or obstruct the DoD's response," the report says.  
 The IG found that former acting Defense Secretary Chris Miller and former Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy acted reasonably in deploying an additional round of soldiers more than three hours after numerous calls for assistance were fielded from D.C. and federal officials.  
 Miller told the "John Solomon Reports" podcast that it "broke my heart" to see the military, which "responded really with alacrity and professionalism," get "thrown under the bus by the politicians."  
 "I was so naive. I couldn't believe it," he said. "When it comes to national security, I thought we're on the same team. I was really horrified that it had become so partisan."  
 Just the News reported the commanding general of the D.C. National Guard at the time, Maj. Gen. William Walker, testified to the Senate in March that the Pentagon unnecessarily delayed its response. Walker alleged the overpowered Capitol Police asked for assistance but the Pentagon kept help from arriving for hours while it could have arrived in minutes.  
 The IG interviewed Walker, but the report found no evidence to support the general's claim.  
 [The Associated Press reported Jan. 7](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/capitol-police-riot-rejected-federal-help-trump_n_5ff7db0ac5b66f3f795c73b0) that three days before the breach of the Capitol, the Pentagon asked Capitol Police if it needed National Guard manpower. Further, amid the riot, Justice Department leaders offered FBI agents.  
 But police turned them down both times, according to senior defense officials and two people familiar with the matter who spoke to the AP.  
 In February, [one-time White House chief of staff Mark Meadows said](https://www.newsmax.com/politics/mark-meadows-trump-national-guard-riot/2021/02/09/id/1009314/) President Trump had offered ahead of the Jan. 6 joint session of Congress "as many as 10,000 National Guard troops."  
 Meadows told Fox News' "Sunday Morning Futures with Maria Bartiromo" that in January and "throughout the summer … the president was very vocal in making sure that we had plenty of National Guard, plenty of additional support because he supports our rule of law and supports our law enforcement and offered additional help."  
 Meadows said that in January, "as many as 10,000 National Guard troops were told to be on the ready by the Secretary of Defense."  
 "That was a direct order from President Trump, and yet here is what we see, all kinds of blame going around but yet not a whole lot of accountability. That accountability needs to rest with where it ultimately should be and that’s on Capitol Hill." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/gingrich-pelosi-person-responsible-jan-6-violence/> [When you really look at all the events that went on during that episode it appears that a very small group of select individuals began the process of going to the Capitol and pushing through for entry. It also appears that there were police who let a number in and some of those in the group were from Federal government agencies like the FBI or CIA. The failure of PEEElosi to allow the activation of the National Guard initially leads me to believe that this entire affair was a premeditated ‘false flag’ action by the demon-rats in order to give them the basis for promoting their terrorist accusations and further work to limit arms and denigrate those on the conservative side. This is a last thrust at trying to get themselves prepared for the 2022 midterms and prevent a possible blood bath in 2024 because they have no one who is creditable to even run. – rdb]

**Judge rules FDA can’t keep vaccine docs secret ‘until 2096’**

***A federal judge said the drug regulator must radically accelerate its release of hundreds of thousands of files on the Pfizer jab***

*7 Jan, 2022 05:29*

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has been ordered to hasten the publication of documents related to Pfizer’s coronavirus vaccine by more than one-hundred-fold, after the agency claimed the disclosure would take decades.

In a [ruling](https://www.sirillp.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/ORDER_2022_01_06-9e24e298ae561d16d68a3950ab57077b.pdf) on Thursday, District Judge Mark Pittman rejected previous arguments from the FDA after it said it might take decades, possibly until 2096, to complete the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. Though the agency said it could only process and publish around 500 pages each month, Pittman said it would have to pick up the pace – instead ordering it to put out 55,000 pages in the same time span.

*“The court concludes that this FOIA request is of paramount public importance,”* the judge wrote, adding that the timely completion of the release is *“not only practicable, but necessary.”*

Pittman accepted an earlier proposal from the FDA for an initial publication of some 12,000 pages by the end of this month, but said it must drastically speed up the process by March. He allowed the regulator to redact records only when it has “privilege, exemption, or exclusion” over information, and told the plaintiffs and FDA to submit a *“joint status report”* detailing the progress of the rolling disclosure by April 1, and again every 90 days afterward until it is complete.

The FOIA suit was brought in September by attorney Aaron Siri on behalf of the Public Health and Medical Professionals for Transparency organization, a group of professors and scientists who previously complained the FDA was dragging its feet on sharing Pfizer’s vaccine data. Because the agency was able to process the whole trove of Pfizer docs in a lightning-fast 108 days in order to license the vaccine, the plaintiffs insisted it did not need decades to review, redact and hand over the documents as claimed.

Commenting on Thursday’s ruling in a Substack [post](https://aaronsiri.substack.com/p/instead-of-fdas-requested-500-pages), Siri deemed the decision a *“great win for transparency”* that will break a government *“stranglehold”* on the vaccine data. <https://www.rt.com/news/545350-fda-pfizer-vaccine-documents/> [YES! This is wonderful. The judge should have demanded an all hands on deck and get it all done in a month. The FDA and other agencies are great at demanding the information they want with sometimes really bad time frames and it is time that the government realizes that they aren’t exempt from orders. – rdb]

**7-Year-Old Dies 11 Days After Pfizer Shot, VAERS Report Shows**

***VAERS data released Friday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention included a total of 1,017,001 reports of adverse events from all age groups following COVID vaccines, including 21,382 deaths and 166,606 serious injuries between Dec. 14, 2020, and Dec. 31, 2021.***

*By* [*Megan Redshaw*](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/authors/megan-redshaw/)  *01/07/22*

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention today released new data showing a total of [1,017,001 reports of adverse events](https://www.medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=CAT&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19) following COVID vaccines were submitted between Dec. 14, 2020, and Dec. 31, 2021, to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). VAERS is the primary government-funded system for reporting adverse vaccine reactions in the U.S.

The data included a total of [21,382 reports of deaths](https://www.medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&DIED=Yes) — an increase of 380 over the previous week — and [166,606 reports of serious injuries](https://www.medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&SERIOUS=ON), including deaths, during the same time period — up 4,100 compared with the previous week.

Excluding “[foreign reports](https://wonder.cdc.gov/wonder/help/vaers/VAERS%20Advisory%20Guide.htm)” to VAERS, [715,857 adverse events](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&STATE=NOTFR), including [9,778 deaths](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&DIED=Yes&STATE=NOTFR) and [63,089 serious injuries](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&SERIOUS=ON&STATE=NOTFR), were reported in the U.S. between Dec. 14, 2020, and Dec. 31, 2021.

[Foreign reports](https://wonder.cdc.gov/wonder/help/vaers/VAERS%20Advisory%20Guide.htm) are reports foreign subsidiaries send to U.S. vaccine manufacturers. Under U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations, if a manufacturer is notified of a foreign case report that describes an event that is both serious and does not appear on the product’s labeling, the manufacturer is required to submit the report to VAERS.

Of the 9,778 U.S. [deaths reported](https://www.medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=ONS&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&DIED=Yes&STATE=NOTFR) as of Dec. 31, 20% occurred within 24 hours of vaccination, 24% occurred within 48 hours of vaccination and 61% occurred in people who experienced an [onset of symptoms](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=ONS&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&VAXTYPES=COVID-19&STATE=NOTFR) within 48 hours of being vaccinated.

In the U.S., 507I .1 million COVID vaccine doses had been administered as of Dec. 30, This [includes](https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/covid-vaccine-doses-by-manufacturer?country=~USA) 296 million doses of Pfizer, 194 million doses of Moderna and 18 million doses of Johnson & Johnson (J&J).

Table

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Every Friday, [VAERS](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/rfk-jr-david-kessler-covid-vaccine-vaers/) publishes vaccine injury reports received as of a specified date. Reports submitted to VAERS require further investigation before a causal relationship can be confirmed. Historically, VAERS has been shown to report only [1% of actual vaccine adverse events](https://digital.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/docs/publication/r18hs017045-lazarus-final-report-2011.pdf).

**U.S. VAERS data from Dec. 14, 2020, to Dec. 31, 2021, for 5- to 11-year-olds show:**

* 6,005 [adverse events](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=5&HIGHAGE=12), including [126 rated as serious](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&SERIOUS=ON&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=5&HIGHAGE=12) and [3 reported deaths](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&DIED=Yes&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=5&HIGHAGE=12).

The most recent death involves a 7-year-old girl (VAERS I.D. [1975356](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?IDNUMBER=1975356)) from Minnesota who died 11 days after receiving her first dose of Pfizer’s COVID vaccine when she was found unresponsive by her mother. An autopsy is pending.

* [13 reports](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Myocarditis+%2810028606%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Pericarditis+%2810034484%29&VAX=COVID19&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=5&HIGHAGE=12) of myocarditis and pericarditis (heart inflammation).
* [15 reports](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Cerebral+artery+thrombosis+%2810008092%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Cerebral+venous+sinus+thrombosis+%2810083037%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Cerebral+venous+thrombosis+%2810008138%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Coagulopathy+%2810009802%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Deep+vein+thrombosis+%2810051055%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Disseminated+intravascular+coagulation+%2810013442%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Embolism+%2810061169%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Idiopathic+thrombocytopenic+purpura+%2810021245%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Immune+thrombocytopenia+%2810083842%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Immune+thrombocytopenic+purpura+%2810074667%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Ischaemic+stroke+%2810061256%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Myocardial+infarction+%2810028596%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Petechiae+%2810034754%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Pulmonary+embolism+%2810037377%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Pulmonary+venous+thrombosis+%2810037459%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Purpura+%2810037549%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Thrombocytopenia+%2810043554%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Thrombosis+%2810043607%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Vasculitis+%2810047115%29&VAX=COVID19&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=5&HIGHAGE=12) of blood clotting disorders.

**U.S. VAERS data from Dec. 14, 2020, to Dec. 31, 2021, for 12- to 17-year-olds show:**

* 26,169 [adverse events](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&VAXTYPES=COVID-19&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=12&HIGHAGE=18), including [1,516 rated as serious](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&VAXTYPES=COVID-19&SERIOUS=ON&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=12&HIGHAGE=18) and [35 reported deaths](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&VAXTYPES=COVID-19&DIED=Yes&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=12&HIGHAGE=18).

The most recent death involves a 15-year-old girl from Minnesota (VAERS I.D. [1974744](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?IDNUMBER=1963633)), who died 177 days after receiving her second dose of Pfizer from a pulmonary embolus. An autopsy is pending.

* [62 reports](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylactic+reaction+%2810002198%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylactic+shock+%2810002199%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylactoid+reaction+%2810002216%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylactoid+shock+%2810063119%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylaxis+prophylaxis+%2810049090%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylaxis+treatment+%2810002222%29&VAX=COVID19&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=12&HIGHAGE=18) of anaphylaxis among 12- to 17-year-olds where the reaction was life-threatening, required treatment or resulted in death — with 96% of cases  
  attributed to [Pfizer’s vaccine](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylactic+reaction+%2810002198%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylactic+shock+%2810002199%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylactoid+reaction+%2810002216%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylactoid+shock+%2810063119%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylaxis+prophylaxis+%2810049090%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Anaphylaxis+treatment+%2810002222%29&VAX=COVID19&VAXMAN=PFIZER/BIONTECH&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=12&HIGHAGE=18).
* [579 reports](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Myocarditis+%2810028606%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Pericarditis+%2810034484%29&VAX=COVID19&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=12&HIGHAGE=18) of myocarditis and pericarditis with [573 cases](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Myocarditis+%2810028606%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Pericarditis+%2810034484%29&VAX=COVID19&VAXMAN=PFIZER/BIONTECH&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=12&HIGHAGE=18) attributed to Pfizer’s vaccine.
* [146 reports](https://medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Cerebral+artery+thrombosis+%2810008092%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Cerebral+venous+sinus+thrombosis+%2810083037%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Cerebral+venous+thrombosis+%2810008138%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Coagulopathy+%2810009802%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Deep+vein+thrombosis+%2810051055%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Disseminated+intravascular+coagulation+%2810013442%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Embolism+%2810061169%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Idiopathic+thrombocytopenic+purpura+%2810021245%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Immune+thrombocytopenia+%2810083842%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Immune+thrombocytopenic+purpura+%2810074667%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Ischaemic+stroke+%2810061256%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Myocardial+infarction+%2810028596%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Petechiae+%2810034754%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Pulmonary+embolism+%2810037377%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Pulmonary+venous+thrombosis+%2810037459%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Purpura+%2810037549%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Thrombocytopenia+%2810043554%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Thrombosis+%2810043607%29&SYMPTOMS%5b%5d=Vasculitis+%2810047115%29&VAX=COVID19&STATE=NOTFR&WhichAge=range&LOWAGE=12&HIGHAGE=18) of blood clotting disorders, with all cases attributed to Pfizer. MORE - <https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/vaers-cdc-child-dies-pfizer-covid-vaccine>

**Mom brings child to Covid-testing site in car trunk**

***A high school teacher is accused of felony child endangerment after taking drastic measures to avoid catching the coronavirus from her son***

*8 Jan, 2022 00:56*

Texas police are looking for a high school English teacher after she allegedly locked her Covid-19 positive child in a car trunk to limit exposure on the way to a testing facility.

An arrest warrant for felony child endangerment was issued for Sarah Beam, 42, on Friday after her 13-year-old son was discovered in the car trunk at Houston’s Pridgeon Stadium Covid-19 testing center this week.

Bevin Gordon, the Health Services Director for the local independent school district, [reportedly](https://www.fox26houston.com/news/mother-charged-after-covid-19-positive-teen-found-in-trunk-of-her-car-harris-co-das-office-says) contacted police after *“she witnessed Beam unlatch the trunk and found the 13-year-old was face down inside.”*

Court documents claim Beam defended the travel arrangement by arguing that the child was in the trunk to *“prevent her from getting exposed to possible COVID.”*

After Gordon contacted authorities and returned to the car, however, the child had moved from the trunk to the vehicle’s back seat, but the incident was caught on surveillance cameras.

Beam, who works as an English teacher at a high school in the Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District, has reportedly been placed on administrative leave. <https://www.rt.com/news/545423-mom-covid-car-trunk/> [The woman hadn’t the brains of an ant. These are the types who are being allowed to teach the children? NO COMMON SENSE at all. Wonder who she voted for. – rdb]

**UK army deployed to hospitals**

***Around 200 British soldiers have been deployed to London NHS hospitals amid severe staffing shortages that have put patient care at risk***

*7 Jan, 2022 09:52*

Military medics have been tasked with aiding the NHS after at least 24 hospital trusts declared critical incidents, amid staffing shortages that risk compromising their ability to care for patients and provide priority services.

The Ministry of Defence confirmed on Friday that 200 military personnel will be deployed for the next three weeks to fill gaps caused by staff having to self-isolate due to a Covid infection or coming into contact a positive case.

The bulk of the force will be stationed in London hospitals, with the city having been hit particularly hard by the Omicron outbreak, pushing medical services beyond their limits. It comes as the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) told the government that it can no longer deny the NHS is facing a *“staffing crisis.”*

Alongside the military medics in hospitals, the British army will provide 32 co-responders to aid the South Central Ambulance Service until the end of March. This follows reports that some patients suffering suspected strokes or heart attacks are having to ask relatives to drive them to hospital due to long wait times for ambulances.

*“The prime minister and others can no longer be dismissive of questions about the ability of NHS staff to deliver safe care,”* the RCN’s England director Patricia Marquis said.

Despite ongoing concerns about the pressure facing the NHS and the decision to draft in the army, UK business minister Paul Scully claimed on Friday that the government still doesn’t see a need for further Covid restrictions to battle the wave of Omicron cases.

The situation facing NHS doctors and nurses in hospitals has been compounded by a report released on Thursday by the cross-party Health and Social Care Committee that warned the pandemic has created a backlog of 5.8 million people waiting for treatment.

On Thursday, the UK recorded 194,747 new daily Covid infections, bringing the total number of cases for the past seven days to over 1.1 million. <https://www.rt.com/news/545370-army-deployed-nhs-covid/> [So how many of the sick staff members had previously been JABBED???? I would guess probably about 99% - rdb]

**Commentary:**

**Exposing the Lie of Israel Apartheid**

***by*** [***Richard Kemp***](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Richard+Kemp)***January 7, 2022 at 5:00 am***

Last month the UN General Assembly re-affirmed its implacable hostility to one of its own member states. It [voted](https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/lapid-govt-will-see-uptick-in-accusations-that-israel-an-apartheid-state-in-coming-year/) overwhelmingly — 125-8, with 34 abstentions — to fund an unprecedented permanent Human Rights Council (UNHRC) commission of inquiry (COI) into allegations of war crimes and human rights abuse by Israel. Taxpayers' funds will pay an eyewatering $5.5 million budget in the first year alone, well over twice that of the UNHRC commission investigating the Syrian civil war.

Since its creation in 2006, the council has established 32 inquiries, nine of which — one-third — have focused entirely on Israel. But this latest COI is the first [open-ended inquiry](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-689705) it has set up. It has no time-limit and no restriction on its scope. The US voted against the move, saying it "perpetuates a practice of unfairly singling out Israel in the UN". Among the abstainers was Australia, whose representative said, with characteristic plain-speaking: "We oppose anti-Israel bias".

As the US, Australia and others fear, it is inevitable that Israel will be falsely pronounced guilty of the "systematic discrimination and repression based on national, ethnic, racial or religious identity" that the COI [says](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/may/27/un-rights-body-debates-systematic-discrimination-in-israel-and-palestine) it will probe.

I understand the COI plans to explicitly brand Israel an "apartheid state". This lie will be taken up across the world, fuelling antisemitic hatred against Jews everywhere. It will contribute to what Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid [described](https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/lapid-govt-will-see-uptick-in-accusations-that-israel-an-apartheid-state-in-coming-year/) this week as an imminent debate "unprecedented in its venom, or in its radioactivity, around the words, 'Israel as an apartheid state'."

The [lie of "Israeli apartheid"](https://www.bicom.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/BICOM_Apartheid-Smear_FINAL.pdf) was dreamt up in Moscow during the Cold War and driven home by a relentless Soviet propaganda campaign until it took hold in the UN and across the Middle East and the West. This included the repeated comparison of Israel with South Africa in the Soviet media and in books such as "Zionism and Apartheid", an official state publication of Ukraine, then part of the Soviet Union.

The sometimes naive, sometimes malign students who will again be holding their poisonous "Israel apartheid week" at universities across the globe this year will be parroting the same Soviet propaganda as their predecessors have done for decades. They, and many other Israel-haters use the apartheid slogan regardless of the reality that under no rational measure can Israel be considered an apartheid state. They do so because its meaning is easily understood, it disgusts people and rallies them to the anti-Israel cause. That is why it was invented by Moscow.

The apartheid smear is just one part of the greatest slur campaign in history, organized over many years against Israel by the Kremlin with the KGB in the lead, utilising the formidable resources of intelligence services of the USSR. It was perhaps the most successful disinformation campaign — of many — in Soviet history. It endures and gains strength even today, more than 50 years after it was first conceived and 30 years after the USSR collapsed.

It is worth understanding how this malevolent project originated and evolved, not only to help defend against the continuing political warfare waged on Israel and Jews, but also as a case study for the ongoing disinformation campaigns against the West by authoritarian states such as Russia, China and Iran. To gain even a superficial insight into this carefully contrived scheme we must take a trip back into history.

When Israel was re-established in 1948, following UN General Assembly Resolution 181, the new state initially pursued a policy of non-alignment. Surrounded by enemies, it needed economic support and arms from either or both the USA and USSR or their allies. Given the socialist political influences in Israel, the Soviet leadership expected the country would turn towards communism and align with the USSR, thus strengthening Soviet power in the Middle East and its wider competition with the West. One of Stalin's main reasons for quickly recognising Israel in 1948 was the intention to use it to undermine British dominion in the Middle East.

Even with significant Soviet covert and overt efforts to lure Israel into its fold, this may have been a vain hope from the beginning. In any case, the pressures of the Cold War in the 1950s, as well as domestic political considerations and concerns over antisemitism inside the Soviet Union, led Israeli prime minister David Ben Gurion to align his country with the West, beginning with support for US-led UN intervention in Korea, against the Soviet will.

Israel's participation with the UK and France in the 1956 Suez campaign further alienated the Soviet government, which wrote a letter to Jerusalem (as well as to Paris and London) [threatening](https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/notes/2005/N1577.pdf) rocket attacks and promising direct military support to the Egyptian army.

The breakdown in Israel-Soviet relations was later compounded by Israel's defensive victories against the Arabs in 1967 and again in 1973. Over this period, all hope of Israel becoming a Soviet client had steadily evaporated. Arab armies sponsored, trained and equipped by the USSR had been humiliated, and so had Moscow. Thus the Soviets progressively developed a policy of undermining Israel. Their primary objective was to use the country as a weapon in their Cold War struggle against the US and the West.

The Kremlin understood that conventional attacks against Israel could not succeed, so instead focused on using Arabs as terrorist proxies, directing, training, funding and arming groups like the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), PFLP-General Command (PFLP-GC), Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and Fatah to carry out attacks against Israeli and Jewish targets, including wave after wave of aircraft hijacking.

The Soviets employed the same terrorist tactics elsewhere, including in Europe, using proxies such as Baader-Meinhof and the Red Army Factions. The details of Moscow-sponsored terrorist operations in the Middle East and elsewhere are set out in 25,000 pages of KGB documents copied and then smuggled out of Russia in the early 1990s by senior KGB archivist Vasili Mitrokhin and now lodged in the UK, at Churchill College, Cambridge.

General [Ion Pacepa](https://www.nationalreview.com/2006/08/russian-footprints-ion-mihai-pacepa/), chief of Romania's foreign intelligence service, played a significant role in Soviet bloc operations directed against Israel and the US. In 1978 he became the highest-ranking intelligence officer ever to defect from the Soviet sphere and, among many secret revelations, provided details of KGB operations against Israel.

Pacepa says the chairman of the KGB, Yuri Andropov (later Brezhnev's successor as General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party), told him:

"We needed to instil a Nazi-style hatred for the Jews throughout the Islamic world, and to turn this weapon of the emotions into a terrorist bloodbath against Israel and its main supporter, the United States."

An important element of Moscow's anti-Israel/US campaign in the Middle East was a propaganda war. Andropov told Pacepa:

"Islam was obsessed with preventing the infidels' occupation of its territory, and it would be highly receptive to our characterization of the US Congress as a rapacious Zionist body aiming to turn the world into a Jewish fiefdom."

In other words, he knew that the Arabs would be easy tools in the anti-Israel propaganda war and were already playing their part. Their work only needed to be focused, intensified and funded.

To achieve its objectives, the Kremlin devised Operation SIG, a disinformation campaign intended "to turn the whole Islamic world against Israel and the US". Pacepa reported that by 1978, under Operation SIG, the KGB had sent some 4,000 Soviet bloc "agents of influence" into Islamic countries to help achieve this. They also printed and circulated vast amounts of anti-Israel and anti-Jewish propaganda, translated into Arabic.

This included the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion", a fabricated antisemitic text setting out supposedly secret plans of the Jews to rule the world by manipulating the economy, controlling the media and fostering religious conflict. It was written by agents of the Tsarist secret police and subsequently used by the Nazis in their antisemitic propaganda.

As well as mobilising the Arabs to the Soviet cause, Andropov and his KGB colleagues needed to appeal to the democratic world. To do so, the Kremlin decided to turn the conflict from one that sought simply to destroy Israel into a struggle for human rights and national liberation from an illegitimate American-sponsored imperialist occupier. They set about transforming the narrative of the conflict from religious jihad — in which Islamic doctrine demands that any land that has ever been under Muslim control must be regained for Islam — to secular nationalism and political self-determination, something far more palatable to Western democracies. This would provide cover for a vicious terrorist war, even garnering widespread support for it.

To achieve their goal, the Soviets had to create a Palestinian national identity that did not hitherto exist and a narrative that Jews had no rights to the land and were naked aggressors. [According](https://www.nationalreview.com/2006/08/russian-footprints-ion-mihai-pacepa/) to Pacepa, the KGB created the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in the early 1960s, as they had also orchestrated so-called national liberation armies in several other parts of the world. He says the 1964 Palestinian National Charter was drafted in Moscow. This document was fundamental to the invention and establishment of an artificial Palestinian nationhood.

The initial charter did not claim the West Bank or the Gaza Strip for "Palestine". In fact, it explicitly repudiated any rights to these lands, falsely recognising them respectively as Jordanian and Egyptian sovereign territories. Instead, the PLO claim was to the rest of Israel. This was amended after the 1967 war, when Israel ejected the illegal Jordanian and Egyptian occupiers, and the West Bank and Gaza for the first time were re-branded as Palestinian territory.

The first mention of a "Palestinian people" to mean Arabs in Palestine appeared in the 1964 charter. Previously, and particularly during the League of Nations Mandate for Palestine 1919-1948, "Palestinians" had been commonly used to describe Jews living in the territory.

Zuheir Mohsen, a senior PLO leader, [admitted](https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Zuheir_Mohsen) in 1977:

"The Palestinian people do not exist. The creation of a Palestinian state is only a means for continuing our struggle against the state of Israel for our Arab unity... Only for political and tactical reasons do we speak today about the existence of a Palestinian people, since Arab national interests demand that we posit the existence of a distinct 'Palestinian people' to oppose Zionism. Yes, the existence of a separate Palestinian identity exists only for tactical reasons."

This reality has been publicly supported, sometimes inadvertently, in statements by several other Palestinian leaders. Quoted by Alan Hart in his 1984 book, "Arafat: A Political Biography", PLO leader Yasser Arafat himself said:

"The Palestinian people have no national identity. I, Yasir Arafat, man of destiny, will give them that identity through conflict with Israel."

Moscow first took its campaign to brand Israeli Jews as the oppressors of their invented "Palestinian people" to the UN in 1965. Their attempts to categorise Zionism as racism failed at that attempt but succeeded almost a decade later in the infamous UN General Assembly Resolution 3379. Its determination that "Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination" was revoked under US pressure in 1991 but by then had gained great traction and is frequently cited today by anti-Israel campaigners.

The Mitrokhin documents [show](https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4874089,00.html) that both Yasser Arafat, and his successor as PLO chief, Mahmoud Abbas, now President of the Palestinian Authority, were KGB agents. Both were instrumental in the KGB's disinformation operations as well as its terrorist campaigns.

Moscow, through Egypt, had [installed](http://archive.stlimc.org/newswire/display/4053/index.html) Arafat as leader of the PLO in 1969 and its support kept him there in the face of internal dissent following the PLO's expulsion from Jordan in 1970. [According](https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/yasser-arafat-s-kgb-connections) to Pacepa:

"In 1969 the KGB asked Arafat to declare war on American 'imperial-Zionism'... It appealed to him so much, Arafat later claimed to have invented the imperial-Zionist battle cry. But in fact, 'imperial-Zionism' was a Moscow invention, a modern adaptation of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion and long a favorite tool of Russian intelligence to foment ethnic hatred. The KGB always regarded anti-Semitism plus anti-imperialism as a rich source of anti-Americanism...."

Moscow had [assigned to Romania](https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/yasser-arafat-s-kgb-connections) the task of supporting the PLO, and Pacepa was Arafat's handler during his KGB career. He provided Arafat with $200,000 of laundered cash every month throughout the 1970s. Pacepa also facilitated Arafat's relationship with Romanian President Nicolae Ceaușescu, a master propagandist who had been given the job of schooling him in hoodwinking the West. For his dealings with Washington, Ceaușescu told Arafat in 1978: "You simply have to keep on pretending that you'll break with terrorism and that you'll recognize Israel — over, and over, and over."

Ceaușescu's advice was reinforced by North Vietnamese communist General Vo Nguyen Giap, whom Arafat met several times: "Stop talking about annihilating Israel and instead turn your terror war into a struggle for human rights. Then you will have the American people eating out of your hand". ([David Meir-Levi](http://archive.stlimc.org/newswire/display/4053/index.html), "History Upside Down: The Roots of Palestinian Fascism and the Myth of Israeli Aggression")

An internal KGB document among the Mitrokhin archives [reported](https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4874089,00.html): "Krotov [Mahmoud Abbas's cover-name] is an agent of the KGB." The KGB definition of agents is: those who "consistently, systematically and covertly carry out intelligence assignments, while maintaining secret contact with an official in the agency."

Among other tasks, Abbas was [used](https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4874089,00.html) by the KGB to spread propaganda accusing "Western Imperialism and Zionism" of cooperating with the Nazis. He attended a Moscow university controlled by the KGB in the early 1980s.There, under the supervision of his professor who later became a senior communist politician, Abbas wrote a doctoral dissertation denying the Holocaust and accusing Zionists of assisting Hitler.

Abbas is now entering the 18th year of his four-year elected term of office. Like his predecessor Arafat, his consistent rejection of every offer of peace with Israel, while concurrently talking the talk about peace and sponsoring terrorism, shows the residual influence of his Soviet masters.

The KGB disinformation campaign transformed the image of Israel from regional underdogs, surrounded by powerful enemies, into widely hated colonialist oppressors and occupiers of the downtrodden Palestinian people, a narrative that remains as strong as ever today.

Meanwhile the Palestinian movement created by Moscow, in the [words](http://archive.stlimc.org/newswire/display/4053/index.html) of American historian David Meir-Levi, is "the only national movement for political self-determination in the entire world, and across all of world history, to have the destruction of a sovereign state and the genocide of a people as its only raison d'etre." This remains explicit in Hamas's charter, while somewhat more opaque in the Soviet-influenced utterances of Abbas's Palestinian Authority, especially those directed towards the West.

Moscow's campaign was significantly undermined by the 2020 rapprochement between Israel and several Arab states. The lesson here is the importance of American political will against authoritarian propaganda, which led to the game-changing Abraham Accords. Had this project been vigorously pursued after its initial success, it might have eventually led to the collapse of the Soviet-initiated Palestinian project and perhaps a form of peace between Israel and the Palestinian Arabs. It might yet achieve that if the US again musters the resolve to carry it through.

Meanwhile the December UN General Assembly vote and the Human Rights Council's determination to brand Israel a racist, apartheid state prove that the Soviet Cold War narrative remains alive and well. Most Western nations also still slavishly follow the Soviet programme.

Britain, for example, already aligned with Arab states against Israel because of both oil and antisemitism among influential politicians and officials, was more than willing from the start to swallow the Soviet invention of a struggle between Palestinian nationalism and Jewish oppression, hook, line and sinker. Today you will not hear any statement about Israel from any government official or minister that does not echo the KGB's line.

Increasing media-driven erosion of popular support for Israel in the US, and the suppurating divisions it causes, are evidence of the Soviet ghosts' success against their primary target: America.

The chief victims, however, have been Palestinian Arabs, whose lives have been worsened; and Jews in the diaspora who have suffered immeasurable antisemitism based on Soviet-initiated propaganda. The former may not have been intended but would have been of no concern to Moscow; the latter was very much part of the plan.

Israelis of course have paid a great price from KGB-inspired terrorism and propaganda, but have survived and flourished even under such enormous pressure. North Vietnamese General Giap, who once advised Arafat as we have seen, has an explanation for this, as recounted by Dr Eran Lerman, former Israeli deputy national security adviser. [According](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamass-forever-war-against-israel-has-a-glitch-and-it-isnt-iron-dome/) to Giap:

"The Palestinians are always coming here and saying to me, 'You expelled the French and the Americans. How do we expel the Jews?' I tell them that the French went back to France and the Americans to America. But the Jews have nowhere to go. You will not expel them."

*Colonel Richard Kemp is a former British Army Commander*. *He was also head of the international terrorism team in the U.K. Cabinet Office and is now a writer and speaker on international and military affairs. He is a Jack Roth Charitable Foundation Fellow at Gatestone Institute.* <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18094/israel-apartheid>

**Trump Trumped**

*By* [*Cherie Zaslawsky*](https://newswithviews.com/author/cherie/)*|January 7th, 2022*

Since Trump’s recent public appearances where he touted the Covid vaccines his administration fast-tracked, the internet’s been percolating with questions like this: *Was Trump “one of them” all along? Is Trump a shill for Big Pharma?* The implied or stated answer is generally “Yes!” Even Mike Adams, aka The Health Ranger, a diehard Trump fan, seems suddenly convinced that America’s savior since the 2016 election, was playing for the globalists’ team.

In fact, some have jumped onto the new version of the Orange Man Bad bandwagon by pointing out that the restaurant in Trump Tower in New York City requires proof of vaccination—as if that was Trump’s doing. Sorry to disappoint, but the restaurant is simply complying with Mayor De Blasio’s tyrannical citywide mandate, which is being continued by his [successor](https://news.yahoo.com/incoming-nyc-mayor-says-keep-214315853.html) Eric Adams. Details, details….

Perhaps it is easier for people to view Trump as either an irreproachable paragon or a corrupt fake, but neither of those shoes fit him.  The good he did for this nation ought not to be summarily swept aside and thrown into the bin.  Trump voters must not forget the many ways America benefited from his tenure as POTUS, with far too many accomplishments to list in this article. But let’s take a moment to celebrate this one: Trump called out the Fake News! What president has ever done that from the bully pulpit? And because he was so open and honest, he forced the Leftist press to reveal its duplicitous, manipulative treachery for all to see.

Say what you will, I for one will not cavalierly throw this man under the bus. But many of us know he’s wrong about the vaccines, so I’m putting on my Hercule Poirot chapeau to try to figure out why. And as the master detective might say, “Ah…la psychologie!” We’ll explore this shortly.

**THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER? NOT SO FAST!**

It’s hard not to be somewhat in awe of the charismatic polymath Dr. David Martin, in his iconic formal dress and bow tie, who burst upon the scene with brilliant forensic analyses of voter fraud in 2020, and later ferreted out the patent trail proving SARS-CoV-2 is manmade.

So I was quite surprised to see him take an apparently baseless potshot at President Trump in a recent interview. Do I give Trump a pass on everything he did or failed to do? No—as you’ll see in my next few articles and in part in this one. But I think it’s important that we stay true to the facts we know, and base our analyses on them and on our understanding of the man.

Like so many others, I became a fan of financial and patent analyst Dr. Martin after watching one of his video interviews. In his astute and mesmerizing fashion, he gave us bombshell revelations about the theft of the 2020 election, and the string of patents implicating Big Medicine, Big Pharma and Little Fauci in the creation of the bioweapon known as Covid-19 and the vaccines to…um…bring it into our bodies.

More recently, [David Martin](https://rumble.com/vrahql-why-is-trump-promoting-the-vaccine.html?fbclid=IwAR1_2MhM94e1oxBsxqOjzD9P3n7kRQ3_HCzJW9lvhYX89Gh5Ukfbdt82h-g) has been making the rounds discussing Trump’s role regarding the Covid vaccines—a topic on the minds of many. In an [interview](https://ugetube.com/watch/dr-david-martin-why-does-trump-keep-promoting-the-vaccine-man-in-america-seth-holehouse_SdCCvN7Xzh52GYR.html) from December of 2021 on Seth Holehouse’s show *Man in America*, Martin said Trump was duped. I believe that is true.

Yet in the same hour-long interview, he does a quick turnabout, suddenly claiming that Trump took a bribe from Big Pharma in September 2019 in exchange for signing an [Executive Order](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/09/24/2019-20804/modernizing-influenza-vaccines-in-the-united-states-to-promote-national-security-and-public-health), thus knowingly selling out America and intentionally duping the American people. In fact, Martin shockingly proceeds to accuse Trump of betraying his country for the proverbial thirty pieces of silver, likening Trump to Judas: “Trump’s morality was for sale for thirty pieces of silver. And he has sold American lives to the drug dealers.”

Them’s fightin’ words.

Trump signed this [EO](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/09/24/2019-20804/modernizing-influenza-vaccines-in-the-united-states-to-promote-national-security-and-public-health), yes. Now take a look at what Martin says, “The only reason that Executive Order was put on his [Trump’s] desk was someone paid him to sign it.” Huh? Martin gives no proof for this potentially slanderous charge. I’ll wager such evidence doesn’t exist.

Recall that Trump took no salary while in the White House, and, unlike the many venal politicians who’ve fattened themselves at the public trough—Pelosi, Biden, Obama, Hillary, Bernie the Socialist, to name just a few—Trump actually ran for office to serve his country, rather than to plunder it. Plus, as a billionaire in his own right, and not the sociopathic Gatesean variety, money is not a lure for him. The cabal would have no doubt bought him off a long time ago if they could have. Trump can be fooled, but he can’t be bought.

That said, I read the [Executive Order](https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-modernizing-influenza-vaccines-united-states-promote-national-security-public-health/) to see if Martin’s claim made sense on its face. It doesn’t. Here’s the title: *Executive Order on Modernizing Influenza Vaccines in the United States to Promote National Security and Public Health.* To anyone with little or no medical training or understanding of vaccines, it sounds perfectly reasonable. It essentially says we’ve been using the same vaccine technology for many decades, isn’t it time for some innovation? And this will be important if and when we experience another pandemic.

Yes, Tony “the weasel” Fauci was up to his tricks paving the way for the experimental vaccines. He and his henchmen were busily duping POTUS, so it’s quite a sleight of hand that Martin pulls off, first casting Trump as the victim of such duplicity, and then as its perpetrator.

President Trump signed dozens of EOs during his term in office, and there may have been elements in some of them he’d have objected to if he’d been aware of them. The devil is in the details. This is how the Swamp operates—through obfuscation and deceit.

Consider also that this Executive Order was presumably handed to the President by Snake Eyes Fauci and/or his co-conspirators *four months* before we heard about a strange new flu in Wuhan, China. In September of 2019, how could Trump have known he, along with America, was being set up?

Sorry Dr. Martin—but for once, your claim doesn’t wash.

And for the record, here’s a [quote](https://www.davidmartin.world/about/) from David Martin’s bio: *He served as Chair of Economic Innovation for the UN-affiliated Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Organization and has served as an advisor to numerous Central Banks, global economic forums, the World Bank and International Finance Corporation, and national governments.*

Impressive, yes. But the World Bank? UN-affiliated Intergovernmental agencies?

In case you’re wondering,  the [*Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Organization*](https://ungc-production.s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/commitment_letters/11530/original/UN_Global_COmpact_IREO.pdf?1270770991)was in complete accord with the U.N.’s Sustainable Development program and Agenda 2030. Hmmm….

And Martin’s company, M·CAM Inc., partners with…wait for it…the [World Bank](http://www.onthecommons.org/global-innovation-commons). Sound a trifle globalistic? Just sayin’.

In the interview, Dr. Martin went on to say Trump should have had Fauci—the little man in front of the podium—arrested by Federal Marshals, presumably on national TV. Such high drama would have provoked a furor that would likely have backfired against Trump. But I agree that Trump should have taken action against Dr. Fraudster: He should have said “You’re fired!” Not doing so was one of his two most serious failures, both of which I plan to discuss in upcoming articles.

**THE FAUCIAN GAMBIT: IT’S AN EMERGENCY—LET’S STREAMLINE THE VACCINE PROCESS!**

Consider, Trump spent most of his life as an entrepreneurial businessman and builder. His modus operandi has been doing high quality work and bringing projects to completion both early and under budget.

So when, early in 2020, he was told we needed more ventilators, he quickly convinced [General Motors](https://www.cnet.com/roadshow/news/gm-coronavirus-ventilator-production-begins/) to crank out ventilators to save lives. Sadly, ventilators were the wrong solution. The villains were likely gloating over Trump’s innocent mistake.

Then, when President Trump learned that Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) was saving lives, not only did he inform the public, much to the dismay of Dr.FauxChi and friends, he also immediately tried to bring [millions of doses](https://www.israel21c.org/israels-teva-donating-potential-covid-19-treatment-to-us-hospitals/) to Americans.  That’s when the reptilian Doktor Faustus informed the nation that HCQ didn’t work against Covid, and smugly hinted that, well, Orange Man dumb.

Attempting to come to the rescue again when he learned of skyrocketing deaths in New York nursing homes, the President sent out US Navy hospital ship the USNS Comfort to New York harbor. Though this ship had the capacity to care for a thousand patients and was fully equipped with everything needed, [Governor Cuomo](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2021/02/22/hundreds-of-hospital-beds-left-empty-on-the-usns-comfort-and-javits-center-during-cuomos-nursing-home-order/) was dead set on both killing elderly New Yorkers and spiting Trump. Astonishingly, Cuomo sent only non-Covid patients to the ship at first—all [twenty-two](https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/03/politics/navy-hospital-ship-comfort-new-york-coronavirus/index.html) of them. And he continued to send hospitalized elderly Covid patients back to nursing homes to recover.  Carnage ensued with death tolls of some 15,000 people.

Good work, Mario. You really made Trump look bad.

**THE WARPED IDEA OF *OPERATION WARP SPEED***

While he was in office, there is no question in my mind that Trump was trying to save lives and do the right thing.

But I suspect his experience in the building trade, coupled with his ignorance about things medical, came into play in a counterproductive way. When he was told that the only solution to the pandemic was a new vaccine, he got on board. And when someone—Feckless Fauci? Judas Pence? –suggested moving as fast as possible and calling the effort *Operation Warp Speed*, Trump signed on. After all, he’d always prided himself on efficiency.

What he probably didn’t understand, however, is the reason it takes 10 years or more to bring a vaccine to market. Unlike the regulatory hindrances that plague builders, what slows down the creation of new vaccines is the absolute necessity of testing for both safety and efficacy over time. So it is not a feat to boast of that these mRNA Covid vaccines were rushed. Quite the contrary. It was a HUGE and scandalous mistake.

In fact, it is the reason why no one can truthfully say these vaccines are safe. Why not? Because no one knows what will happen to the vaccinated 5 or 10 years from now.

On second thought, we actually can answer this question, since within less than a year, we’ve learned of thousands of deaths and hundreds of thousands of serious injuries. So yes, now we know. These “vaccines” are not safe. That is, those of us who dive into alternative sources of information on the internet and know where to look and whom to trust, realize the vaccines are dangerous.

But millions of our fellow citizens, including former President Trump, apparently implicitly trust the medical profession and believe vaccines to be necessary and life-saving. These people likely never heard of VAERS, the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System; even many doctors aren’t aware of it, and of those who are, most decline to report their patients’ vaccine-caused deaths. While the VAERS numbers of vaccine-caused deaths is higher for the Covid shots than for all such deaths from 1996 to 2019 combined, it is just a fraction of the real total, which is likely in the hundreds of thousands, and counting.

We’ve also learned that the Covid vaccines are not effective, since the vaxxed still get sick and still transmit the virus to others, and possibly are even transmitting the spike protein bioweapon as well, as suggested by Dr. Lee Merritt and others.

**MY SPECULATION ON TRUMP’S BLINDNESS RE: THE COVID VACCINES**

So Trump’s dilemma is this: If and when he learns the vaccines are harming people, and accepts the bitter truth that he was duped by Fauci et al. and therefore had a hand in foisting a dangerous, even deadly, ‘vaccine” on the American people he so clearly loves, this would likely leave him a broken man. I imagine this would be unutterably painful for him to acknowledge, and though he might possibly emerge humbled and wiser, and could then broadcast the dangers of the vax, this would necessitate a tectonic shift for him as a proud man and inveterate optimist—perhaps a bridge too far. For now, like so many of our vaccine-embracing countrymen, he seems to be stuck firmly in denial. That way he can still see himself as the champion of the American people, which he was in so many ways for three glorious years that we should not forget. This is what I believe he’s clinging to.

Early on, President Trump was tricked into viewing the virus as a plague, and he did everything the “experts” said was needed to save lives.  Unlike genocidal Dr. Mengele Fauch, Trump actually cares about people. What a cruel joke it was for Fauci and the other subversive quislings to convince him that he was doing a great service for the American people by promoting Big Pharma’s kill shot. He was far too trusting. He even took the shot himself.

Trump’s unprecedented popularity as President here in the U.S. and the love he inspired from freedom-loving people around the world was not a fluke. People respond to authenticity. His outspoken courage and enthusiasm inspired millions, as did his bold actions to put America first. And those four years of nonstop Big Media and Big Tech attacks on him made it clear that Trump was the real deal. But he’s a flawed man, and a couple of those flaws took him down, and, tragically, America along with him. <https://newswithviews.com/trump-trumped/>

**Democrats WILL Win 2022 and 2024**

*By* [*Lex Greene*](https://newswithviews.com/author/lex/)*|January 7th, 2022*

According to recent polls, *“President Joe Biden’s overall disapproval rating reached a new high in December as more voters signaled their unhappiness with his handling of the economy and the Covid pandemic. Results from a CNBC/Change Research poll show 60% of respondents said they disapprove of Biden’s handling of the economy as he nears the conclusion of his first year in office. A 55% majority of survey respondents also signaled disapproval of his leadership during the pandemic, an area in which he previously excelled.*” [CNBC SOURCE](https://www.cnbc.com/2022/01/04/biden-disapproval-rating-high-voters-blame-him-on-economy-cnbc-poll.html)

Even worse is the disapproval rating for the Democrat controlled congress, with a [77% disapproval rating](https://www.statista.com/statistics/207579/public-approval-rating-of-the-us-congress/).

In reality, Joe Biden has the same approval rating that he had with Democrat voters during the 2020 DNC primaries. Before Barack Obama met with Sanders and Warren to talk them out of the race, Biden was running a distant 3rd in his own party, behind both Warren and Sanders at around 32%. Of course, Harris dropped out of that race early with around 1% support from her own party.

Even after Warren and Sanders were forced out by Obama, Biden “won” his party nomination with only about 52% support of the Democrat Party, 48% opposed.

Yet, a few months later, the 3rd place finisher and last place finisher in their own party primary, allegedly won the general election in November with more votes than Obama received in either of his Presidential races. It’s mathematically impossible and anyone able to do basic math knows it.

However, following the totally fraudulent 2020 election cycle, no future election is going to be any more honest. Because the American people have not addressed and corrected the 2020 fraud, every future election will be even more fraudulent.

Anyone who thinks for even a second that the upcoming elections will be any more honest than the last, isn’t even a thinking person. Unless and until the people responsible for the massive election fraud in 2020 are held to account, and all of the methods used to commit that fraud are eliminated, there will be no election solutions in the future.

Two years into the COVID19 scam, we now know with certainty that COVID19 was created and released from an NIH/CDC Wuhan Lab to usher in the deadly COVID19 mRNA human experiment, still falsely referred to as “vaccines.”

We also know that the entire COVID event was created and released to usher in the stolen elections of 2020, by causing unwarranted lockdowns and untraceable mail-in balloting…to make it possible for the most unpopular candidates in U.S. history to allegedly defeat the most popular President since Ronald Reagan.

Only a fool would think that Republicans can win any elections without addressing the fraud of 2020 and making certain that it can never happen again in our land.

But we are talking about a nation of fools, now. Millions of healthy Americans are standing in line to be tested for an illness for which they have no symptoms, using a test already proven to be more than 80% false, for an illness that had a 99.5% survival rate without any “vaccines.” Clearly, we are not dealing with the sharpest knives in the drawer here! In fact, the average American isn’t sharp enough to cut melted butter now.

Nope, so long as the American people remain ignorant of so many facts and unwilling to confront the evil we have witnessed in the past two years, we can forget about solving anything with elections. We don’t have legitimate elections anymore, and until we confront the fraud and corruption in 2020, we will never have legitimate elections ever again.

Most Americans have been dog-whistle trained to believe that legal precedence of any type is law, and even a means of amending the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Allowing the 2020 fraud to stand sets a new “precedent” for all future elections. Ignorance can be fixed with facts, but when all facts are irrelevant, you can’t fix stupid!

Here we go again…headed into another election cycle with more “variants” showing up daily. Guess what comes next? More lockdowns to protect you from yourselves, followed by even more mail-in balloting, fraudulent ballot harvesting, corrupted election machines and another stolen election. To add insult to injury, [numerous bills are pending at both the federal and state levels to legalize non-citizen voting](https://humanevents.com/2021/10/07/7-states-are-pushing-non-citizen-voting/), both legal citizens of foreign countries and illegal invaders.

Maryland, California, Illinois, Vermont, District of Columbia, New York, and Massachusetts already allow non-citizen voting, with more on the horizon. That pretty much explains our open border and the real purpose of sanctuary states in direct violation of all related U.S. laws. America is the only country on earth stupid enough to allow citizens of foreign countries to vote in our elections.

*“The League of Women Voters, a group whose mission is to “Empower Voters” has challenged proof of citizenship on federal mail-in voter registration forms in Kansas, Alabama, and Georgia.Despite support for the measure, a federal appeals court has blocked the requirement, allowing people to vote without providing proof of citizenship.”* [(SOURCE)](https://blackeyepolitics.com/illegal-aliens-allowed-to-vote/)

RED states are turning BLUE at a breakneck pace, taking city by city until states that have been RED forever turn BLUE. Rather than stopping this from happening in their own BLUE states, many simply move to another state, and spread their garbage to RED states targeted for BLUE status. They still vote BLUE in their new RED home.

Americans don’t confront and fix their problems anymore. They just run from them and hide, until there’s no place to run or hide.

The same “vaxxed” people who think I need a vax to protect them, also think the elections are free, fair, transparent, and totally legitimate. Vaxxed democrats refused to get “Trump’s JAB,” but got the same JAB when democrats told them to. Likewise, Trump fans who know better than to trust any democrat, got the same JAB because Trump told them to… idiots everywhere!

Face it…this is no longer the land of the free or home of the brave, it’s the land of Pavlov trained idiots and home of the terminal hypochondriacs. Even if we could have a legitimate election, there’s little hope that the average American is smart enough to vote for freedom over a false promise of free stuff.

The thing is…every time you allow evil to exist for even a second, it will root and grow. Americans have allowed evil to root and grow unchallenged for so long that it has spread like wildfire, or should I say, *Omicron*, across this nation.

It’s not that the American people can’t do anything about it…it’s that they won’t do anything about it.

And THEY are the reason the greatest free nation ever known to mankind is headed for the ash heap of history. People who think they are going to “take America back in 2022 and 2024” didn’t do anything to stop the steal in 2020. They created their own demise! That’s the end of that!

We had best find another solution and fast!

***“Those who expect to be both ignorant and free, expect what never was and never will be.”*** ― Thomas Jefferson

Shall I address why the “Convention of States” con is just another form of national suicide next? <https://newswithviews.com/democrats-will-win-2022-and-2024/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Jordan interested in warmer ties with Israel**

***Israeli officials believe that Jordan is ready to warm up ties with Israel following Gantz-King Abdullah II meeting.***

*Elad Benari, Canada ה' בשבט תשפ"ב 21:41 07.01.22*

According to the report, following [Defense Minister Benny Gantz's meeting](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/319918) with Jordan's King Abdullah II this week, Amman intends to hold more open meetings with Israeli ministers and officials. The kingdom is interested in joining the regional network of ties that Israel is building on the basis of the Abraham Accords.

Gantz visited Amman on Wednesday for a meeting hosted King Abdullah II.

In his discussion with the King, Minister Gantz highlighted the strategic importance of strong and enduring relations between Israel and Jordan, which contribute to the security and prosperity of both nations.

The dialogue focused on security and policy topics. Minister Gantz thanked His Majesty for his leadership and for the Kingdom’s critical role in maintaining regional peace and stability. He also welcomed the expansion of relations between Jordan and the current Israeli government, and expressed his commitment to further developing security, economic and civilian exchanges.

In September, Channel 12 News reported that Foreign Minister Yair Lapid [had met with King Abdullah II](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/314001) of Jordan at his palace in Amman the previous month.

The report said that the two discussed the tensions in Jerusalem around the Temple Mount and the need to strengthen relations between the two countries. The Foreign Ministry declined to comment.

In July, it was reported that Prime Minister Naftali Bennett [held a clandestine meeting](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/309518) with Jordan’s King Abdullah II, marking the first meeting between an Israeli premier and the Jordanian king in more than five years.

The meeting was defined as very good. The two agreed on the opening of a "new page" that would restore the murky relations between the countries. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320069>

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