**03/12/2021 NEWS AM**

**Moshe Klein - Simple Song Official Music Video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pDNkx_wpS98>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **It's a simple song for you Heavenly Father**  **That you hear my prayer now hear my voice calling to you**  **When the heart was already thirsty and my mind spilled like water**  **That the night will pass and the dawn will rise**  **You are my light, strengthen me**  **Bring me closer to you already**  **Send balm and hope in the heart will always be,**  **That's the secret if I do not hide my face**  **You will not hide your face**  **Even on a cold night under all the darkness a beautiful light** | **Even if I whispered you would understand to my heart I knew**  **Heal my pain because you are my father always a keeper**  **In such a big world if I forgot and made a mistake again**  **Only hold in my hand you love me** |

|  |
| --- |
| **"If men use their liberty in such a way as to surrender their liberty, are they thereafter any the less slaves? If people by a plebiscite elect a man despot over them, do they remain free because the despotism was of their own making?" -- Herbert Spencer (1820-1903) British author, economist, philosopher** |

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

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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 TR – abnormal Mammogram having double biopsy – Positive for cancer**  **Pray for ZH - having trouble with PTSD**  **Pray for LAC – recurrent cancer getting treatment**  **Pray for Ella – emotionally disturbed abused child and brother with ? heart problem**  **Pray for JN – Neuro disease**  **Pray for MS – Job issues and change**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Felicia – post op problems – continuing**  **Pray for SH and family – lady’s husband passed away and she is in Nursing home. Not doing well.**  **Pray for MP – Very complex problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 21:17And God heareth the voice of the youth; and the messenger of God calleth unto Hagar from the heavens, and saith to her, `What to thee, Hagar? fear not; for God hath hearkened unto the voice of the youth where he *is* ; 18rise, lift up the youth, and lay hold on him with thy hand, for for a great nation I set him.'**

**UAE announces $10 billion fund for investments in Israel**

***Abu Dhabi to put money into strategic sectors including energy manufacturing, water, space, healthcare and agri-tech***

*By* [*AFP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/afp/) *Today, 8:06 am*

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates — **The United Arab Emirates on Thursday announced it was setting up a $10 billion investment fund aimed at strategic sectors in Israel, with whom it normalized ties last year. The decision, the UAE official news agency WAM said, was taken following a “constructive” phone call between Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu**.

**Through the $10 billion fund, the UAE “will invest in and alongside Israel, across sectors including energy manufacturing, water, space, healthcare and agri-te**ch,” it said.

Israel and the UAE established ties last year in a diplomatic coup for Netanyahu brokered by his staunch ally, former US president Donald Trump.

The deal made the UAE only the third Arab state to establish relations with Israel, following Egypt in 1979 and Jordan in 1994.

Bahrain, Morocco and Sudan subsequently reached similar US-brokered agreements with Israel, in what has become known as the “Abraham Accords.”

“The fund builds on the historic Abraham Accord and aims to bolster economic ties between two of the region’s thriving economies, unlocking investments and partnership opportunities to drive socio-economic progress,” WAM said.

It said fund allocations “will derive from government and private sector institutions”.

The announcement came as Netanyahu canceled a historic visit to the UAE on Thursday, citing a disagreement with Jordan over crossing its airspace. Netanyahu said the trip “was not possible due to a misunderstanding” with Jordan, with which it is bound by a peace treaty since 1994. But he said he spoke to Sheikh Mohammed, the UAE’s de facto leader, and that the pair agreed to meet “very soon.”

Netanyahu also said the UAE would invest $10 billion in Israel. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/uae-announces-10-billion-fund-for-investments-in-israel/> **[More pushing and announcements for political purposes. – rsb]**

**Czech prime minister opens embassy office in Jerusalem**

**Andrej Babis lauds ‘full-fledged diplomatic mission’ in capital; FM Ashkenazi thanks Prague for leading change in European approach to Israel**

*By* [*Lazar Berman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/lazar-berman/) *Today, 5:01 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/Image-from-iOS-1-1-scaled.jpg)

***Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi (second from left) and Czech Prime Minister Andres Babiš cut the ribbon at a ceremony opening the Jerusalem office of the Czech Embassy in Israel on March 11, 2021 (Lazar Berman/Times of Israel)***

**The Czech Republic opened the Jerusalem office of its embassy Thursday at a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babis and Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkena**zi.

**“We keep our promise,” said Babis, standing in the shadow of the historic YMCA building in the Talbieh neighborhood of Jerusalem. “The Czech Republic will have a full-fledged diplomatic mission here in Jerusalem**. It will deal with a lot — ranging from politics, economic cooperation, consular agenda, and other topics. It will have a permanent staff and work under the lead of our embassy in Tel Aviv.”

**Babis also praised Israel’s “knowhow and experience” in fighting th**e coronavirus.

**The Czech foreign ministry announced its plans to open the mission in December.** The Czech Republic is the second European Union member state, after Hungary, to open a diplomatic mission in the city.

In May 2018, President Milos Zeman announced the beginning of a three-stage process to move the country’s embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

**The first step was the**[**appointment of an honorary consul**](https://www.timesofisrael.com/czechs-appoint-new-honorary-consul-in-jerusalem-instead-of-moving-embassy/)**in Jerusalem**.

T **he second step was the November 2018 opening of the so-called Czech House, an office space in the capital’s Cinematheque that houses companies such as CzechInvest, CzechTrade and CzechTourism**. Czech diplomats conduct meetings there but the center currently does not have official diplomatic status.

**As president, Zeman has limited executive power, and Babis has so far opposed transferring his country’s embassy to Jerusalem, citing EU policy, which is staunchly opposed to opening diplomatic missions i**n the city.

Ashkenazi called the opening “additional proof of the depth and the scope of the friendship we share with the Czech people and the Czech Republic and government.”

He also thanked the Czech prime minister and government for “leading the change in Europe toward the city of Jerusalem as a whole and toward the connection with the State of Israel.”

**“The Middle East as a whole has experienced a paradigm shift… It is suitable to begin an era of peace with the recognition of truth. A** historical truth that the city of Jerusalem has been for more than 3000 years the beating heart of the Jewish people and its only capital.”

**“We consider this event a highly significant step, and a gesture by the Czech Republic that will further strengthen Czech-Israeli relations,” said Public Security Minister Amir Ohana,** who was representing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

In recent months, countries in different parts of the globe — Malawi, the Dominican Republic, Serbia and Kosovo — have stated their intention to open embassies in Jerusalem. So far only two embassies are operating in the city: those of the US and Guatemala.

“The Czech Republic is one of Israel’s closest allies,” said Ohana, “frequently demonstrating strong support for Israel at the United Nations, and within the European Union.” <https://www.timesofisrael.com/czech-prime-minister-opens-embassy-office-in-jerusalem/>

**Jordanian FM appears to assail Netanyahu for cancellation of Temple Mount visit**

***Hours after spat with Amman forces him to cancel planned trip to the UAE, PM asserts matters with Jordan have been straightened out***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:12 pm*

**Jordan’s Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi on Thursday blamed Israel for the cancellation of Jordanian Crown Prince Hussein’s visit to the Temple Mount, accusing the Jewish state of reneging on agreed terms for th**e trip.

**Safadi’s comments came after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu** [**scrapped a trip**](https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-said-weighing-canceling-uae-trip-due-to-wifes-illness/) **to the United Arab Emirates, citing Jordan’s delay in granting overflight permission.** The Prime Minister’s Office said the delayed approval appeared to be in retaliation for the cancellation of Hussein’s planned visit Wednesday.

**Speaking at a press conference, Safadi seemed to blame the spat on the upcoming Israeli electi**ons, in remarks apparently aimed at Netanyahu.

“What makes things worse those who are toying with the region and its peoples’ right to live in peace for the sake of electoral and populist concerns… destroying the trust which is the basis for ending the conflict,” Safadi said.

**He noted the prince had been set to visit on Lailat al-Miʿraj, a holiday marking a journey undertaken by the Prophet Muhamma**d. **[Sometimes things just become amazing and hysterical in translation. The name of the holiday commemorates the alleged ride of Mohammed from Mecca to the ‘furthest place’ which the Islamic claim is Jerusalem at the temple mount area (dome of the rock) and then his trip to heaven to be purified. If you simply sound out the last word it is al-Mir’aj which sounds a lot like Mirage – a figment of your imagination which is exactly what that is. – rdb]**



***Jordan’s Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah addresses the United Nations General Assembly, at United Nations headquarters, September 21, 2017. (Frank Franklin II/AP)***

**“We had reached arrangements for visits with the Israeli side. We were surprised when they sought to impose new arrangements and change the plan for the visit in a manner which would have distressed Jerusalemites during that night of worship**. As such, the crown prince decided that he would not impose that upon Muslims or disturb the purity of that night,” Safadi said.

**He added: “Al-Aqsa mosque is entirely a place of worship for Muslims. Israel has no sovereignty upon it…nor do we accept any Israeli intervention in its affair**s.”  **[Keep in mind, Jordan supposedly has a peace treaty with Israel. With friends like these who needs enemies? – rdb]**

**Under their 1994 peace treaty, Israel recognizes Jordan as the custodian of the Temple Mount — which houses the mosqu**e.  The Temple Mount is the holiest place in Judaism, as the site of the biblical Temples. It is the site of the third holiest shrine in Islam.

**Israel captured the Temple Mount and Jerusalem’s Old City in the 1967 Six Day War and extended sovereignty throughout Jerusalem. However, it allowed the Jordanian Waqf to continue to maintain religious author**ity atop the mount, where Jews are allowed to visit, but not to pray.  **[That was an absolutely terrible mistake. It should never have allowed Jordanian control. – rdb]**

**According to the Kan public broadcaster, Israel’s account differs from Safadi’s, with officials saying the prince’s security delegation that arrived at the border was both larger and more heavily armed than had been agreed**. The report said that when Israeli authorities insisted the Jordanians keep to the terms of the agreement, Hussein canceled the visit.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz also appeared to accuse Netanyahu of responsibility for the incident, saying in a statement Thursday that Israel is “committed to agreements with the Jordanians and has great respect for the Jordanian government and King Abdullah.”

He accused Netanyahu of “heavily damaging” the relations in recent years through his conduct, without further specifying. Gantz, who a report last month said [met secretly with Jordanian King Abdullah II](https://www.timesofisrael.com/gantz-recently-held-secret-meeting-with-jordans-king-abdullah-report/), has previously issued similar criticism of Netanyahu over Israel’s ties with Jordan. **MORE -** <https://www.timesofisrael.com/jordanian-fm-appears-to-assail-netanyahu-for-cancellation-of-temple-mount-visit/>

**Pfizer CEO hails ‘obsessive’ Netanyahu for calling 30 times to seal vaccine deal**

***Speaking with Israeli TV, Albert Bourla says kids under 16 likely to soon get okay for vaccines, younger children to be vaccinated by year’s end***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 9:48 pm*

**Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla on Thursday praised Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s “obsessive” efforts to secure a coronavirus vaccine deal for Israel and predicted that children younger than 16 will soon begin receiving his company’s vaccine. “He called me 30 times,” Bouria said of Netanyah**u.

Speaking with Israel’s Channel 12 news, Bourla said he believed it was “a question of weeks” until kids aged 12-16 could start receiving the vaccine, but stressed that it depended on FDA approval.

He also said he believes elementary school students will be eligible for the Pfizer-BioNtech vaccine by year’s end.

Pfizer recently enrolled over 2,000 children between the ages of 12 and 15 for clinical trials and hopes to have results within a few months. The vaccine currently has emergency approval for use in people 16 and older. **[There have been many accounts stating that children are rarely transmitters of the virus and it is most rare for them to become sick from it. Why vaccinate perfectly healthy kids with an untested experimental treatment that may have drastic long term effects. – rdb]**

**Bourla’s comments came after the director-general of the Health Ministry estimated Israel will begin vaccinating children 12 and up against the coronavirus “**[**around May-June**](https://www.timesofisrael.com/health-ministry-chief-says-masks-wont-be-scrapped-kids-to-be-vaccinated-soon/).” Chezy Ley said the decision will depend on clinical trials being conducted by vaccine-makers, which he hopes “will be over around the end of spring, or beginning of summer.”

On Wednesday, a top Israeli health official said Israel has given some 600 children between the ages of 12 and 16 in at-risk groups the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine and has seen no significant side effects from the shot.

The Israeli children who have been approved by medical authorities for vaccination had known risk factors including obesity, diabetes, severe lung and heart disease, immunosuppression disorders and cancer, according to a report last month.

The Health Ministry has recommended vaccinating some teenagers age 12-15 against COVID-19 if they suffer from specific underlying conditions. The report did not say whether all of the children vaccinated in Israel were over the age of 12.



***Students wearing face masks return to school in Yad Mordechai on March 7, 2021. (Flash90)***

**Infection among children and school reopenings was a central concern during Israel’s third-wave virus ou**tbreak. Children represent a larger proportion of infections than earlier in the pandemic, possibly due to new virus variants and the fact that a significant percentage of adults have been vaccinated.

**Moderna has also started trials for children 12 and up, but says** it is unlikely to have data on younger children until 2022.

The University of Oxford has announced a trial to test its AstraZeneca-produced COVID-19 vaccine on children as young as 6.

According to Health Ministry data released Thursday, over 5 million Israelis have received the first vaccine dose, of whom nearly 4 million have also received the second. Israel’s total population is around 9.3 million.

Currently, several million Israelis are ineligible for the vaccine, most of them under the age of 16.

***Impressed with Netanyahu’s vaccine ‘obsession’***

**In the interview, Bourla said it was “very appropriate for humanity” that one country be chosen as a testing ground for the efficacy of Pfizer’s vacci**ne. **[Perhaps it would have been more prudent to test the safety of the vaccine before you started experimenting on humans concerning its effectiveness. I am still of the opinion that the numbers are not accurate. – rdb]**

“I was talking with several heads of state. I spoke with your prime minister, he convinced me that Israel is the place with the right conditions,” Bourla said. “I was impressed, frankly, with the obsession of your prime minister. He called me 30 times.”



***Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla speaks with Israel’s Channel 12 news in an interview aired on March 11, 2021. (Screen capture: Channel 12***)

**He also cited Israel’s “extraordinary healthcare system… very high degree of economic data” and experience in dealing with cris**es.

**Asked about Netanyahu’s frequent claim ahead of the March 23 elections that only he can bring vaccines to Israel, Bourla stressed his company signs supply contracts with states, not individual l**eaders.

“We are not contracting with individual companies or organizations… The vaccines will be sold to every country, irrespective of who is the leader,” he said.

Bourla, the Greek-born son of Holocaust survivors, was set to arrive in Israel on March 8, just 15 days before the March 23 election, but last week delayed the trip. “It was quite complicated as a trip… in the middle of the pandemic the logistics weren’t always perfect, so we decided I’ll stay here,” he said in the interview.

There had been earlier speculation that the trip had been postponed to avoid appearing to influence the national vote. Netanyahu has repeatedly touted his personal rapport with Bourla as a major reason Israel was able to secure large quantities of coronavirus vaccines so quickly.

Bourla confirmed receiving letters imploring him not to visit Israel ahead of the elections, as well as letters telling him to go through with the trip. “My job is not to do politics,” he said, adding he has “zero intention” of interfering in the elections. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/pfizer-ceo-obsessive-netanyahu-called-30-times-in-effort-to-seal-vaccine-deal/> **[I consider it unconscionable to be the leader of a country and subject your people to becoming guinea pigs as they have done. If you haven’t looked at the videos I have sent in the past from Israelis you need to go back and look. They are doing everything but imprisoning their people who don’t want the Jab. – rdb]**

**Netanyahu holds vaccine summit with Czech, Hungarian PMs in Jerusalem**

***PM says heads of state agreed to collaborate on research, development and production of vaccines; Hungary's Orbán says considers Israel as role model in dealing with virus; Czech opens diplomatic mission in Jerusalem***

*Ynet, i24NEWS | Published: 03.11.21 , 23:04*

 **Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with his Hungarian and Czech counterparts on Thursday to discuss policies to fight COVID-19 as a third wave of the coronavirus pandemic sweeps central Europ**e.

**Speaking to the press in Jerusalem, Netanyahu said that the three heads of state discussed the promotion of collaborations in the fields of research, development and production of v**accines.

***Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babiš (L), Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán in Jerusalem***

***(Photo: Alex Kolomoisky)***

**"We've discussed several topics, including the green pass. It's a good idea adding the Czech Republic and Hungary to this," Netanyahu said. "We also want to bring them in for the international vaccine plant that we will establish in Isr**ael."

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán commended Israel on its successful COVID-19 vaccination campaign and said his country considers Israel as a role model in dealing with coronavirus.

**Orbán added that "we have some good ideas about the green passport.** We are presenting domestic options for the green passport and are about to join the global initiative."

Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babiš said that his arrival in Israel "proves the Czech Republic has a friend it could rely upon" and that he draws inspiration from the Israeli vaccination campaign.

**Babiš also slammed the International Criminal Court's decision to launch a probe** into alleged war crimes committed by Israel against the Palestinians.

We think it is intolerable. The Czech Republic does not recognize Palestine as a state, it is a political ruling." Babiš said. "The court should stop being selective. We will not forgive for anything that will endanger the State of Israel, which is the only democracy in the region."

Netanyahu also said that Israel would gladly help other countries in handling the pandemic and supply them with vaccine surpluses once the Jewish state is done vaccinating its own population.

"I promise we will do whatever we can. We live in an age of pandemics and we do not know if this will continue, so we need to organize ourselves against these possibilities," Netanyahu said. "We must become a seller and not just a buyer, become a producer. Together we can do it. Unfortunately, it will take two years, but we will be able to not only provide vaccines to our own population, but also to others."

**Beforehand, Netanyahu and Babiš delivered a celebratory joint statement to the media after the Czech Republic opened an official diplomatic mission in Jeru**salem.

The occasion was marked by an official ribbon-cutting ceremony in the capital, which was attended by Babiš, Netanyahu, Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi, and several other officials and dignitaries from both countries.

Orbán also attended the ceremony. Hungary opened its mission in the capital back in March 2019, making it the first to do so in the European Union, going against EU rules which stipulate that members of the bloc must open their diplomatic missions in Tel Aviv.

Netanyahu hailed the two leaders for their support and opening diplomatic missions in Jerusalem, adding that "we are better together."

Netanyahu was able to attend the ceremony after he was forced to cancel his first-ever official visit to the United Arab Emirates after neighboring Jordan blocked the premier from traveling through its airspace. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/Bk5tDgdmu> **[It may sound a bit crass but I have to wonder if and how much Bibi is being paid on the side to be part of the Pfizer promotional team for their Jab. If he isn’t paid in cash then it is in political position or simply oversized ego. – rdb]**

**Mask mandate to stay in place for foreseeable future, health czar says**

***Despite encouraging decline in coronavirus morbidity, Prof. Hezi Levi worried children may still spread the disease further until the vaccine becomes available to them***

*Nina Fuchs | Published: 03.11.21 , 19:46*

**Israel will leave in place its mask mandate in public spaces for the foreseeable future despite the success of the country's COVID-19 vaccination campaign a**nd the consequent fall in coronavirus morbidity, Health Ministry Director General Prof. Hezi Levi said on Thursday. **[If the Jab is effective then there is NO NEED for masks and this is more of the dictatorial power grab of the Israeli government. The entire population should rally together and rebel and throw the bums out the window. Their entire position is horse hockey gobbledygook and makes no real logical sense. Either it is effective or it isn’t and this makes me even more skeptical about their so call percentage of effectiveness. – rdb]**

According to Levi, one of the reasons behind the decision was that the vaccine was still unavailable to children and teens under the age of 16.

“A vaccinated person can also be a source [of coronavirus infections] if those around them are without a mask and are not inoculated,” Levi said. **[Garbage, pure unadulterated garbage. All this for a virus infection with a 99% recovery rate as well as several well known and tried cures. How do you cure stupid? You don’t. – rdb]**

“This goes doubly for children under 16 who are certainly not yet vaccinated. That is why we're not thinking currently about abolishing the mask mandate.”

However, Levi added he was encouraged by recent data showing that the country’s daily infection rate has dipped to its lowest in three months.

He further said that the ministry was making efforts to monitor and prevent the spread of the virus in the country's recently opened education system after hundreds of students and teaching staff were forced to self-isolate after being exposed to a COVID-19 patient in educational institutions.

The ministry was also considering opening schools in communities with high coronavirus infection rates if large parts of the teaching staff get vaccinated.

Levi said children he believed children will be eligible to get the vaccine around the summer months, “pending successful medical trials by vaccine manufacturers.”

According to a Coronavirus National Information and Knowledge Center report, the pathogen's reproduction (R) number has slumped from 1 to 0.85 within several days, signing that the pandemic in Israel was on the decline.

"The vaccination campaign is starting to bear fruit. The number of verified cases is in a steady decline and the number of patients in critical condition is also decreasing slowly,” the report said. “However, infections are is still widespread there is no room for complacency.” <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/BkELInw7u> **[It would appear that their entire governmental system is in collusion with Bibi on this one and they should all be booted. Not only that, when the day of judgement comes they will all suffer mightily. – rdb]**

**Sheba Medical Center staff infected with COVID-19 despite vaccination**

*By* [*JERUSALEM POST STAFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/jerusalem-post-staff) *MARCH 11, 2021 20:59*

**A handful of medical staff members working in the same internal medicine ward at** [**Sheba Medical Center**](https://www.jpost.com/tags/sheba-medical-center) **were infected with COVID-19 despite being already vaccinated against it, Israeli media reported on Thursda**y.

The workers were seemingly infected from either a patient or someone who accompanied a patient who was not vaccinated and did not show any symptoms, according to the reports.

They had all received both coronavirus vaccines and were considered fully vaccinated. They are all asymptomatic and have entered isolation.

On top of the four working in the ward, one additional employee of the hospital was infected, as well.

The Health Ministry is investigating the case in Sheba to learn more.  <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/despite-vaccination-sheba-medical-center-staff-infected-with-covid-19-661730> **Obviously these people didn’t read the statistics that are being thrown around. – rdb]**

**Woman says daughter, 13, ‘raped again’ by light charges for alleged attacker**

***Yarin Sherf indicted for a series of sex offenses, but not rape; legal officials say relationship was consensual, sparking outcry***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *and* [*Stuart Winer*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/stuart-winer/) *Today, 11:16 pm*

**The mother of a 13-year-old girl who says she was assaulted by a man while quarantining at a hotel for coronavirus patients run by state welfare services expressed her outrage at the end of a court hearing that failed to indict the man on rape charg**es.

**“I cannot believe I have to say this — I feel like they raped my daughter a second time,” the mother of the young girl sai**d.

“His [crime] is rape, any other interpretation is false,” she added, claiming that “this decision gives the green light and aids the next rape.”

**Yarin Sherf, 21, was indicted at Tel Aviv Magistrate’s Court on charges of forbidden consensual relations, sexual harassment, making threats, assault, and giving an intoxicating drink to a minor, but not** rape.

 “A situation in which on one hand the indictment indicates violence against a 13-year-old girl, and on the other speaks of forbidden consensual relations, is illogical and unthinkable,” the mother said.

“We will not keep quiet until the rapist receives full punishment for the grave act he committed,” she said.

The decision also drew an outcry from activists.

***People demonstrate support for a 13-year-old girl as Yarin Shref, 21, was indicted for having sex with her, seen outside the Tel Aviv Magistrate’s Court, March 11, 2021. (Avshalom Sassoni/Flash90)***

**The head of Israel’s largest women’s rights group called the indictment a “serious system failure for the s**tate.”

As the indictment was being filed, demonstrators rallied near the courthouse to show their support for the girl.

**Although under Israeli law, sex with a minor who is below the age of 14 is considered rape, even if consensual, prosecutors shied away from filing the charge because the alleged victim had told Sherf that she was 14**.

According to the indictment, Sherf arrived at the hotel, which provides virus quarantine for youths who are not able to self-isolate at home, on February 23, where he first met the girl.



***Yarin Sherf, indicted for sexual offenses against a 13-year-old girl at a quarantine hotel, seen in an online video (via Facebook)***

Over the following hours, he established contact via the Instagram social media app, and after first inviting her to his room, she instead suggested he come to hers.

**However, before he arrived, the girl discovered his age via another social media app he was using, TikTok, and then told him he is “too** old.”

When she asked him if he was really 21 years old, Sherf responded that he was 20 and asked the girl her own age. She told him she was 14, prosecutors said.

Sherf continued to message the girl, who told him to “let it go” and declined his suggestions that he visit her room.

In one message, Sherf wrote that if she didn’t agree, he would carry out an “Eilat 2.0,” referring to the alleged gang rape last year of a girl, 16, at a hotel in the resort city.

**The following day, a staff member at the hotel, after seeing the two speaking together in a public area, warned Sherf to stay away from the girl. Sherf indicated that he** would. **MORE -**<https://www.timesofisrael.com/woman-says-daughter-13-raped-again-by-light-charges-for-alleged-attacker/> **[I have one little question for these people. Where were this girls parents all this time. IF this is a 13 year old I would have thought there might have been just a little supervision. This is a disgusting case and this dude should be locked up for a long time for this, even if the girl did mislead him. – rdb]**

**No AIPAC conference? No problem. We’re meeting for coffee on Zoom**

***Pro-Israel lobby cancels its in-person conference, a major annual event, for the first time in decades, forcing activists to engage with public and officials in online events***

*By* [*Ron Kampeas*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ron-kampeas/) *Today, 2:20 am*

WASHINGTON (JTA) — **For years, the annual AIPAC conference has culminated with thousands of Israel supporters knocking on their congressional representatives’ doors in Washington to deliver three policy requests**.

Last year, the conference in early March ended with anxiety about whether COVID-19 had spread after some of the country’s first cases were detected among attendees. And this year, there’s no throng and no door-knocking at all. Due to the pandemic, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee announced in May that it would not hold an in-person conference in 2021 for the first time in decades.

**But the pro-Israel lobby says it’s still engaging a broad swath of Americans through a series of online events that spanned the course of the year rather than being packed into a five-day conferen**ce. And although both staffers and lawmakers say Zoom lobbying has drawbacks, AIPAC remains optimistic about its plan to present a three-pronged policy agenda to lawmakers next week.

“We have very active creative services and communications departments that have now adapted to this environment quite ably in being able to take the type of high-quality presentations that you normally see at the policy conference and adapt them to the virtual environment,” said Marshall Wittmann, the group’s spokesman.

The suspension of AIPAC’s signature event came at a crucial time in US-Israel relations: a new administration that is unlikely to be as solicitous to Israel as the Trump White House; looming elections in Israel; reconsideration of the Iran nuclear deal that Donald Trump as president exited; and backburner anxiety about support for conditioning US aid to Israel. **MORE -**<https://www.timesofisrael.com/no-aipac-conference-no-problem-were-meeting-for-coffee-on-zoom/> **[The terror – porn has turned the world into ‘zoom’ meetings and everyone hiding behind a mask. So how effective is this “new process”? Face to face personal communication is now gone so that ‘the state’ can control everything. – rdb]**

**Hamas blames Israel for death of 3 Gazan fishermen; Islamic Jihad vows revenge**

***Gaza leaders say anglers fished out Israeli drone, which then exploded; deny experimental shell fired toward sea struck fishermen’s boat; Israel has denied any connection***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 9:17 pm*

*[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/F210307ARK23.jpg)*

***Family and relatives mourn the deaths of three fishermen from the Al-Lahham family in Khan Yunis, in the southern Gaza Strip, on March 7, 2021. Three Palestinian fishermen were killed when their boat exploded off Gaza's coast in the Mediterranean Sea. (Abed Rahim Khatib/Flash90)***

**The Hamas terror group blamed Israel on Thursday for an explosion that killed three fishermen off the coast of Gaza earlier this week, leading several armed factions in Gaza to vow reveng**e.

**Hamas Interior Ministry spokesperson Iyad al-Bozm said that the three fishermen were killed by an explosion caused by a toppled Israeli drone that had been caught in their net.** Israel has previously denied any involvement in the incident.

**“The three fishermen from the Al-Lahham family were killed due to the detonation of an explosive device installed on a quadcopter belonging to the Israeli occupation, which got stuck in their nets and exploded while they were extracting it**,” al-Bozm said.

**Although al-Bozm ruled out a direct Israeli strike on the ship**, he said that Hamas “holds the Israeli occupation fully responsible.”

**The Israel Defense Forces did not immediately respond to requests for comments on Ham**as’s new claims, though after the incident took place it denied involvement, saying there had been “no Israeli fire” toward Gaza and “This is an internal Gaza incident.”

**The explosion occurred close to the coast of Khan Younis,** a city in the southern Gaza Strip, on Sunday. The three deceased fishermen, Yahya Mustafa al-Laham, Hamdi al-Laham and Zakaria al-Laham, were two brothers and their cousin, Gaza fishermen’s union head Nizar Ayyash told local media.

**“They were the martyrs of their daily bread,” the al-Laham family said i**n a statement on their official Facebook page on Sunday. The three had died, the family said, after “a local mortar struck their boat.”

**According to the Hamas Interior Ministry, the drone alleged to have exploded on Sunday had been there since February 22 during a clash between a Hamas naval unit and the Israeli mil**itary.

**Observers had suspected that a mortar or rocket launched by Hamas had unintentionally struck the fishermen’s boat, killing them instantly**. Hamas regularly fires experimental rockets toward the sea, both to test their military capacities and as a show of force.

**Witnesses also testified to local human rights groups that mortars had been fired immediately prior to the explosion, but Hamas dismissed the possibility that a shell had struck the fishermen’s** boat.

“After inspecting the experimental missile launch platform, the coordinates of its fall, reviewing camera footage from resistance observation points, and confirming the exact timing of the launch, it became clear that the explosion site was completely outside the range of the missile firing zone,” al-Bozm said.

Israel limits the permitted fishing zone off the Gaza Strip as part of a blockade on the Hamas-controlled enclave, which it says is aimed at preventing arms from reaching Palestinian terror groups.

The Gaza fishing zone extends approximately 17 miles off the coast of the enclave. Hamas rockets have been seen to reach as far as Tel Aviv, which lies about 40 miles north of the Gaza Strip.

**Islamic Jihad vowed revenge against Israel following Thursday’s announcement by Hamas, saying that Israel bore responsibility for the fishermen’s deat**hs.

“The occupation is behind this hideous crime and has committed this odiousness. A response will surely arrive from the Palestinian resistance,” Islamic Jihad said in a statement.

**Sunday’s incident was not the first time that technical errors with weaponry were said to harm or even kill civilians living in the Gaza Strip. In the past, blasts have sometimes been caused by accidents as operatives of terrorist organizations in the territory built bombs** or otherwise handled explosives.

Last month, a blast ripped through a building in northern Gaza, injuring at least 36 civilians. The Israeli military charged that Palestinian terror groups had stored weapons inside civilian homes. Hamas promised to investigate the incident, but no conclusion has yet been reached. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-blames-israel-for-death-of-3-gazan-fishermen-islamic-jihad-vows-revenge/>

**Abbas ousts Yasser Arafat’s nephew from Fatah as election race heats up**

***Senior official Nasser al-Qidwa has called for ‘radical change’ in the Palestinian Authority, plans to challenge the main Fatah slate in the upcoming legislative elections***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 3:51 pm*

**Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas expelled prominent critic Nasser al-Qidwa from the Fatah party on Thursday following the official’s declaration that he would establish a breakoff electoral slate and mount a challenge to Fatah in the upcoming Palestinian legislative electi**ons.

**“[Al-Qidwa] was given 48 hours to retreat from his stated positions, which violated the internal regim**e, decisions and unity of Fatah,” Abbas wrote in a decree ordering Al-Qidwa’s dismissal.

Al-Qidwa announced last week that he planned to contest Abbas’s Fatah movement’s main slate in the Palestinian legislative elections, which are scheduled for May 22. Another round of elections, for the Palestinian Authority presidency, is scheduled to be held on June 31. **[Abbas tolerates NO dissention or challenges. This is not and has never been a real “PA” election with a free popular vote. – rdb]**

**Abbas issued a formal decree ordering the elections in mid-January, which was greeted by widespread skepticism. The Palestinians have not headed to a national vote in 15 years**, and numerous promised elections never came to pass.

**Anticipation has slowly been growing, however, both in diplomatic circles and among the Palestinian public. Around 93 percent** of eligible Palestinians registered to vote in the upcoming elections in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, according to the Palestinian Central Elections Commission.

**Al-Qidwa, the nephew of former Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat, has long been critical of Abbas. He has worked at several foreign posts,** including as the PA’s envoy to the United Nations, where he developed a reputation as an effective and capable diplomat.

**In recent weeks, however, al-Qidwa has become more outspoken in his criticism of the current Palestinian Authority government.** At a virtual conference streamed by Birzeit University in late February, al-Qidwa said the Palestinian political system needed to be dramatically revamped.

“We need radical change in our political system, even as we struggle against Israeli actions,” al-Qidwa said.

**Several senior Fatah officials could not be reached for comment. But many have expressed frustration that a senior official would break ranks and have dismissed his criticis**m of the political system.

“Nasser is part of the political system,” said senior Fatah official Azzam al-Ahmad when asked by The Times of Israel about al-Qidwa’s remarks in late February.

The tension between Fatah’s leading members and al-Qidwa has been growing for several weeks. At the beginning of the recent election push, al-Qidwa came out strongly against a tentatively planned joint Fatah-Hamas electoral slate. He later was said to have boycotted several meetings of the Fatah Central Committee.



***Nasser al-Kidwa, a member of Fatah’s Central Committee and the nephew of late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, addresses a news conference in the West Bank city of Ramallah on January 23, 2019, against a backdrop showing Jerusalem’s Dome of the Rock mosque, to comment on a decision by an Israeli court to issue a temporary lien for a plot of land belonging to Arafat in East Jerusalem. (ABBAS MOMANI / AFP)***

**“Reform is a lovely, resonant term and a necessity that no one disagrees with. But what is shocking is that most of those who have been discussing ‘reform,’ especially now that we are heading to elections, are people who have been part of the government,”** Fatah Central Committee member Hussein al-Sheikh wrote on Twitter, in an implicit jab at al-Qidwa’s statements.

**Al-Qidwa’s fellow Fatah exilé, former Gaza security chief Mohammad Dahlan, condemned the Thursday decision. Dahlan, a long-time rival of Abbas, was expelled from the West Bank in 2011** and resides in the United Arab Emirates.

**“Throughout its long history, Fatah has not seen this degree of tyranny,** exclusivity, and deviation from diversity and being a ‘wide tent’ for all ideas and opinions,” Dahlan said.

“This decision confirms the impossibility of accepting the approach of Mahmoud Abbas, who has become a real threat to the interests of our people,” Dahlan added.

Palestinian leaders have repeatedly promised to hold elections since the last vote was held in 2006, when Hamas swept the Palestinian parliament in a landslide victory over its Fatah rivals who were riven by factional squabbles and widely seen as corrupt.

**Much as in 2006, Abbas’s Fatah movement is deeply divided, and the long-serving president faces rivals at every turn: jailed Palestinian terror convict Marwan Barghouti, Emirates-backed Dahlan, and al-Qid**wa.

In recent weeks senior officials in Fatah have taken shots at one another on social media. A highly publicized visit by senior PA official al-Sheikh to Barghouti — reportedly an attempt to convince him not to run — did not seem to succeed.

**While al-Qidwa has founded his own movement — the National Democratic Forum** — as an initial step, he has yet to announce a slate of parliamentary candidates. Al-Qidwa has also said he would support al-Barghouti against any potential presidential candidate.

“We have sought since day one to induce Marwan al-Barhgouti to join our movement and its leaders, and we are with al-Barhgouti if he nominates himself for president,” al-Qidwa wrote on Twitter on Wednesday.

Al-Qidwa’s prospects of running independently in the upcoming Palestinian legislative elections, however, are still murky, said Palestinian political analyst Jihad Harb.

**“There are no surveys that prove how successful he might be, while other political figures — such as Barghouti — already enjoy wide political support.** While he has called for a separate parliamentary slate, that slate has yet to come together. As for Barghouti, he does not need al-Qidwa,” Harb told The Times of Israel.

Moreover, it is not clear what political program al-Qidwa plans to offer his voters. According to Harb, most Palestinian parties fall into one of two camps: “the end of Israel through armed resistance and the two-state solution.”

“At this point, with both armed struggle and the two-state solution not seeming realistic, many Palestinians are looking for honest candidates to fight corruption,” Harb said.

Al-Qidwa called last month for Palestinians to find what he called “a third path” between the dichotomy of “armed struggle or negotiations with unending concessions” in which he said Palestinian politics found itself. Pressed for more details, he dodged.

“It does not seem that al-Qidwa has the answers to the hard questions yet. There is not anything new here yet when it comes to his political program,” Harb said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/abbas-ousts-yasser-arafats-nephew-from-fatah-as-election-race-heats-up/> **[Looks like these elections in the “PA” might actually get a bit interesting. A convicted murderer and nephew of terrorist Arafat the rat and an aging ill crooked despot? – rdb]**

**Informal US-Iran nuclear talks set to start soon — NY Times**

***American and European diplomats say both countries may agree on steps toward returning to the JCPOA***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:10 pm*

**Informal talks between the US and Iran over the return to the nuclear deal could begin in the coming weeks, American and European diplomats told The New York Times in a report Thurs**day.

When the informal talks do begin, it is expected that the United States and Iran could agree to take simultaneous steps toward coming back into compliance with the 2015 accord, [the report said](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/11/us/politics/united-states-iran-nuclear-talks.html).

Former US president Donald Trump withdrew from the deal in 2018 and put punishing sanctions on Iran.

Since the US left the deal under Trump, Iran has walked away from the pact’s limitations on its stockpile of uranium and has begun enriching to 20 percent, a technical step away from weapons-grade levels.

**US President Joe Biden and his administration have said they will return to the Joint Comprehensive Plan o**f Action (JCPOA) if Tehran first returns to compliance. Iran has insisted the US remove sanctions before it returns to the deal’s terms, putting the two sides at a stalemate.

Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, have already begun voicing opposition to the Biden administration’s desire to rejoin the deal, putting Jerusalem and Washington at odds on the issue. Some leading Israeli officials in recent months have threatened military action to halt Iran’s nuclear program.

**In recent months, Iran has repeatedly taken steps to violate the deal and turn up the heat on the US, including by enriching uranium past the accord’s limits and barring UN inspections of its nuclear f**acilities.

In addition, Iran has for months threatened retaliation against Israel over the killing of its chief military nuclear scientist, Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, in what was widely attributed to an Israeli Mossad operation. An attempted bombing near the [Israeli embassy in India](https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-may-have-been-behind-blast-at-delhi-embassy-ambassador-says/) last month, as well as last week’s [mine attack on an Israeli cargo ship](https://www.timesofisrael.com/with-gray-zone-attack-on-cargo-ship-iran-israel-tensions-enter-murky-waters/) in the Gulf of Oman, have both been attributed to Iran by Israel.

On Thursday, Israeli and US officials were to hold the [first session of a bilateral strategic group](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-and-us-to-convene-1st-strategic-group-meeting-on-iran/) aimed at collaborating in the effort to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, an official familiar with the matter told The Times of Israel.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/informal-us-iran-nuclear-talks-set-to-start-soon-ny-times/>

**US officials say Israel targeted at least 12 tankers headed for Syria -WSJ**

***The report alleged that since 2019, Israel has been using naval weapons, including water mines, to strike vessels which were either Iranian, or carried Iranian cargo, as they made their way to Syria.***

*By* [*IDAN ZONSHINE*](https://www.jpost.com/author/idan-zonshine) *MARCH 11, 2021 23:40*

**US and regional officials have accused Israel of targeting "at least a dozen" tankers bound for Syria and mostly carrying Iranian oil due to concerns that petroleum profits were funding extremists, the Wall Street Journal reported on Thursda**y.

**The report alleged that since 2019, Israel has been using naval weapons, including water mines, to strike vessels which were either Iranian, or carried Iranian carg**o, as they made their way to Syria.

The report said that while most of the tankers carried oil, some of the targeted vessels have made efforts to move other cargo, including weaponry.

**According to** [**Greenpeace**](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/greenpeace-iran-eco-terror-allegation-reeks-of-election-propaganda-660970)**, Iranian oil tankers routinely violate trade embargoes on Iran and Syria to smuggle oil into Syria through the Suez Canal.** The organization said that the practice of turning off tracking systems is also commonly done such vessels, to avoid detection for violating the trade embargo.

The practice is so common in fact, that between August of 2018 and July of 2019, Syria received around 17 million barrels of crude oil from Iran this way.

The *WSJ* report added that other ways that these ships avoid international scrutiny is through the declaration of false destinations, transferal of oil from one ship to another at sea, or through the use of old, rusted tankers which are harder to detect.

The report comes after Israel's Environmental Protection Minister Gila Gamliel accused Iran of "eco-terrorism," blaming the country for a recent oil spill which likely came from an Iranian tanker.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz said that the Israeli defense establishment had [no evidence](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/mossad-idf-caught-blindsided-by-gamliels-iran-eco-terror-accusation-660917) to suggest that Iran deliberately caused the oil spill. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/us-officials-say-israel-targeted-at-least-12-tankers-headed-for-syria-wsj-661757>

**Russia to retaliate, if US brings intermediate-range missiles to Asia-Pacific — diplomat**

***The deployment of US intermediate and shorter-range missiles in various parts of the world would trigger a new spiral of the arms race fraught with unpredictable consequences, Maria Zakharova said***

MOSCOW, March 12. /TASS**/. Russia will react and take measures to maintain its national security, if the United States deploys intermediate and shorter-range missiles to the Asia-Pacific Region, Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova told a news briefing on Friday following Japanese mass media reports Tokyo and Washington were mulling plans for discussing the outlook for bringing to Japan US ground-based intermediate range missiles, previously banned under the INF tr**eaty.

"**The deployment of US intermediate and shorter-range missiles of whatever configuration in various parts of the world, including the Asia-Pacific region**, would have an extremely destabilizing effect from the standpoint of international and regional security. This would trigger a new spiral of the arms race fraught with unpredictable consequences," she said. "Clearly, this march of events will by no means enhance the security of the United States, let alone its allies. The emergence of more missile threats will certainly entail our retaliation."

**Zakharova recalled that Russia’s unilateral moratorium on deploying missiles of this class in the regions where this type of weapons of US manufacture was absent remained in fo**rce.

"We are calling upon all parties concerned for joint efforts to achieve a political and diplomatic settlement of the situation following Washington’s termination of the INF Treaty," she stressed.

Zakharova added that Russia kept the door open to equitable and constructive work for restoring trust, international security and strategic stability following the INF Treaty’s demise. <https://tass.com/politics/1265255>

**EU drug regulator investigating 30 reports of blood-clotting linked to AstraZeneca jab as states halt rollout of Covid vaccine**

*11 Mar, 2021 16:27*

**The European Medicines Agency (EMA) said on Thursday that it was investigating after two people inoculated from the same batch of AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine died from blood clotting and several countries stopped using the jab**s.

The inquiry comes after Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Estonia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Latvia all suspended their rollouts of the AstraZeneca vaccine over fears that they may induce blood clotting – known medically as *"thromboembolic events."*

*"There is currently no indication that vaccination has caused these conditions, which are not listed as side effects with this vaccine,"* the EMA said in a statement, adding that its own risk assessment committee was investigating the matter.

**As of March 10, there were 30 cases of thromboembolic events reported out of the 5 million people to have received the AstraZeneca jab** so far in the European Economic Area, the EMA said in an update on Thursday.

The agency also stressed that the vaccine's *"benefits continue to outweigh its risks."*

A 60-year-old woman in Denmark died from blood clotting after she received an AstraZeneca jab from batch ABV5300, Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten reported on Thursday.

On Wednesday, it was reported that a 49-year-old nurse in Austria who was vaccinated from the same batch died from multiple thrombosis 10 days after her jab.

Another woman in Austria was hospitalized with a pulmonary embolism after she received one of the batch's 1 million doses that were sent to 17 different EU countries.

The EMA approved the vaccine developed by AstraZeneca and the UK's Oxford University in January. <https://www.rt.com/news/517858-eu-investigating-astrazeneca-covid-vaccine/>

**Lawsuit targets Pelosi-Milley phone call about 'unhinged' Trump**

***Speaker discussed stripping president of nuclear-launch authority***

*By* [*WND Staff*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndstaff/) *Published March 11, 2021 at 1:13pm*

**A government watchdog has sued the Defense Department to obtain information about House Speaker Nancy's Pelosi's boast in January that she discussed with the Pentagon chief the possibility of removing constitutional responsibilities from an "unhinged" President Tru**mp.  
 The Freedom of Information Act lawsuit from Judicial Watch focuses on Pelosi's actions in response to the Jan. 6 riot. Some of the intruders were photographed and videoed sitting in her office chair and rifling through her desk.  
 Pelosi said at the time in a statement that she wanted to prevent "an unhinged president from using the nuclear codes."  
 "This morning, I spoke to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley to discuss available precautions for preventing an unstable president from initiating military hostilities or accessing the launch codes and ordering a nuclear strike," she said.  
 "The situation of this unhinged president could not be more dangerous, and we must do everything that we can to protect the American people from his unbalanced assault on our country and our democracy."  
 Her claims stemmed from her belief that Trump "incited insurrection," a charge she turned into an article of impeachment.  
 **Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton said that if Pelosi's description of her  conversation with Gen. Milley is true, "it sets a dangerous precedent that could undermine the president’s** role as commander in chief and the separation of powers."  
 "Our new lawsuit aims to uncover truth about the call," he said.Bottom of Form

Pelosi boasted of trying multiple ways to remove Trump.  
 "As you know, there is growing momentum around the invocation of the 25th Amendment, which would allow the vice president and a majority of the cabinet to remove the president for his incitement of insurrection and the danger he still poses," she said. "Yesterday, Leader Schumer and I placed a call with Vice President Pence, and we still hope to hear from him as soon as possible with a positive answer as to whether he and the Cabinet will honor their oath to the Constitution and the American people."  
 The FOIA lawsuit was filed after the Defense Department declined to respond to a request for the information.  
 The watchdog explained: "Pelosi acknowledged the call in a January 8 letter to her Democratic colleagues. In the letter, Pelosi purportedly related her discussion with Milley earlier that same day."  
 **Judicial Watch seeks: "Any and all records regarding, concerning, or related to the telephone call between House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and General Mark Milley on or about January 8, 2021. This request includes, but is not limited to, any and all transcripts, recordings, and/or summaries of the call, as well as any other records produced in preparation for, during, and/or pursuant to the ca**ll."  
 The 25th Amendment was adopted to address the need for continued leadership should a president become disabled.  
 Using that power based on a House speaker's opinion that a president is "unhinged" because of his political views, would affect future presidencies, Judicial Watch warned. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/lawsuit-targets-pelosi-milley-phone-call-unhinged-trump/>

**'Migrant president': Mexico sounds alarm over Biden policy**

***Warn he's stoking illegal immigration and organized crime***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published March 11, 2021 at 7:36pm*

**Some Democratic lawmakers, particularly in border districts, have criticized Joe Biden's immigration policies, but now concern is coming from south of the frontie**r.

[**Reuters reports**](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-immigration-mexico-exclusive-idUSKBN2B21D8) **Mexican leaders, including left-wing president Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, fear the Biden administration is stoking illegal immigration and creating business for organized cri**me.

**Central American nations, said Lopez Obrador, "see Biden as the migrant president,** and so many feel they’re going to reach the United States."

**"We need to work together to regulate the flow, because this business can’t be tackled from one day t**o the next, the Mexican presidentsaid the day after his March 1 virtual meeting with Biden.

Reuters reported internal assessments, based on testimonies and intelligence gathering, state that amid U.S. measures that "incentivize migration," Mexican gangs  are diversifying methods of smuggling and winning clients.

Apprehensions on the U.S.-Mexico border in February were the highest for that month in 15 years.

**A Mexican official familiar with migration developments who spoke to Reuters on condition of anonymity said organized crime began changing its methods "from the day Biden took office" and now exhibit "unprecedented" levels of sophistication**.

Assessments obtained by Reuters show that includes "briefing clients on the latest immigration rules, using technology to outfox authorities and disguising smuggling operations as travel agencies."

"**Migrants have become a commodity," the official said, arguing they were now as valuable as drugs** for the gangs. "But if a packet of drugs is lost in the sea, it's gone. If migrants are lost, it’s human beings we're talking about."

Reuters said higher concentrations of migrants in border areas have encouraged gangs to recruit some as drug mules. Other migrants have been kidnapped for ransom.

Mexican officials, nevertheless, have praised Biden for offering a pathway to citizenship to most of the millions of illegal immigrants in the U.S. who are of Mexican origin.

At the White House on Thursday, Fox News correspondent Peter Doocey asked press secretary Jen Psaki if Biden considers the Mexican president labeling him a "migrant president" is a compliment.

Psaki, indicating she hadn't heard the quote, asked for "context." After Doocey read the rest of Lopez Obrador's published remarks, she emphasized the "vast, vast majority of people who come to our border are turned away." <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/4899294/>

**Posh NYC School Wants Students to Stop Using Terms “Mom” and “Dad” to be More “Inclusive”**

**A private Manhattan school that charges $57,000 a year has issued a 12-page “inclusive language guide” to staff, students and parents which encourages them to stop using the terms “mom” and “dad,” among other ridiculous woke edicts to create a more welcoming env**ironment.

The Daily Mail [reports](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9347201/Woke-50k-Manhattan-school-bans-kids-using-terms-mom-dad.html):

*Grace Church School in NoHo has offered a 12-page guide to staff, students and parents that encourages them to stop using ‘mom’ and ‘dad’, to stop asking classmates where they may have gone on vacation. and urges them not to wish anyone a ‘Merry Christmas’  – or even a ‘Happy Holidays’.*

*The Episcopal school also offers courses and after-school programs for its students that include single-gender groups, a Roots of Empathy program, and a course called ‘Allying: Why? Who? and How?’ which is offered to seniors.*

According to the guidelines, instead of using the words “mom” and “dad” students should say “grown-ups,” “folks,” or “family.”

Instead of using the word “parents,” students could use any of the above recommended terms, as well as “guardians.”

The terms “husband,” “wife,” “boyfriend,” and “girlfriend” should be replaced with “spouse,” “partner,” or “significant other.”

The schools new guidelines state, “While we recognize hateful language that promotes racism, misogyny, homophobia, and other forms of discrimination are already addressed in our school handbooks, we also recognize that we can do more than ban hateful language; we can use language to create welcoming and inclusive spaces.”

Rev. Robert M. Pennoyer II, the assistant head of school, issued a statement about the inclusion glossary.

“As part of our Episcopal identity, we recognize the dignity and worth common to humanity,” he said.

He said the concept of the glossary stemmed “from our desire to promote a sense of belonging for all of our students.”

There are even more ridiculous rules for students and faculty. **MORE -** <https://charliekirk.com/news/posh-nyc-school-wants-students-to-stop-using-terms-mom-and-dad-to-be-more-inclusive/> **[Total and complete stupidity and ignorance. – rdb]**

**Commentary:**

**If Cuomo Goes Down, So Should Whitmer, Newsom, Murphy, and Wolf**

[*Daniel Greenfield*](https://www.blogger.com/profile/13575285186581875356) [*March 10, 2021*](http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2021/03/if-cuomo-goes-down-so-should-whitmer.html)

Governor Cuomo of New York is having a bad month, but it’s not because the Democrats and the media finally noticed that his order [forcing nursing homes](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/04/1-5-coronavirus-deaths-could-have-been-prevented-daniel-greenfield/) to accept infected coronavirus patients may have killed thousands of senior citizens: it’s because he’s up for reelection in 2022.  
 With Biden in the White House, the Democrats no longer need a model pandemic governor, and the AOC wing of the party in New York is preparing to primary him with an unfiltered socialist.

That’s why the Cuomo scandal has shifted from the trivial matter of 8,000 to 13,000 dead nursing home residents to the much more serious contention that the Cuomosexual-in-Chief may have once kissed a former aide: a [Bernie Sanders](https://twitter.com/LindseyBoylan/status/1219614883592929280) supporter named Lindsey Boylan.  
 Democrats don’t know what to do with thousands of dead nursing home residents, but they’re pretty experienced at monetizing #MeToo scandals.  
 Some might question whether the purity of Ms. Boylan’s lips, important as they are, should matter more than thousands of dead human beings. But to paraphrase Stalin, an unwanted kiss is a tragedy, but thousands of dead grandmas and grandpas are just another statistic.  
 And it’s a statistic that has the potential to not only [take down Cuomo](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/04/1-5-coronavirus-deaths-could-have-been-prevented-daniel-greenfield/), but Governor Whitmer in Michigan, Governor Murphy in New Jersey, Governor Newsom in California, and Governor Wolf in Pennsylvania. That’s why, after briefly allowing the public to vent a little outrage at the decision to turn nursing homes into death camps, Dems and the media pivoted to Lindsey’s lips.  
 While Cuomo, Whitmer, Murphy, Newsom, and Wolf all ordered nursing homes to take infected patients, only Cuomo, presumably, had made unwanted advances on Lindsey Boylan. And, much more importantly, the Sanders and AOC crowd is only targeting Cuomo, not the others.  
 There’s every reason to believe that Cuomo is a bully and a creep. But the sudden parade of Cuomo victims is being led by the same radical wing that wants to primary him. Lindsey Boylan  
 [tried to](https://welovetrump.com/2020/02/25/impeachment-backlash-nadler-faces-two-energized-primary-challengers-for-his-seat/) primary Rep. Nadler by claiming he didn’t want to impeach Trump hard enough and is running to be the borough president of Manhattan. It’s a little hypocritical for the wife of an investment banker to be going after the 1 percent, but hypocrisy is the name of the game.  
 Assemblyman Ron Kim, who claims that Cuomo bullied him so hard that it made his wife cry, is a major supporter of Bernie Sanders and of radicals like the antisemitic Moumita Ahmed. Kim at least has some credibility because he had raised the issue of Cuomo’s infected admission order, but, like most lefties, he focused far more on enabling lawsuits against nursing homes.  
 That’s more than can be said for Attorney General Letitia James who focused on her plan to run for higher office by waging war on the NRA, only to belatedly pivot to nursing homes in 2021 with a report that raised far more questions than it answered. President Trump’s DOJ had launched an investigation that resulted in Cuomo’s coverup back in the summer of 2020.  
 Where was James back then? Investigating President Trump.  
 Now James, whom the media is touting as Cuomo’s likeliest rival, is insisting that only she has the authority to investigate his sexual harassment scandal. James is right that Cuomo shouldn’t be investigating himself, but having his opponent investigate him is just as disgustingly corrupt.  
 James already showed off [her skills](https://nypost.com/2020/07/27/letitia-james-went-back-on-promise-in-failed-weinstein-deal-lawyer/) when she approved the Weinstein class-action settlement that would have given his victims a $10,000 check and covered Harvey's legal fees.  
 Cuomo’s abusive behavior was as much of an open secret as Harvey Weinstein’s antics. Both men were protected by the industries of entertainment and politics because they were convenient. It’s hard to believe that anyone in Albany didn’t know about Cuomo’s habits. New York’s political and media class are just using them to distract us from what really matters.  
 In California, Governor Newsom is facing a recall election, and the state’s skilled nursing facilities have racked up at least 9,000 coronavirus deaths. Newsom’s administration had told skilled nursing facilities that they "shall not refuse to admit or readmit a resident based on their status as a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case."  
 Patricia McGinnis, executive director of California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, had [warned](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/05/bring-grandma-killing-governors-justice-daniel-greenfield/), “California’s directive is nothing less than a death sentence for countless residents."  
 Democrats want to save Newsom’s job and they don’t want Cuomo’s scandal taking him out.  
 In Michigan, Governor Whitmer is facing multiple recall efforts and also has an election coming up in 2022. Her administration had [cruelly ordered](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/05/bring-grandma-killing-governors-justice-daniel-greenfield/) that a “long-term care facility must not prohibit admission or readmission of a resident based on COVID-19 testing requirements or results." There were some 5,600 coronavirus deaths in nursing homes. Michigan Republicans have called for an investigation, but Democrats and their media have loudly opposed it.  
 The Democrats and their media are not about to undermine Whitmer’s chances in 2022.  
 And then there’s New Jersey and Pennsylvania. New Jersey copied New York’s order and there have been around 8,000 nursing home coronavirus deaths. Pennsylvania’s Department of Health ordered nursing homes to accept "patients who have had the COVID-19 virus."  
 Over 12,000 residents of nursing homes died of the virus.  
 But Biden chose Dr. Rick (Rachel) Levine, who [took his own mother](https://www.frontpagemag.com/point/2020/05/pa-gov-wolf-backs-health-sec-who-took-mother-out-daniel-greenfield/) out of a nursing home, while forcing homes to accept infected patients, as his very own Assistant Health Secretary.  
 That’s another reason why the Democrats want to pivot away from nursing home deaths.  
 The Democrats and their media want to swap out Cuomo, in what they think is a safe seat, with someone more radical who can go all the way with their agenda. While they were willing to allow a little venting over nursing home deaths, they want to change the conversation to #MeToo.  
 And since Dr. Rick probably didn’t smooch Lindsey, it is a safer scandal for the Democrats.  
 But thousands of dead nursing home residents deserve better than to be pumped and dumped in a lefty scheme to replace Cuomo with a Bernie Sanders crony. Governor Cuomo deserves to go down for a whole lot more than an unwanted kiss. And he shouldn’t go down alone.  
 Cuomo’s decision to force nursing homes to accept coronavirus patients was not the isolated action of one politician, but a pattern of behavior by Democrat governors in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and California, who focused on clearing hospitals at all costs, while showing no regard for the most vulnerable people in their states. The governors who issued these orders tended to have ties to the hospital lobby which also led to slower vaccine rollouts.  
 35,000 to 40,000 nursing home deaths in these four states is not a “scandal”: it’s a crime.  
 And not just any crime, but the single worst crime by any American elected official.  
 When 9 people died in Flint, not only did we spend years hearing about the water crisis, but former Governor Rick Snyder, and the former head of Health and Human Services were recently indicted on charges of involuntary manslaughter.  
 Is there any conceivable reason why Cuomo, Whitmer, Newsom, Murphy, and Wolf shouldn’t be facing involuntary manslaughter charges? Apart from Snyder’s party identification and theirs?  
 How can thousands of entirely foreseeable deaths not result in manslaughter charges?  
 In their eagerness to replace Cuomo, Democrats have opened a political pandora’s box. It’s time for the conservative movement to start listening to the local Republicans in California, Michigan, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania who have pursued investigations of their respective governors, and stop repeating lefty media narratives that won’t put Cuomo behind bars.  
 Cuomo, Whitmer, Murphy, Newsom, and Wolf should have been charged by the DOJ last year. Since Biden and Garland will never let that happen, that can be the next stage of the fight.  
 Tens of thousands of grandfathers and grandmothers are dead. The Democrats killed them. The Biden administration is covering it up and protecting the perpetrators from facing justice.  
 Including its own Assistant Health Secretary.

*D*[*aniel 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/)*.*

*Click*[*here to subscribe*](http://sultanknish.blogspot.com/2005/03/blogging-hara.html)*to my articles.* <http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2021/03/if-cuomo-goes-down-so-should-whitmer.html>

**Welcome to a Communist America***By* [*Cliff Kincaid*](https://newswithviews.com/author/cliff/)*|March 11th, 2021* The centralization of the means of communications in the hands of the state, a key plank of the Communist Manifesto, is already being implemented in the United States under the one-party state now in power. Many conservatives are being censored under this regime, but I thought you might want to know how it works in practice, from someone whose [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCukW9fbX4m5MpOmQ2M5isVg) has been censored twice. What do they fear? What are they trying to hide? My case provides some interesting answers.  
 The video that was censored included an extended discussion of Attorney General Merrick Garland’s involvement in a court case brought by the Obama Administration to drop terrorism charges against a communist by the name of [Elizabeth Anna Duke](https://www.fbi.gov/wanted/dt/elizabeth-anna-duke). She was a member of a Weather Underground spin-off that specialized in terrorism and fake IDs.  
 In a practical example of how censorship has real-life consequences, only 30 Senate Republicans voted [against](https://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.cfm?congress=117&session=1&vote=00114) Garland’s confirmation. Most “conservative” media wouldn’t even touch the issue. Too many “conservative” sites have become sensational click-bait outlets that offer no original investigative reporting. I had the Duke story based on interviews with such key figures as legal analyst [Montgomery Blair Sibley](http://www.usasurvival.org/uploads/1/2/6/3/126369300/garlandjcletter1.pdf) and [Paul Kamenar](https://nlpc.org/2021/02/22/merrick-garland-capitol-bomber/) of the National Legal and Policy Center.  
 My [ASI TV programs](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCukW9fbX4m5MpOmQ2M5isVg) have consistently addressed issues of public importance. But if you address corruption in government that permits communist terrorists to escape justice, that’s not permitted under YouTube’s “guidelines.”  
 The collapse of a free media, together with the failure of the Republicans to function as a true opposition party, means that the slide into socialism will continue. With passage of a $1.9 trillion bailout bill, with very little China virus aid, we are also on the road to higher inflation and national bankruptcy. Republicans will continue to clamor for donations, saying if we only give them another chance (through the same questionable election process that stole the presidency from Donald J. Trump), they will somehow take back the Senate and the House in 2022.  
 Who are they kidding?  
 Meanwhile, in another sign of business as usual with the murderous Communist Chinese regime, which unleased the China virus on the world, Biden Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken and National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan will meet on March 18 in Anchorage, Alaska with People’s Republic of China (PRC) Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs Yang Jiechi and State Councilor Wang Yi. We are told that Blinken and Sullivan “will discuss a range of issues with the PRC.”  
 Sullivan was appointed and his post does not require Senate confirmation. But Blinken was confirmed. Only 22 senate Republicans voted against him, despite lingering questions about his [receipt](http://www.usasurvival.org/blog/clear-connection-between-tony-blinken-biden-center-and-chinese-cash) of Chinese money when he ran the Biden Center at the University of Pennsylvania.  
 I wish I had some good news to report. But China is in charge, well on its way to world domination. We have to prepare accordingly.  
 The historical context is important here. As the communists see it, America is in the process of transitioning from capitalism to socialism. What has changed over time is that China has become the leader of the world communist movement, replacing the Soviet Union/Russia. Eventually, according to the Marxist theory of history, America will become a communist state and then be integrated into the China-dominated New World Order.  
 I see nothing on the horizon to stop this ultimate goal.  
 Along the way, we may be able to score some victories, such as stopping Senate passage of the U.N.’s Law of the Sea Treaty. These battles are worth fighting. The Democrats still don’t have 67 votes in the Senate.  
 But Big Tech monopolies will continue playing their role by serving the state, the Biden regime, by censoring any content which casts doubt on the legitimacy of that regime. That’s how I violated YouTube’s community guidelines. My interview with well-known conservative author Jack Cashill was not exclusively about the fraudulent nature of the 2020 election. But we did have a lengthy discussion of how Barack Hussein Obama was elected using a stolen Social Security number. That led to analyzing why Merrick Garland rubber-stamped the dropping of those terrorism charges against a terrorist whose associates may have been involved in providing that fake ID.  
 YouTube doesn’t permit you to challenge the legitimacy of the current one-party state, or raise legitimate questions about Obama’s background and history.  
 Ironically, Elizabeth Anna Duke was charged with, among other things, bombing the Capitol in 1983. Garland found no problem with a magistrate who arbitrarily dropped the charges against her, at the request of Obama’s Justice Department.  
 Under the Biden/Harris regime, apprehending communist terrorists is not a priority, in the same way there’s no indication that this government wants to do anything to challenge the advance of the Communist Chinese.  
 This is a process of slow-motion treachery, carefully concealed from the American people by Big Tech and Big Media censorship.  
 After I recorded the video and put it on my USA Survival channel, YouTube decided several days later that I had somehow violated its policy against questioning the election of Biden/Harris. I was guilty of violating their “spam, deceptive practices, and scams policy.” This was a “strike” against my channel, in the words of the masters of the YouTube “community.” For a week, I will not be able to post any videos. The “strike” remains for three months. They threatened to take me down entirely if I continued running afoul of their guidelines.  
 To be specific, I was found guilty, without due process, of advancing “false claims” about “widespread fraud, errors, or glitches” in the election that would have changed the outcome. Of course, these are not false claims, and they were not even a major part of the video. Most of our time was devoted to how whether Obama was possibly assisted in using a stolen Social Security number by members of the Weather Underground.  
 In a sense, I guess we should be grateful that YouTube singled me out. This allows us to understand the vulnerabilities of the regime. This is why one branch of the one-party government is so concerned about its own legitimacy that it has erected a border wall, consisting of fencing and razor wire, around the Capitol.  
 My channel is still functioning, except for the two videos that have been terminated. The first had to do with a guest who advocated that President Trump invoke the insurrection act to remain in power and defeat the actual insurrection, the Red Chinese-inspired effort to defeat Trump through election fraud and the China virus.  
 As you undoubtedly know, some YouTube channels have been completely taken down. Fearing this is their ultimate objective, I now have to scramble to find the resources necessary to transfer my videos to another platform where freedom of speech will be protected. This is not an easy task. If I am able to accomplish this, I will lose over nine thousand subscribers to my channel through YouTube. I will have to start all over again from scratch. I can only do so through public support.  
 Now is the time for conservative businessmen to commit their resources to supporting conservative media like my own. Now is the time for [small donors](http://www.usasurvival.org/give.html) to fund those organizations willing to tell the truth about our fate. <https://newswithviews.com/welcome-to-a-communist-america/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**New York Speaker authorizes Cuomo impeachment investigation**

***New York State Assembly Speaker authorizes Assembly Judiciary Committee to begin impeachment investigation into New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 12 , 2021 3:08 AM*

**New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie on Thursday authorized the Assembly Judiciary Committee to begin an impeachment investigation into New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, The Hill rep**orted. **This decision came after Heastie, a Democrat, met privately with members to discuss “potential paths forwa**rd,” the Speaker wrote in a statement.

[Six women have come forward](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298337) with accusations of inappropriate conduct against the governor, and calls for him to resign have begun to escalate.

Hours after the meeting, Heastie released a statement announcing the decision. State Rep. Charles Lavine, the chair of the state’s Judiciary Committee, will lead the investigation.

**“After meeting with the Assembly Majority Conference today, I am authorizing the Assembly Judiciary Committee to begin an impeachment investigatio**n, led by Chair Charles D. Lavine, to examine allegations of misconduct against Governor Cuomo,” Heastie wrote in a statement quoted by *The Hill*.

Heastie also called the accusations against the governor “serious.”

The committee will have the jurisdiction to interview witnesses, subpoena documents and evaluate documents, Heastie noted in the statement. These powers, he wrote, are allowed by the New York State Constitution.

On Thursday, hours before Heastie authorized the impeachment inquiry, more than 55 New York State legislators signed onto a letter calling on Cuomo to resign.

**Also on Thursday, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said Cuomo can "no longer serve as governor**" in light of the accusations, and called the latest allegation against the governor "deeply troubling."

Cuomo has apologized for his actions, recognizing that some of his interactions “may have been insensitive or too personal.” On Monday, [he stressed](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/297909) there was "no way" he would resign. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298361>

**Pfizer execs thank Israel for data**

***Heads of major vaccine producers say they expect Israeli data to help the rest of the world beat COVID-19.***

*Shlomo Witty , Mar 11 , 2021 9:38 PM*

**Albert Bourla, CEO of Pfizer revealed tonight (Thursday) why Israel was the first to receive a significant inventory of vaccines against COV**ID-19.

"**We knew it would be good for humanity if we chose one country where we could demonstrate what the complete vaccination of the population could contribute to the health of its people**, and also to the economy - because the economy could be reopened," Bourla said in an interview with *Channel 12*.

"Of course I talked to several heads of state, including Netanyahu, and he convinced me that Israel is a place with the right conditions for an experiment. I was impressed by your prime minister's obsession - he called me 30 times."

**Bourla responded to Prime Minister Netanyahu's claim that he is the only one who can purchase the vaccines from Pfizer: "As with all our contracts around the world, in Israel we did not sign a contract** with an independent company or organization. We only sign contracts with government agencies. The vaccines will be sold to each country, irrespective of the head of state.” **[If you had any question as to the validity and truth that the people of Israel were made into guinea pigs this definitely cinches it. – RDB]**

The CEO of Pfizer estimated that young teenagers will be able to be vaccinated in the fall, and it will be possible to vaccinate primary school children by the end of 2021.

**Data collected following the vaccination campaign in Israel, which is considered the fastest and most successful in the world, shows that Pfizer and BioNTech's vaccine is even more effective than previously thought, and its effectiveness in preventing serious illness or disease with symptoms is 97 percen**t.

A statement issued by Pfizer and BioNTech said that the data collected from the vaccination campaign in Israel is critical to the global vaccination campaign, and gives hope to many countries that they will be able to leave the crisis behind soon.

"These real-time data can be of great importance to countries around the world, as they promote their own immunization campaigns a year after the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic," Pfizer and BioNTech said in a statement.

The data were collected in Israel between January 17 and March 6 and prove that Pfizer's vaccine is 97 percent effective in preventing asymptomatic disease. These are better data than were found in previous studies conducted with the start of the global vaccination campaign in December. **[are they reporting how many deaths and untoward reactions occurred. Certainly not to the public because there have been a number. – rdb]**

Luis Judar, senior vice president and chief medical officer at Pfizer, said: “The real-time efficacy data coming from Israel confirms the high efficacy demonstrated in our third-stage clinical trial, showing the significant impact of the vaccine in preventing serious illness and death. Overall, these data are critical to understanding the role of the vaccine in fighting the epidemic, and give hope to other countries dealing with this devastating disease that has plagued the world for more than a year."

BioNTech founder Ogor Shahin said that "real-time data reported from Israel proves that our vaccine is particularly effective in fighting the coronavirus. Our vaccine has been effective in preventing coronary heart disease as well as deeply reducing the rate of seriously symptomatic patients.” <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298344> **[Always remember that statistics don’t lie but statisticians do. – rdb]**

**Israel leads 'Noble Dina' naval exercises with France, Greece, Cyprus**

***Israeli missile cruiser and submarine lead 'Noble Dina' naval exercise west of Cyprus in the Mediterranean.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 12 , 2021 12:29 PM*

**This week, the international naval exercise "Noble Dina" took place, led by the Israeli Navy. The exercise included cooperation with three foreign navies: Greece, and for the first time, France and Cyprus, all of which took an active part in the exercise deploying vessels and helicopt**ers. During the joint exercise, which took place in the Mediterranean Sea West of Cyprus, **Israeli Navy vessels simulated different scenarios alongside the foreign fleets. Anti-submarine procedures, search and rescue scenarios**, and a scenario simulating battle between ships were practiced, among others.  
 During the exercise, the Israeli Navy utilized a submarine, as well as a Sa'ar 4.5 Class Missile Boat housing anti-submarine systems. During the exercise, the forces implemented a combination of long-range and aerial means of cooperation.

The purpose of the yearly "Noble Dina" exercise, is to strengthen the cooperation between the navies involved and to enrich their repository of operational knowledge. The exercise achieved these goals, as well as strengthening the common language between the participants.  
The exercise was completed on Thursday and was pre-planned as part of the training program for 2021. **MORE -**<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298385>

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**03/11/2021 NEWS AM – Don’t miss Shorashim Insights – link –**

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**חנן בן ארי - אמא אם הייתי | Hanan Ben Ari - Mother**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-RSe8aOuZMQ**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-RSe8aOuZMQ)

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| **He plays with a heart reminiscent of things from there**  **There in front of the same sea // When the sands were my home**  **And the spirits whispered to me that I was not alone**  **And you held my hand // You said: "Look at the sky" //**  **Promising that a day will come and we will return here ...**    **Mom, if I could just // cure the longing**  **The memories still burn the mind // Love has not won nor has the spirit**  **Mom if I could just // believe you and not run away**  **The heart is betrayed it does not let me trust // only the melody still gives the power**    **And again the same tune // every year in the summer**  **In greenhouses orange flowers grow like then**  **The children also flourished slowly // Almost everyone set up a home**  **Only the names of the streets remember what was hidden** | **Remember we sang in front of the shrine // If I Forget You Jerusalem //**  **We shouted a day will come and we will return here ...**    **Chorus: Mom, if I could just // cure the longing ...**    **We'll be back there, we'll be back there, we'll be back mom, we'll be back ...**    **Mom, if I could just // cure the longing**  **The memories still burn the mind // Love did not go out nor did the spirit**  **Mom if I could just // believe you and not run away**  **The heart beats, the heart wants to rejoice again // and the melody still gives the power** |

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| **"The tyranny of the many would be when one body takes over the rights of others, and then exercises its power to change the laws in its favor." -- Voltaire [François Marie Arouet] (1694-1778) French Enlightenment writer, historian, and philosopher** |

**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 TR – abnormal Mammogram having double biopsy – Positive for cancer**  **Pray for ZH - having trouble with PTSD**  **Pray for LAC – recurrent cancer getting treatment**  **Pray for Ella – emotionally disturbed abused child and brother with ? heart problem**  **Pray for JN – Neuro disease**  **Pray for MS – Job issues and change**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Felicia – post op problems – continuing**  **Pray for SH and family – lady’s husband passed away and she is in Nursing home. Not doing well.**  **Pray for MP – Very complex problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 21:14And Abraham riseth early in the morning, and taketh bread, and a bottle of water, and giveth unto Hagar (placing *it* on her shoulder), also the lad, and sendeth her out; and she goeth on, and goeth astray in the wilderness of Beer-Sheba; 15and the water is consumed from the bottle, and she placeth the lad under one of the shrubs. 16And she goeth and sitteth by herself over-against, afar off, about a bow-shot, for she said, `Let me not look on the death of the lad;' and she sitteth over-against, and lifteth up her voice, and weepeth.**

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| **OUTCRY TO THE WORLD, FROM ISRAEL!!!**  [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMsn0bj\_P6o**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMsn0bj_P6o) |

**Netanyahu may meet Saudi crown prince during UAE visit: report**

***Israeli public broadcaster says ‘advanced contacts’ underway to arrange sit-down in Abu Dhabi, after the two reportedly met in November***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 8:15 pmUpdated at 8:54 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/pjimage-2-e1615397535372.jpg)

Left: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at a ceremony in Tel Aviv, Israel, Monday, March 8, 2021 (Miriam Alster/Pool via AP); Right: Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman attends a virtual G-20 summit held over video conferencing, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Sunday, Nov. 22, 2020 (Bandar Aljaloud/Saudi Royal Palace via AP)

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu could meet with Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman during his planned visit to the United Arab Emirates on Thursday, Israeli television reported Wednesday.

The Kan public broadcaster said there were “advanced contacts” on setting up the sit-down as part of Netanyahu’s [expected meeting](https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-expected-to-travel-to-uae-on-thursday-for-1st-official-visit/) Thursday with Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The report, which did not cite a source, didn’t provide further details.

Separately, Channel 13 news reported Netanyahu may meet with his Sudanese counterpart Abdalla Hamdok while in the UAE. The report said Israel is in talks to make the meeting happen, but didn’t give further details.

Netanyahu met last year in Uganda with Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan, the head of Sudan’s ruling sovereign council.



Sudan’s Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok at a press conference in Khartoum, Sudan, August 21, 2019. (AP Photo, File)

The premier will only be at the airport in Abu Dhabi and Thursday’s trip isn’t expected to last more than a few hours, according to Channel 12 news. The network also reported that Defense Minister Benny Gantz was set to meet with the Abu Dhabi crown prince at the UAE arms fair last month before the Israeli delegation’s appearance [was canceled over safety concerns.](http://timesofisrael.com/israel-stayed-away-from-uae-arms-fair-for-fear-iran-would-target-its-delegates/)

Netanyahu flew to Saudi Arabia in November to meet with bin Salman, the first publicly reported meeting between the two. Israel and Saudi Arabia do not have diplomatic relations, but clandestine ties have strengthened in recent years, as the two countries have confronted a shared threat in Iran.

The meeting in November fueled frenzied speculation in Israel that a normalization deal might be close, following the US-brokered pacts Israel reached with the UAE, Bahrain and Sudan. In December, Morocco agreed to re-establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

In the wake of those agreements, Trump officials said a deal with Saudi Arabia is “inevitable,” though Saudi officials have said a peace deal between Israel and the Palestinians must precede recognition of the Jewish state.

Officials said last week the US wants to broker a peace deal between Israel and Saudi Arabia, but only if Riyadh improves its human rights record. The remarks followed the release of a US intelligence report accusing the Saudi crown prince of green-lighting the murder of Saudi journalist and royal critic Jamal Khashoggi, as part of US President Joe Biden’s desire to “recalibrate” ties with Saudi Arabia.

Last month, Hebrew media reported that senior Israeli and Saudi officials recently held several phone calls to discuss the Biden administration’s plans to rejoin the Iran nuclear deal.

During the conversations, the Saudis expressed concern over the new US administration and lamented its focus on human rights violations in the kingdom.

According to a report last month, Israel was planning to lobby the Biden administration not to pressure regional allies Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates on matters related to human rights, fearing that doing so could imperil the Jewish state’s improved ties with some Arab countries and strengthen Iran.

***Possible quarantine-free travel between Israel, UAE***

Kan also reported Wednesday that Israel and the UAE have begun talks to allow entry to vaccinated travelers from the respective countries without quarantine.

The goal is to waive the quarantine requirement for those vaccinated in April, according to the report.

Currently, only Georgia recognizes Israel’s “Green Pass.” The US does not recognize it and Israelis who travel there must provide a negative virus test and spend time in quarantine.

 Agreements over the past month with Greece and Cyprus that would allow “Green Pass” holders to travel between the countries without quarantine or taking virus tests have so far not been formally implemented.

Medical technicians test passengers for COVID-19 at the Ben Gurion International Airport near Tel Aviv on March 8, 2021 (Avshalom Sassoni/Flash90)

Diplomatic sources told the Ynet news site this week that the European Union, of which both Greece and Cyprus are members, strongly objects to any of its members individually signing agreements on travel for the vaccinated.

Germany in particular is against the idea, according to the report, because it sees the “vaccine passport” system as a form of discrimination against those who do not want to be vaccinated, as well as out of a desire to help boost internal tourism within the European bloc.

On Monday, a senior World Health Organization official said so-called “vaccine passports” for COVID-19 should not be used for international travel at this time because of numerous concerns, including ethical considerations that coronavirus vaccines are not easily available globally. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-may-meet-saudi-crown-prince-during-uae-visit/>

**Israel's national lottery to fire staff not vaccinated against virus**

***Mifal HaPais chairman says he has no problems facing consequences of implementing such a harsh measure, adding unvaccinated employees will first be put on unpaid leave and later terminated; legal experts say the move may be rejected by courts***

*Gad Lior | Published: 03.10.21 , 15:29*

Israel's national lottery announced on Wednesday that it would terminate employees who refuse to be vaccinated for COVID-19. It is the first employer to announce such a decision.

The chairman of Mifal HaPayis, a government owned public sector company, informed his staff on Tuesday of the move. "Health is paramount," Avigdor Yitzhaki apparently told the staff.



***A Mifal HaPayis kiosk (Photo: Assaf Kamar)***

Yitzhaki, who had served as director general of the Prime Minister's Office under Ariel Sharon in the early 2,000s, told Ynet in an interview that his 300 employees come in direct contact with the general public and it is therefore unsafe to employ unvaccinated staff.

"There is no question in my mind," he said. "All of our employees, without exception will have been administered two doses of the vaccine," he said, adding that most understand the seriousness of the decision and are willing to receive the jabs.

"As the authority responsible for my people's health, I cannot allow anyone who is not vaccinated to enter the company's premises. I certainly do not intent to award anyone by permitting those who have not received the shots to work from home," he said. [This is becoming increasingly more common. – rdb]



***Avigdor Yitzhaki (Photo: Kfir Sivan )***

Yitzhaki said employees will first be put on unpaid leave and later terminated. "It is everyone's personal right to refuse the vaccines and to risk illness but there can be no right to put the health of others at risk. That would be terrible," he said.

"I've warned my employees this decision was coming," he said. "My announcement was received with applause and only a small number of staff members persist in their resistance to receive the vaccines."

Other employers took a less conclusive approach, insisting on daily or twice-weekly coronavirus tests for unvaccinated staff before they could enter their places of work, but Yitzhaki insists that would not be enough.

 Shufrasal, Israel's largest food retailer, informed its employees in a letter last week that it would demand those who have not received the coronavirus vaccine to submit to regular coronavirus tests or be terminated. [Insanity is absolutely rampant. The tests are essentially useless. – rdb]

Customers attempt to maintain social distancing while shopping at a Shufrasal store in Sderot (Photo: Roee Idan)

The company wrote that as of April 4, 2021 only employees who can show they had received the vaccine, had recovered from the virus or had tested negative for COVID at least 72 hours prior, would be allowed to work. The company added that testing must be done outside working hours.

"The decision was taken because company employees come in constant contact with the public. We can offer staff the option of unpaid leave if they refuse all other options but the alternative would be the beginning of a termination process," the letter said.

Some customers supported the move but others said they would boycott the company’s stores in protest because of what they see as a violation of human rights.

Other retailers also considered taking the same measures, though most refrained from expressing an intent to fire staff.

Matan Gutman, Ynet legal analyst, said there was no legal recourse that enables employers to terminate staff who refuse to get inoculated against COVID.

"There is a ruling by the High Labor Court that prevents employers even from compelling figure printed identification, let alone demanding that they agree to have a vaccine administered," he said. "That is the law of the land which can be changed by the legislator." <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/Hk00dI4IQu>

**Poll forecasts deadlock after election, with blocs split 60-60**

***TV survey indicates neither side will have clear path to majority if Yamina backs Netanyahu; 4 parties near electoral threshold***

*By* [*Alexander Fulbright*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/alexander-fulbright/) *Today, 10:35 pm*

A television poll released Wednesday suggested the March 23 elections could end in further political deadlock, with neither Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu nor his rivals having a clear path to forming a government.

The Channel 12 news survey also had four parties hovering around the minimum electoral threshold. The failure by any of those parties to enter the Knesset could give the pro or anti-Netanyahu bloc a slight majority.

Netanyahu’s Likud was forecast to be the largest party with 28 seats, down from 36 in the outgoing Knesset. A poll released by the network last week gave Likud 29 seats.

Opposition Leader Yair Lapid’s centrist Yesh Atid party picked up 19 seats in the poll, down one from last week’s survey.

The poll said MK Naftali Bennett’s right-wing Yamina party would receive 13 seats if the elections were held today, leapfrogging former Likud minister Gideon Sa’ar’s New Hope with 11 seats.

New Hope polled as high as 21 seats after Sa’ar announced in December he was leaving Likud to challenge Netanyahu, but has steadily shed support. A Channel 13 news poll released Tuesday had New Hope [falling under 10 seats](https://www.timesofisrael.com/likud-yesh-atid-see-boost-in-latest-poll-new-hope-falls-to-under-10-seats/).

The Joint List, an alliance of three majority Arab factions, got nine seats in the survey, followed by the ultra-Orthodox Shas party with eight. Fellow Haredi party United Torah Judaism and the right-wing secularist Yisrael Beytenu picked up seven seats apiece, while the center-left Labor got six.

Inching past the electoral threshold with four seats each were Defense Minister Benny Gantz’s Blue and White, the left-wing Meretz and far-right Religious Zionism.

Meretz was predicted to fall short of the 3.25 percent share of the total vote needed to enter the Knesset in several recent surveys, including the Channel 12 poll last week.

The Islamist Ra’am party, which broke off from the Joint List, came just short of the threshold with 3.1% in the poll.

**…**

Together, parties opposed to Netanyahu had 60 seats, one short of a majority in the 120 seat Knesset. The poll gave Netanyahu’s right-wing religious bloc 47 seats, which would grow to 60 if Yamina were to join.

Asked who was best suited to be prime minister, 35% of survey respondents said Netanyahu, 20% Lapid, 12% Sa’ar and 10% Bennett. Fifteen percent said they have no preference between the four and 8% didn’t know.

The poll also asked supporters of Netanyahu’s bloc if they welcomed a government propped up by Ra’am, which has indicated it may back a Netanyahu-led coalition if it enters the Knesset. Fifty-five percent of these voters said no, while 28% said yes.

But 49% of respondents who back a party in the anti-Netanyahu bloc said they were okay with relying on the Joint List if its support was needed to form a government, while 43% opposed doing so.

In a Tuesday interview, Gantz appeared to rule out sitting in a coalition with the Joint List’s anti-Zionist Balad faction. Yesh Atid MK Miki Levy said that while he is uncomfortable with Balad, other Joint List factions could be part of the government, while Netanyahu ruled out Ra’am and the Joint List during an interview Tuesday with Army Radio.

The Channel 12 poll was conducted by pollster Mano Geva and had 509 respondents, with a 4.4% margin of error.

While horse-race polls are an almost daily occurrence in Israel in the weeks leading up to elections and are not seen as overly reliable, taken together the surveys can often serve as a general gauge of the political climate and where the vote may be headed.

Previous surveys have generally predicted political deadlock after the election, with no party having a clear path to assembling a majority coalition.

The upcoming elections — the fourth in two years — were called after the power-sharing government of Likud and Blue and White failed to agree on a budget by a December 23 deadline.

The election, like the previous three votes, is largely seen as a referendum on Netanyahu’s rule amid his ongoing trial on corruption charges, as well as his government’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/poll-forecasts-deadlock-after-election-with-blocs-split-60-60/> [This is the fourth election in 2 years and if they are not able to get a government formed it will truly be a historic event. The division and divisiveness in Israel is as strong as it is in the US. One more sign of the total insanity in the world and the coming messianic age. – rdb]

**1st ballot cast in Israeli election from New Zealand as diplomats vote early**

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/New-Zealand-vote-e1615410615978.jpg)***Ambassador Ran Yaakoby kicks off March 2021 elections in Wellington; ballots boxes to be set up in four new diplomatic outposts: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Rabat and Manama***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 11:12 pm*

Screen capture from video of Ran Yaakoby, Israel's ambassador to New Zealand casting his ballot as early voting opened for diplomats in the coming elections, March 10, 2021. (Twitter)

Early voting for Israeli diplomats and staff at the country’s embassies abroad began on Wednesday evening, with the envoy to New Zealand casting the first vote of the March 23 elections

Ambassador Ran Yaakoby voted at a booth set up for diplomatic staff at the embassy in Wellington, which opened at 10 p.m. Israel time.

Following New Zealand, 103 other ballot stations will be opened at around 100 embassies and missions abroad, with the final votes taking place in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The ballot boxes at the embassies will remain open for two days, the Central Elections Committee announced on Tuesday.

Votes in an Israeli election will be cast for the first time at four new diplomatic outposts: Morocco, Bahrain, and Abu Dhabi and Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

Israel established diplomatic relations with the UAE, Morocco and Bahrain, as well as with Sudan [and Bhutan](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-inks-deal-establishing-diplomatic-relations-with-bhutan/), since the last national election in March 2020.



***Israeli workers hang large election campaign posters of the Likud party, as part of the Likud election campaign, in Jerusalem on March 10, 2021 (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)***

According to Israeli law, private citizens living abroad cannot vote unless they come to Israel, but exceptions are made for diplomats and their families. Some 4,000 Israelis will be allowed to vote at the diplomatic offices worldwide.

The law against absentee voting caused controversy in recent weeks after Israel halted flights and barred international travelers due to the pandemic, stranding thousands of citizens abroad ahead of the election. The airport has since been opened. [We in the US are quite aware of the problems inherent in absentee balloting! – rdb]

The upcoming election is Israel’s second to take place under the shadow of the pandemic. The previous election, in March 2020, was held shortly after the coronavirus first reached the country, with several special polling stations serving the relatively few people who had then been suspected or confirmed to have contracted the virus or come in contact with confirmed carriers.

Israel will fund special shuttles to polling stations for active COVID-19 patients during the upcoming vote, a top official said Monday, alongside further adaptations forced by the pandemic that will turn the election into the most expensive in the country’s history.

Central Elections Committee director Orly Adas also told reporters that dozens of buses will be converted into ballot stations for people in quarantine and to lower crowding in certain polling stations.

The committee is weighing placing voting stations at Ben Gurion Airport so that arrivals to the country will be able to vote there before they enter home quarantine.

There are currently close to 37,000 active COVID-19 cases in the country, and tens of thousands of people are in quarantine.

The parliament’s Economic Affairs Committee approved the CEC’s budget, totaling NIS 674 million ($202 million), including NIS 237 million ($71 million) for facing the challenges posed by the coronavirus crisis.

There will be some 15,000 voting stations throughout the country, more than the normal 11,000, Adas said, in hopes of limiting potential infections at crowded stations.

But Adas noted that there was still a shortage of thousands of employees for ballot stations serving COVID-19 patients and those in quarantine. She called on volunteers in first aid organizations, health care workers and medical students to fill that gap.

Adas added that the CEC was still devising a plan for how to count the ballots and verify the results, with the number of absentee ballots expected to be double the normal.

The week-long Passover festival also poses a challenge, starting three days after the election. Adas said the goal is to complete the tally within two days.

The election is Israel’s fourth in under two years, amid an unprecedented political crisis that failed to produce a government after the first two votes in 2019 and yielded a short-lived unity government after the third. The vote is largely regarded as a referendum on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s leadership, including his handling of the coronavirus crisis and his trial on corruption charges. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/1st-ballot-cast-in-israeli-election-from-new-zealand-as-diplomats-vote-early/>

**Fight to the end: How parties plan on driving (literally) turnout at the polls**

***From voter tracking apps to phone banks, stump tours and free rides, parties are planning a variety of tactics to push their supporters to the ballot boxes on March 23***

*By* [*Tal Schneider*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/tal-schneider/) *Today, 3:20 pm*

In the run-up to the March 2020 Knesset election, one major question was what voter turnout would look like. Israel had never had a political stalemate that led to two consecutive elections, let alone three, and many feared that voter apathy and disapproval of the gridlock would keep people at home.

In the end, over 71.5 percent of eligible voters cast ballots, one of the highest turnouts in decades, topping the 68.46% that showed up in April 2019 and 69.83% that voted less than six months later.

One thing that may have helped turnout was the coronavirus. While most restrictions on travel were not yet in place, by March 2, the Health Ministry was already urging Israelis to not go abroad, El Al was laying off employees and Israelis who had been in China, Italy and some other destinations were being forced into a 14-day quarantine, with expectations that the roster of destinations would only expand. Many who had travel plans would up canceling them and staying home — and voting.

With a fresh round of elections looming, voter turnout is once again a major concern, and the uncertainty of the coronavirus crisis has hindered any cogent analysis of how voters will act on March 23. Will people coming out of a year that saw three grueling lockdowns, the decimation of the economy and a virtual freeze on social and family life shy away from the ballot box? Will Israelis who normally take advantage of the vacation day by jetting off, but are now stuck at home, go to the polls instead? [How about the utter frustration of the Israeli population at a group of politicians that can’t even form a reasonable government? Elections in Israel are supposed to be for four years, not every six months. – rdb]



A worker of the Central Election Committee wearing protective gear during a demonstration of special polling station ahead of the upcoming elections, at the central elections committee logistics center near Shoham on February 23, 2021. (Flash90)

Add into the mix the popularity of the Elector app, which allows parties to track turnout in real time, showing data on individual voters polling station by polling station. The app, and others like it, are key for parties looking to send out text-message blasts, which have become standard in most campaigns.

The Justice Ministry has ruled that in the last election, Likud and Yisrael Beytenu compromised voter privacy with the app, which had a flaw that gave easy administrator access to the entire database, allowing anybody to see and copy voter information.

Nonetheless, Likud, Yamina and Religious Zionism will be using the app to direct resources aimed at getting their bases to the voting booths. Other parties will be looking to utilize street operations and experience garnered over the previous three elections to drive turnout.

 Presented is a look at what all major parties are doing to get voters to the polls, from phone banks to giving potential supporters a lift.

***Likud: Punking pollsters***

Several attempts to find out from the campaign’s press team what Likud is planning in order to get out the vote yielded only a “We do not comment on the Likud’s campaign or our plans at all.”

Large campaign posters of the head of the head of the Likud party Benjamin Netanyahu being printed at a press in Rosh Haayin on March 9, 2021. (Yossi Zeliger/Flash90)

Nonetheless, several of the right-wing party’s Knesset members and ministers have spoken to the media about their roles in the campaign, most of them tailored to ethnicities. MK Gadi Yevarkan, for instance, is leading the effort to reach out to the Ethiopian communities; Deputy Minister Fateen Mulla leads the Druze desk; Nail Zoabi is heading the Muslim voter drive. Others are assigned to specific geographic areas.

Likud has an impressive system of hundreds of WhatsApp groups of party supporters, which it uses to push talking points and other information. There have been unverified claims that party officials ask members of some groups to provide misleading answers to pollsters, in order to inflate opponents’ polling numbers and give them a false sense of confidence in their ability to replace Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Since lockdown restrictions were eased, Netanyahu has begun meeting supporters face to face, with gatherings of up to 300 people. He is planning to travel the country and make three to four campaign stops a day as the election nears.

***Yesh Atid: Hitting the streets***

Less than a decade after being formed by former journalist Yair Lapid, center-left Yesh Atid boasts an extensive ground operation. Polling as the second-largest party behind Likud, Yesh Atid points to a vast field effort, which includes 200 local chapters manned by paid staff and volunteer activists.

The party has recently begun distributing, via volunteer couriers, a printed 178-page book with its party platform, the only party doing so.



Yesh Atid-Telem MK Yair Lapid at a protest self-employed Israelis calling for financial support from the government, outside the Knesset in Jerusalem, April 19, 2020. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

A party spokesperson insisted that Yesh Atid is not relying on an app to drive voter turnout or reach potential supporters, and only those who expressed interest in being involved have been entered into the party’s database.

“We are abiding by the law. That’s why we always kept our distance from [the Elector app],” the spokesperson said.

As in the past three elections, MK Miki Levy is heading the party’s effort to get voters to the polls. He has been meeting with branch heads and drivers, who will ferry voters to ballot boxes or blast campaign messages on mounted speakers.

In addition, geographic areas and local branches have been divvied up and assigned to individual MKs.

***New Hope: Uphill battle***

Top officials in the New Hope party admit to The Times of Israel that they face  a tough challenge in getting voters out. The right-wing party, led by Gideon Sa’ar and populated by fellow disgruntled former Likud members, is brand new, with no infrastructure for a ground operation or experience from the previous rounds of votes.

Their digital assets — email lists, phone numbers for text message blasts and a network of WhatsApp groups — have had only a few months to accumulate data, and what’s more, the effort recently ran into trouble. According to a recent report in The Marker, the Canvasser app used by the party to track supporters was breached and voters’ names and even credit card info was leaked. A party spokesperson denied any personal information had been stolen, but said the app had been taken offline for several days out of an abundance of caution.

 A senior official asked about the breach claimed they did not even know the app was being used until the story came out in The Marker.

New Hope party members tour Jerusalem’s Mamilla mall on March 8, 2021. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

The New Hope spokesperson claimed that the party also had a strong network of mayors and other local politicians in its corner, which would help make up for any deficit of ground or digital operations. In addition, Sa’ar himself has reams of experience in campaigning, having been Likud’s point man on PR and field operations in past elections.

***Yamina: No vote left behind***

Yamina still bears the scars of the first 2019 election, when it fell a mere 1,400 votes shy of entering the Knesset, and is operating under the idea that every vote is critical.

Party leader Naftali Bennett has worked to preempt having votes from his right-wing base snatched away by Likud at the last minute, including with a recent promise not to join a government headed by Lapid, whom Netanyahu has portrayed as a dyed-in-the-wool leftist.

Yamina is making use of Elector, and a spokesperson told ToI that the party is not worried about a data breach. “We work on the app in a safe manner. We have done tests and we take care to keep the data guarded.”



Yamina leader Naftali Bennett at a protest against the state’s intention to close the Hilla Project, outside the Knesset in Jerusalem on August 12, 2020. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

One of Yamina’s strengths is its access to activists and data from Jewish Home, which is not running in the election but has thrown its support behind Bennett. Jewish Home is a reincarnation of Mafdal, which used to be the main party of the national-religious camp and has a support network that includes influential municipal rabbis and yeshiva administrators, as well as some mayors and council members.

Abir Kara, a seasoned activist whose Shulmanim group briefly led protests pushing for more government support for businesses during the first coronavirus lockdown, has joined Yamina and is trying to bring the same energy to a get-out-the-vote drive. Kara has stopped appearing on TV and radio and instead reportedly drives around the country in a caravan of supporters meeting local business leaders with the hopes of winning their votes.

Religious Zionism, the other major right-wing party, declined to speak on the subject to The Times of Israel.

***Joint List: Fighting history and the right***

The Joint List of three majority-Arab parties has the most acute turnout challenge. Arab voting numbers are traditionally lower than among the general public, and recent history has shown splits within the camp also keep voters away. In April 2019, when the party was split into two rival factions, estimated Arab turnout dropped to 49.2%, down from 63.5% when the Joint List was one big alliance in 2015. In the March 2020 election, when the parties were once again united, Arab turnout hit a historical high of 64.8%.



Leader of the Joint list Ayman Odeh, left, and Ahmad Tibi present the Joint List’s campaign in Nof HaGalil on February 20, 2021. (Roni Ofer/Flash90)

This time though, the Ra’am party has left the fold, leading to fears of lower turnout for the Joint List, likely meaning fewer seats. Ra’am itself, which declined to speak about its voter turnout drive, is in serious danger of not getting the necessary votes to cross the 3.25% threshold to enter the Knesset.

The Joint List will not be using a voter tracking app to drive turnout, a party official said, but is instead using more traditional methods to pump up its base, such as in-person street events and phone calls to potential supporters, pushing talking points about the party’s commitment to oppose the right wing and fight for full equal rights for Arabs. MUCH MORE -<https://www.timesofisrael.com/fight-to-the-end-how-parties-plan-on-driving-literally-turnout-at-the-polls/> [It is ALL about election

**IDF detains 5 Palestinian children suspected of trespassing at West Bank outpost**

***Video shows soldiers hauling kids away to Kiryat Arba police station; minors said released after several hours, with two to be summoned for interrogations on Sunday***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 10:47 pm*

Israeli soldiers detained five Palestinian children from a West Bank town on Wednesday after settlers in an illegal outpost reported that they had entered the site.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/WhatsApp-Image-2021-03-10-at-4.18.43-PM.jpeg) The children, who were between the ages of 8 and 13, were reportedly held for three hours at the Kiryat Arba police station before being released. Two of the children, aged 12 and 13, have been summoned for additional questioning on Sunday, according to the childrens’ lawyer Gaby Lasky.

***An Israeli soldier detains a Palestinian child close to al-Rakiz in the south Hebron hills on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 (Credit: Nasr Nawajaa/B'Tselem)***

The other three children were detained before being released without further charges. According to Israeli law, children below the age of 12 cannot be held criminally liable for their actions, Lasky told The Times of Israel.

In a laconic statement, the Israeli military said “a number of suspects were identified who had penetrated the territory of a house in the south Hebron hills.”

“An army patrol in the area located the suspects and transferred them to Israel Police, who worked to find their parents and release them,” the Israel Defense Forces said in a statement.

חמשת הילדים (בני 8-12) שחיילים עצרו היום בדרום הר חברון – משוחררים כעת בתחנת המשטרה קרית ארבע.   
סיבת מעצרם? על פי הצבא הם נחשדו בכך שגנבו \*תוכים\*.   
בין אם היו תוכים או לא היו תוכים, הם מתחת לגיל אחריות פלילית. באיזה קטע הם בכלל מובלים כך לתחנת משטרה? [pic.twitter.com/0ZEGdtjx15](https://t.co/0ZEGdtjx15)

— Hagar Shezaf (@HShezaf) [March 10, 2021](https://twitter.com/HShezaf/status/1369697202227081221?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Police said the children were not placed under arrest and that officers spent hours looking for their parents, Haaretz reported. But the father of one of the children told Haaretz that he was not able to enter the station to see his son for hours.

Hillel Garmi, an Israeli activist who was present at the scene, told The Times of Israel he had seen the children picking edible wild plants close to the area of the Havat Maon outpost, without apparently breaking into the area.

“We watched a number of settlers descend the hill, they got closer to the kids, and the children fled towards al-Rakiz, which is nearby,” said Garmi, who watched the incident from a neighboring hilltop.

According to Garmi, the settlers set off in pursuit in a van. When the children saw them, they fled again, leaving behind buckets full of the edible plants they had gathered.

 Later that afternoon, a number of army jeeps entered al-Rakiz in search of the children.

An Israeli soldier detains a Palestinian child in al-Rakiz in the south Hebron hills on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 (Credit: Nasr Nawajaa/B’Tselem)

Video captured by the B’Tselem rights group showed the IDF soldiers forcefully hauling the children away and putting them in a military vehicle.

Some reports in the Israeli media said that the army suspected the children of stealing parrots from Havat Maon. The Israeli military did not respond to multiple requests for comment on the matter from The Times of Israel or mention parrots in its official response.

“They were walking and playing in the area, gathering wild plants. As for this whole parrot business, I’m hearing about it from the media and no one else,” said Lasky.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-detains-5-palestinian-children-suspected-of-trespassing-at-west-bank-outpost/>

**Aliyah minister cancels welcome ceremony for Ethiopian immigrants**

***Blue and White alleges Netanyahu, Regev sought to politicize the event.***

*By* [*JEREMY SHARON*](https://www.jpost.com/author/jeremy-sharon) *MARCH 10, 2021 18:57*

An ugly political spat erupted on Wednesday between Blue and White and the Likud over the scheduled welcoming ceremony for [300 Ethiopian immigrants](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/300-ethiopian-immigrants-the-first-to-make-aliyah-to-israel-in-2021-654086), and the event was canceled by Aliyah and Integration Minister Pnina Tamano-Shata.

According to sources in Tamano-Shata’s office, Transportation Minister Miri Regev demanded that the attorney-general bar Blue and White leader Benny Gantz from attending the ceremony, and Gantz announced that he would not participate.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu then decided that he would attend, the sources said, and this led Tamano-Shata to cancel the festive welcoming ceremony. [Sounds a bit like a bunch of 6 year-olds having a fight over who can and who can’t. It is actually disconcerting to see the dysfunction going on. – rdb]

Tamano-Shata’s office said subsequently that she and Jewish Agency Chairman Isaac Herzog would greet the immigrants on their arrival, but that there would be no speeches or a formal ceremony.

The Attorney-General’s Office said after Tamano-Shata’s announcement that it was still reviewing the issue and had not made a final decision.

“The attorney-general has not issued any instructions on this matter,” his office said, adding that a decision would be made “according to the legal criteria determined by law, with an emphasis on the ruling of the Central Elections Committee chairman.”

A spokesman for Regev did not respond to a request for comment.

Some 300 immigrants from the [Falash Mura](https://www.jpost.com/tags/falash-mura) community in Ethiopia are scheduled to arrive on Thursday, completing “Operation Rock of Israel” in which the government allowed 2,000 members of the community to immigrate.

Both the Likud and Blue and White are vying strongly for the community’s vote, a contest that appears to be the cause of Wednesday’s quarrel.

Earlier, Gantz had said that the arrival of the new immigrants should not be turned into a political “circus,” which he accused Netanyahu of doing by sending Regev.

He added that Blue and White would demand that the remainder of the Falash Mura community still in Ethiopia be brought to Israel in any coalition agreement it signs after the election.

On February 20 last year, just two weeks before the March election, Netanyahu met with Ethiopian religious leaders, families and activists and promised he would bring all remaining members of the community to Israel, while the Likud Party itself stated explicitly on February 14 that all members of the Falash Mura community, then some 7,500 people, would be brought to Israel by the end of 2020.

Activists for the Falash Mura community have strongly criticized Netanyahu, however, for failing to fulfill that promise, as several thousand community members are still waiting in Addis Ababa and Gondar to come to Israel. <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/netanyahu-turns-ethiopian-immigration-into-political-circus-gantz-says-661525>

**Aspirin may protect against COVID-19, Israeli research finds**

***People who take small doses are 29% less likely than others to test positive, researchers say; those who do get COVID recover faster, and with reduced aftereffects***

*By* [*Nathan Jeffay*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/nathan-jeffay/) *Today, 3:20 pm*

Aspirin, one of the oldest and most widely used drugs, is preventing COVID-19 infections, Israeli scientists have claimed in “exciting” findings.

In the peer-reviewed research, they found that in a sample of Israeli PCR tests, patients who take small doses of aspirin were 29 percent less likely to test positive. They cross-referenced 10,477 results with medical records covering what preventive drugs patients take.

“We were really excited to see a big reduction in the proportion of people testing positive, and this gives a promising indication that aspirin, such a well-known and inexpensive drug, may be helpful in fighting the pandemic,” Milana Frenkel-Morgenstern of Bar-Ilan University told The Times of Israel.

As well as concluding that people who take aspirin, which was developed more than 120 years ago, are less likely to be diagnosed with the virus, Frenkel-Morgenstern hit on another “important” finding: Aspirin users who are diagnosed with COVID-19 are likely to have a shorter illness — by about two days — and be less likely to suffer from aftereffects of the coronavirus, she reported.

“This finding with regard to ‘long COVID,’ a phenomenon that is a real concern, is very important,” said Frenkel-Morgenstern, whose past research has been ahead of the curve. Her study in June, [in which she concluded that vitamin D gave people a major boost in fighting COVID-19,](https://www.timesofisrael.com/vitamin-d-helps-the-body-fight-coronavirus-major-israeli-study-claims/) was followed by similar claims from many other researchers.

The aspirin study focused on people who take “baby” 75 milligram doses of the drug for primary prevention of cardiovascular diseases, but don’t already have such diseases. Results were adjusted to account for age and co-morbidities.



Milana Frenkel-Morgenstern, head of Bar Ilan University’s Lab for the BioComputing of Complex Diseases (courtesy of Bar Ilan University)

The research was conducted by Bar-Ilan, Leumit Health Services, and Barzilai Medical Center, and its findings have been [published in the peer-reviewed FEBS journal.](https://febs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/febs.15784) Barzilai’s Prof. Eli Magen, the lead author, said: “This observation of the possible beneficial effect of low doses of aspirin on COVID-19 infection is preliminary but seems very promising.”

Frenkel-Morgenstern said that the mechanism through which aspirin apparently reduces infection risk is unknown, but she believes that it shortens the length of the disease due to its anti-inflammatory qualities.

Dr. Eugene Merzon, the main Leumit scholar who worked on the study, said that despite the limitations of an observational study, as opposed to a full clinical study, the infection rates can be viewed as providing an indication that aspirin can be potentially important in fighting the pandemic. And he said that the separate calculations on length of illness seem to back up the hypothesis.

“The fact we saw that it’s not just the likelihood of infection but also disease duration points to the possibility of benefits, in biological terms, of taking aspirin,” he said.

Frenkel-Morgenstern said that this is early research, which she hopes will lead to a further study, and stressed that she is not recommending that people self-prescribe aspirin. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/aspirin-may-protect-against-covid-19-israeli-research-finds/>

**Sinwar wins 2nd term as Hamas Gaza chief after tense election standoff**

***Three rounds of voting on Tuesday night failed to yield victor; terror group’s internal elections are conducted in secret***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 6:28 pm*

Yahya Sinwar has won a second term as the organization’s Gaza leader, a Hamas spokesperson confirmed on Wednesday.

“Yahya Sinwar has been elected for a second term as head of Hamas’ Gaza political bureau, from 2021 to 2025,” Hamas spokesperson Hazim Qasim said in a statement.

The Hamas terror group is holding clandestine elections for its top spots. The Palestinian movement’s internal elections are normally conducted in utter secrecy over a period of months.

Sinwar won the top position in Hamas’s Gaza politburo. Whoever holds the post becomes the highest-ranking Hamas official in the coastal enclave, the Strip’s de facto ruler, and the second most powerful member of the organization.

 Three rounds of voting were conducted last night, with neither Sinwar nor his chief opponent Nizar Awadullah able to clinch victory. Sinwar received more than 50% of the vote in Wednesday’s ballot, leading him to a second four-year term.

In a statement following the tense election standoff, Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh praised Hamas’s internal vote as “real elections, not purely for show.” “With transparency and integrity, everyone accepts its results,” Haniyeh said of the vote.

Hamas leaders Ismail Haniyeh and Yahya Sinwar in Gaza City, June 26, 2019. (Hassan Jedi/Flash90)

The Hamas Shura Council, a quasi-legislative body within the terror group, casts ballots to determine who will fill the group’s senior positions. Around 320 members are eligible to vote, and a candidate needs 160 votes — a simple majority — to win the day.

While Sinwar emerged victorious, he faced considerable and surprising opposition to a second term. Sinwar’s reign in Gaza has not seen a major war between Hamas and Israel, but living conditions in the crowded, poor Gaza Strip have continued to deteriorate.

Sinwar, 58, is second only to Hamas politburo head Haniyeh in the terror group’s hierarchy. He spent decades in an Israeli prison after being convicted in 1989 of conducting the kidnapping and execution of two Israeli soldiers.

Known by his Israeli interrogators as “the Butcher from Khan Younis” due to his enthusiastic execution of Palestinians alleged to have collaborated with Israel, Sinwar was released from jail as part of the 2011 Gilad Shalit prisoner exchange between Israel and Hamas.

Considered a hardliner within Hamas, Sinwar is infamous for his key role in founding Hamas’s military wing and security services. The Izz al-Din al-Qassem brigades and Majd, respectively, have committed numerous terror attacks against Israelis, as well as killing Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israel.

The Hamas member said to constitute his main rival, Nizar Awadullah, played a key role in the 2011 prisoner exchange negotiations. He is a member of the Hamas politburo, the group’s highest decision-making body, and was a close confidant of Hamas founder Ahmad Yassin.

A member of Hamas’s founding generation, Awadullah is also said to be close to former Hamas political bureau chief, Khaled Mashaal. Awadullah’s house was bombed twice by Israel, once in 2009 and again in 2014. MORE -<https://www.timesofisrael.com/sinwar-wins-2nd-term-as-hamas-gaza-chief-after-tense-election-standoff/>

**At request of Abbas foe, UAE will send another 40,000 Russian vaccines to Gaza**

***Shipment was arranged by exiled Fatah chief Mohammad Dahlan, whose movement will offer 20,000 of the vaccines to the Palestinian Authority***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 8:28 pm*

Exiled Fatah security chief Mohammad Dahlan announced Wednesday that the United Arab Emirates will send another 40,000 Russian Sputnik V vaccines to the Gaza Strip.

“In the next step of the Emirates’ generous donations, I’m glad to inform our patient and steadfast people of the arrival of a new shipment of coronavirus vaccines, with the aim of providing protection to our valiant medical staff and to priority groups,” Dahlan said in a tweet.

The vaccines are set to arrive in the Gaza Strip on Thursday through the Rafah border crossing between Gaza and Egypt.

Dahlan, a key rival of Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, has lived in the Emirates since 2011. He is said to have become a close confidant of Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Zayed, the Emirates’ de facto ruler.

Dahlan previously sent 20,000 UAE-donated vaccines to the Gaza Strip.

While Israel has surged ahead in immunizing its citizens, the Palestinians have yet to begin a full vaccine rollout. Around 12,000 doses of coronavirus immunizations have reached Ramallah, which in turn has sent 2,000 coronavirus vaccines to the Gaza Strip.

Around 9,800 vaccine doses were distributed in the West Bank, according to the Palestinian Authority Health Ministry. But accusations of nepotism and corruption have dogged their distribution, with a substantial number of shots reportedly going to those close to government officials rather than to health care workers.

In a statement, Ramallah acknowledged that some doses went to government officials, some young students and the Palestinian national soccer team. But they maintained that 90 percent of the vaccines were given to front-line health care workers.

Dahlan associate Jawad al-Tibi, a former PA health minister, told The Times of Israel that Dahlan’s movement planned on offering Ramallah 20,000 of the Sputnik V doses on the condition that the doses were administered transparently.

“The vaccines which went to the PA did not reach the average people. They went to those in power and their relatives. We will offer 20,000 of the vaccines in our possession to the PA — on the condition that they actually reach those who need them,” al-Tibi said.

“We will offer them [to the PA], and they’re free to accept or they can refuse,” al-Tibi concluded.

At the peak of Gaza’s wave of infections in mid-December, the coastal enclave had about 10,000 active cases, with as many as 45% of tests coming back positive. Hamas deputy health ministry Yusuf Abu Rish recently estimated that as many as 40 percent of Gaza’s residents may have been infected with the coronavirus.

But the coronavirus situation in the Gaza Strip has improved recently, with only 2,010 active cases and relatively few tests coming back positive. Health authorities in the densely populated coastal enclave have allowed schools and popular markets to reopen.

In the West Bank, rising caseloads have forced closures across Palestinian Authority areas. Nablus, Ramallah, Bethlehem and Tubas have all entered total lockdown in response to a major surge in infections.

Active coronavirus infections in the West Bank have nearly doubled over the past two weeks, from 9,632 to 18,365 active cases. The death toll has also been rising rapidly, with the West Bank seeing 21 deaths in the past 24 hours. [Again remember that is just positive PCR tests which are not indicative of disease. – rdb]

Around 20 percent of coronavirus tests came back positive across the West Bank on Wednesday, indicating that the virus was likely spreading widely undetected.

Palestinian Authority officials have repeatedly set public deadlines for the vaccines’ arrival — only to see them repeatedly fall through. Late January, early Feburary, mid-February and early March were all named as potential arrival dates, but none came to pass.

In an interview on Wednesday with official Palestinian television, PA health minister Mai al-Kaila blamed what she called the “evasiveness” of vaccine manufacturers. MORE -<https://www.timesofisrael.com/at-behest-of-abbas-foe-uae-will-send-another-40000-russian-vaccines-to-gaza/>

**Israel and US to convene 1st strategic group meeting on Iran**

***Sessions will be led by national security advisers Ben-Shabbat and Sullivan; sides will seek to limit disagreements and keep discord behind closed doors***

*By* [*Jacob Magid*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jacob-magid/) *Today, 7:34 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/02/Blah.jpg)

Collage: Israeli National Security Council chairman Meir Ben-Shabbat (right), and US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan. (Flash90, AP)

Israeli and Biden administration officials on Thursday will hold the first session of a bilateral strategic group aimed at collaborating in the effort to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, an official familiar with the matter told The Times of Israel.

A similar working group convened during former US president Barack Obama’s first term in office. Its existence was not public, and the sides used the meetings to share intelligence on Iran. However, the group ceased meeting as the Obama administration ramped up efforts to reach an agreement with Iran to curb its nuclear program in exchange for sanctions relief.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu fiercely and publicly opposed that deal — which was signed in 2015, when Biden was vice president — contributing to a famously acrimonious relationship between Netanyahu and Obama.

Seeking to avoid public spats this time around, Washington offered to re-establish the working group and Israel, after deliberation by Netanyahu with other senior officials, agreed to it, the official said.

The White House released a statement on Wednesday regarding the group’s meeting, with few details.

US National Security Council spokesperson Emily Horne called the collaborative the “US-Israel Strategic Consultative Group and said it would be led by US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and his Israeli counterpart Meir Ben-Shabbat.

“The discussion will focus on regional issues, building on the close consultations between the two sides over the past several months,” the statement said. Sullivan and Ben-Shabbat have spoken on the phone twice since the start of the new US administration.

“This meeting is part of the broader ongoing dialogue between the United States and Israel on the full range of issues of importance to the bilateral relationship, building on longstanding dialogues between our two nations under previous administrations,” the statement added.

US envoy on Iran Robert Malley told the [Axios](https://www.axios.com/us-israel-iran-deal-talks-biden-rob-malley-14a7019e-5f1a-499a-88bc-4348169e94ed.html) news site Wednesday that neither Washington nor Jerusalem wishes to see a return to the very public discord that existed between the countries’ leaderships during the run-up to the signing of the 2015 nuclear accord.

“We don’t always agree, but the talks are extremely open and positive. While we may have different interpretations and views as to what happened in 2015–2016, neither of us wishes to repeat it,” Malley said.

Biden and his administration have repeatedly said they will return to the JCPOA if Tehran first returns to compliance. Iran has insisted the US remove sanctions before it returns to the deal’s terms, putting the two sides at a stalemate.

In recent months, Iran has repeatedly taken steps to violate the deal and turn up the heat on the US, including by enriching uranium past the accord’s limits and barring UN inspections of its nuclear facilities. MORE -

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-and-us-to-convene-1st-strategic-group-meeting-on-iran/>

**German Publisher Kowtows to the CCP, Destroys Copies of ‘China Virus’ Children’s Book**

[Kurt Zindulka](https://www.breitbart.com/author/kzindulka/) 10 Mar 2021202

A German children’s book that stated that the coronavirus came from China has been pulped after the publisher caved to pressure from Communist Party diplomats and local Chinese people.

The book which was published in the summer of last year is entitled A Corona Rainbow for Anna and Moritz. The book tried to help children understand the radically different world they found themselves in following the pandemic.

In the picture book, the childrens’ father says: “The virus comes from China and has spread out from there across the whole world,” [according](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/book-pulped-china-virus-claim-germany-whx6bnsgn) to *The Times*.

The book was based on advice from a tropical medicine institute in Hamburg.

Despite the overwhelming scientific consensus that the virus emerged from Wuhan, in Central China, the communist regime has consistently denied this, even promulgating [unfounded conspiracies](https://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2020/03/12/chinese-foreign-ministry-might-u-s-army-who-brought-epidemic-wuhan/) such as the U.S. military bringing the virus into China.

The CCP has also tried to attempt to liken the use of the phrase “[China virus](https://www.breitbart.com/asia/2020/03/19/chinese-communist-party-uses-u-s-medias-kung-flu-story-in-propaganda/)” — favoured by former U.S. President Donald Trump — to racism, though the CCP has not made the same objections over the use of the so-called ‘UK variant’.

A social media campaign from Chinese people in Germany saw many take to Amazon to give the book a one-star rating, claiming the book was “spreading racism among children in Germany”. Some Chinese residents also vowed to launch legal claims against the publisher and to protest against “racism and discrimination”.

The campaign was later picked up by the Chinese consulate in Hamburg, who “lodged solemn representations against the publisher”.

An article from the CCP mouthpiece The Global Times [said](https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202103/1217639.shtml): “The Chinese community believes a simple apology is not enough and asked for the recall of the book.”

A Chinese lawyer in Germany quoted by the propaganda outlet said that the book has “caused psychological trauma to Chinese community, especially to the kids. For such reasons, Chinese people in Germany had a stronger reaction than usual about this children’s book that may trigger racial discrimination and hatred.” MORE - <https://www.breitbart.com/europe/2021/03/10/german-publisher-destroys-china-virus-kids-book-after-ccp-pressure/> [The Chinese cancel culture kicks in and as they have been doing for a long time, totally control the conversation and the narrative. It is the wuhan Chinese virus no matter what they want to say and it was partially funded by Fauci with US funds. He needs to be jailed for whatever the rest of his life is. – rdb]

**Report: Texas Democrat Vicente Gonzalez Closes Bank of China Account After Breitbart News Investigation Exposed It**

[*Robert Kraychik*](https://www.breitbart.com/author/robert-kraychik/) Mar 20212,930

Rep. Vicente Gonzalez (D-TX) closed an account with Bank of China following a Breitbart News [report](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2021/03/08/exclusive-democrat-congressman-vicente-gonzalez-reports-thousands-in-questionable-interest-income-from-bank-of-china-account/amp/) on the Texas Democrat’s holdings with the state-owned institution.

Gonzalez’s most recent financial disclosure forms list holdings worth more than $100,000 with the Bank of China, a state-owned organ of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

Breitbart News reported:

On the second page of his calendar year [2017](https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public_disc/financial-pdfs/2017/9113640.pdf), [2018](https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public_disc/financial-pdfs/2018/9115241.pdf), and [2019](https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public_disc/financial-pdfs/2019/8217497.pdf) disclosure documents, Gonzalez reported the holdings valued at between $100,001 and $250,000 in the Bank of China. Each report includes a disclosure that Gonzalez earned between $2,501 and $5,000 in interest each year from the Bank of China account.

The Bank of China’s website [acknowledges](https://www.boc.cn/en/aboutboc/ab1/200809/t20080901_1601737.html) itself as a “wholly state-owned commercial bank” and has been since the mid-1990s. The state-run enterprise also pledges allegiance to Chinese head of state Xi Jinping and his communist ideology, describing its mission as furtherance of the CCP’s global political vision.

Gonzalez closed his account following Breitbart News’s report, according to News 4 Antonio, an NBC affiliate. He also rejected an interview request.

Congressman from Texas earned thousands in interest from Bank of China <https://t.co/Z57cXWoXQb> [pic.twitter.com/pcQnz8qVBG](https://t.co/pcQnz8qVBG)

— News 4 San Antonio (@News4SA) [March 9, 2021](https://twitter.com/News4SA/status/1369424119259922452?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

News 4 San Antonio reported, “[Gonzalez’s] press secretary, Jason Johnson, told News 4 San Antonio that the Bank of China is insured and operating under U.S. laws. Johnson also told the News 4 San Antonio, the Congressman has closed that account.”

Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez, Gonzalez’s Republican [opponent](https://ballotpedia.org/Monica_De_La_Cruz_Hernandez) in 2020, remarked on the recent exposure of Gonzalez’s financial ties to China.

Gonzalez’s six-figure account with the Bank of China is shocking & disturbing. A US Rep should NEVER have such close financial ties to the state bank of our country’s greatest adversary. AMERICA FIRST NOT CHINA!!!!<https://t.co/X7sEyCpPbH>

— Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez for Congress (@monica4congress) [March 8, 2021](https://twitter.com/monica4congress/status/1368987169923203072?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

De La Cruz-Hernandez tweeted, “Gonzalez’s six-figure account with the Bank of China is shocking & disturbing. A US Rep should NEVER have such close financial ties to the state bank of our country’s greatest adversary. AMERICA FIRST NOT CHINA!!!!” <https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2021/03/09/report-texas-democrat-vicente-gonzalez-closes-bank-of-china-account-after-breitbart-news-investigation-exposed-it/> [Seems to me that San Antonio needs a new representative post haste. You have to wonder how much money Nancy Pancy PEEElosi has there. – rdb]

**Delingpole: Now Corona Masks Are Polluting Beaches and Coral Reefs. Will They be Banned?**

[*James Delingpole*](https://www.breitbart.com/author/james-delingpole/) 10 Mar 2021237

*Getty Images*

A BBC film crew has recorded [heartbreaking footage](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-asia-56322369) of a once-beautiful coral reef in the Philippines choked with floating PPE equipment and discarded surgical masks.

Today on BBC News… Divers find Philippine coral reef littered with blue surgical face masks (the single-use ones popular during the Covid-19 pandemic). <https://t.co/eY8jqfHtGQ> THREAD 1/10 [pic.twitter.com/CPwQEJR0ah](https://t.co/CPwQEJR0ah)

— Howard Johnson (@Howardrjohnson) [March 9, 2021](https://twitter.com/Howardrjohnson/status/1369099992690872322?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Clearly this is a [serious and growing problem](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/jun/08/more-masks-than-jellyfish-coronavirus-waste-ends-up-in-ocean).

According to the [BBC report](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-asia-56322369):

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is washing up on coral reefs close to the Philippine capital, Manila. According to an estimate by the Asian Development Bank, during the peak of the Covid-19 outbreak, the city could have been generating up to 280 tonnes of extra medical waste per day.

Environmental groups are warning that the plastic inside face masks is breaking down and being consumed by marine wildlife. They’re urging the Philippine government to improve its handling of medical waste, to prevent further pollution of the seas.

Perhaps one day, we will hear whispery-voiced, gorilla-hugging Malthusian Sir David Attenborough talking wistfully about this threat to the marine environment on one of his politicised nature documentaries…

…but I’m not holding my breath.

That’s because I can’t help noticing a distinct correlation between eco-fascism and mask-fascism. That is, those individuals and institutions — such as the BBC — which have been pushing for the most draconian responses to the Chinese coronavirus pandemic (masks, lockdowns, quarantines, etc) also happen to those which have been pushing hardest for an extreme environmentalist agenda. MORE -<https://www.breitbart.com/europe/2021/03/10/now-surgical-face-masks-are-polluting-coral-reefs/>

**Probe: Soros-funded DAs help criminal aliens escape deportation**

***Elections 'manipulated by wealthy donors with extreme anti-borders agendas'***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published March 10, 2021 at 7:26pm*

Several district attorneys who were elected with funding from billionaire activist George Soros are helping criminal illegal aliens avoid deportation from the United States, according to an independent investigation.

DAs Larry Krasner in Philadelphia; Kimberly Foxx in Cook County, Illinois; and Diana Becton in Contra Costa County, California, are named in the probe by the Immigration Reform Law Institute, r[eported Breitbart News](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2021/03/09/investigation-soros-funded-district-attorneys-help-criminal-illegal-aliens-escape-deportation/).

The DAs, the report found, helped prevent deportations by Immigration and Customs Enforcement of illegal aliens accused of crimes such as murder, rape of a child, sexual assault, drunk driving and robbery.

After collecting nearly $1.7 million from a Soros-linked group, Krasner created the Immigration Counsel initiative, which aimed to reduce "immigration consequences" for defendants.

In 300 cases considered by the counsel, 120 were changed to plea agreements, including cases of murder and rape.

"These are outrageous examples of how our elections are being manipulated by wealthy donors with extreme anti-borders agendas," Dale Wilcox of the Immigration Reform Law Institute said in a statement:

"While these district attorneys claim they are trying to bring justice to our legal system, they are actually putting the residents of their communities at great risk by allowing violent criminals to escape deportation."

In Cook County, Breitbart reported, District Attorney Kimberly Foxx hired an "immigration adviser" whose task was "to ensure that noncitizen defendants do not face unnecessary immigration consequences, particularly for misdemeanor and low-level offenses."

Contra Costa County District Attorney Diana Becton was supported indirectly with Soros campaign donations through a $1.5 million contribution to the California Justice and Public Safety PAC.

She ordered in an immigration policy memo that "prosecutors in the Contra Costa County District Attorney’s Office shall consider the avoidance of adverse immigration consequences in the plea negotiation process."

Becton has stated her office takes into account a foreign national's immigration status to help reduce the risk of the defendant being arrested by ICE and deported. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/probe-soros-funded-das-help-criminal-aliens-escape-deportation/> Soros should be deported back to Hungary after all of his funds are confiscated to pay for the violence and terrorism he has caused to the USA. The critter is a vile disgusting criminal. – rdb]

**Judicial Watch sues for records of coronavirus-related communications between CDC, Big Tech**

***"The public has the right to know about CDC's involvement in Big Tech's outrageous censorship of Americans, including doctors, who raise questions about the COVID-19 response," Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton said in a statement.***

*By* [*Alex Nitzberg*](https://justthenews.com/alex-nitzberg) *Updated: March 10, 2021 - 4:01pm*

Judicial Watch has lodged a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in an effort to obtain records of coronavirus-related communications between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and several prominent tech companies.

"The public has the right to know about CDC's involvement in Big Tech's outrageous censorship of Americans, including doctors, who raise questions about the COVID-19 response," Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton [said](https://www.judicialwatch.org/press-releases/cdc-communications-big-tech/) in a statement. "The Biden administration should stop stonewalling and release the records about the CDC's role in suppressing the free speech of Americans."

The watchdog organization is targeting HHS with the suit after the department did not reply to a September 15, 2020 FOIA request. MORE - <https://justthenews.com/government/courts-law/judicial-watch-sues-records-coronavirus-related-communications-between-cdc>

**Utah woman, 39, dies 4 days after 2nd dose of COVID-19 vaccine; autopsy ordered**

*by HEIDI HATCH | KUTV Staff Wednesday, March 10th 2021*

SALT LAKE CITY (KUTV) — During a [KUTV investigation into COVID-19 vaccine side effects](https://kutv.com/news/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine-side-effects-deaths-the-lack-of-information-on-how-where-to-report) and where to report them, we found four reported deaths, filed by Utah families and their caregivers to the CDC’s Vaccine Adverse Effects Reporting System.

KUTV: Heidi Hatch reports{ }

One case stood out, a [39-year-old single mom from Ogden](https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/kassidi-kurill-obituary?pid=197924552) who died four days after her second dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Her family, who is now waiting on an autopsy, held a celebration of life for her this past weekend.

Kassidi Kurill, by all accounts, was healthy, happy and “had more energy” than just about anyone else around her. Her family told 2News she had no known health problems or pre-existing conditions.

***Kassidi Kurill’s Story***

I didn't really cry when my dad died, I cry a lot for her.

Alfred Hawley, a retired Hill Air Force Base fighter pilot, is a military man who has known risk and loss his entire life. He’s taken it all in stride — until now.

An hour before his daughter’s celebration of life this past Saturday, he sat down to talk about his baby girl, the one who always wore makeup to cover up the freckles he loved so much.

"I'm at a state in my life where I'm OK with that (emotion),” he said as he wiped a tear from his cheek; not the first and not the last.

"She was the one who promised to take care of me."

The death of his youngest daughter came out of nowhere in a year where this family has already suffered unimaginable grief, with three funerals before Kurill's in the past 370 days.

Four days after Kurill's second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, she was gone — dead before most of her family could say their goodbyes.

Hawley woke up that Thursday morning to his daughter asking for help.

“She came in early and said her heart was racing and she felt like she need to get to the emergency room," Hawley said.

Kurill and her 9-year-old daughter, Emilia, lived with her parents. They’d been one family under the same roof since Emilia was born. Mom and Dad, grandma and grandpa always close by when they were needed.

Hawley, now retired, spent a lot of time with his girls. Kurill, he said, “got sick right away, soreness at the shot location, then started getting sick then, started complaining that she was drinking lots of fluids but couldn't pee, and then felt a little better the next day.”

It was her second shot; the first came with a sore arm but no real side effects or issues. Kurill was the first in the family to get the vaccine. She was a surgical tech for several local plastic surgeons, and the vaccine was part of the job. She stepped up to get the shot without hesitation, her family said.

"She was absolutely fine with getting it. In fact, she told all of us, 'it's fine, you guys should all get it.'"

Kurill's older sister Kristin, often confused as her twin, lives in Arizona. The distance didn’t matter much, they visited often and talked on the phone every day.

The day her sister got the second COVID-19 shot was a normal one from their conversations throughout the day, Kristin said.

“They had gone shopping. She was fine, then started feeling not so great that evening," she said.

Kristin said they were not worried about her sister because, “everyone from her work had flu-like symptoms, so we thought that was normal.”

Kurill got the second shot on Feb. 1. While she was in bed all day Tuesday and Wednesday, it wasn’t until Thursday morning she knew something was wrong. She woke up early, got ready, and asked her dad to driver her to the local emergency room, where they arrived by 7 a.m.

As soon as they walked in the door, Kurill was throwing up. Minutes later, questions were raised about what was making her so sick.



Kassidi Kurill with her daughter. (Photo provided by family)

Her dad recalls doctors asking question after question, “Is there any explanation?”

Hawley said he told them Kurill had just had her second shot.

"They did a blood test and immediately came back and said she was very, very sick, and her liver was not functioning," Hawley said.

Kristin, still in Arizona, knew her sister had gone to the hospital, but the speed of what was happening was “so unexpected.” She was thinking her sister would get an IV with fluids and be back home in an hour.

Hawley, at the ER with his daughter, knew they were not going home any time soon.

“It was a total shock, and I was even afraid to tell my wife,” he said. It was a call he did not want to make.

Kurill was flown to Intermountain Medical Center in Murray, a trauma center where they had the ability to do transplants if needed. Her liver was failing and a transplant, doctors believed, was her best option at survival.

That’s when Kristin got the call her sister was being transferred. She jumped on the first flight to Utah, but when she landed, she was not allowed in the hospital because of COVID-19 protocols. She waited with Kurill’s daughter Emilia, hoping for a miracle.

Both of Kurill’s parents volunteered to donate a portion of their liver. They knew if they were not a match, they could be part of a trade where someone else who was a match could help their daughter.

They never got the chance to offer the lifesaving gift. Doctors were doing everything they could to get Kurill stable, but nothing seemed to work. Hawley said his daughter’s liver, kidney and heart shut down.

Hawley, who was with his daughter when she died, said it didn’t make any sense.

She was healthy, happy and active, the greatest mom you ever saw in your life, and then she was so sick that, in less than 12 hours, intubated and on life support

She died, he said, 30 hours after they arrived in the emergency room.

An autopsy was recommended by doctors and the family agreed. Kurill’s body was moved to the Utah State Medical Examiner in Taylorsville, where a full autopsy was performed. MORE - <https://kutv.com/news/local/utah-woman-39-dies-4-days-after-2nd-does-of-covid-19-vaccine-autopsy-ordered?utm_source=wnd&utm_medium=wnd&utm_campaign=syndicated> [There is a WORLD of things NOT KNOWN about this JAB and you need to weigh all of them before you submit to be one of their guinea pigs. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**4 Cops for Every Congressman**

[*Daniel Greenfield*](https://www.blogger.com/profile/13575285186581875356) [*March 09, 2021*](http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2021/03/4-cops-for-every-congressman.html)

In "Surf City," there were two girls for every boy. But in Swamp City, there are four cops for every Congressman.

That doesn’t refer to Washington D.C.’s already huge concentration of law enforcement and multiple overlapping police forces. Washington D.C. has the highest ratio of police to people of any major city in the country. There are [650 officers](https://www.governing.com/archive/law-enforcement-police-department-employee-totals-for-cities.html) for every 100,000 residents in D.C. That’s 40% higher than any other major city in America including Chicago and Baltimore. It has a 58% higher police ratio than New York, more than double that of Boston, and triple that of L.A.  
 But that’s nothing compared to the private police force dedicated only to protecting Congress.  
 The Capitol Police, which has been in the spotlight since the Capitol Riot, [has over](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2021/01/capitol-hill-riot-was-pelosis-fault-not-trumps-daniel-greenfield/) 2,000 sworn officers. Pelosi’s private police force is the 19th largest police force in America.  
 It’s already larger than the police forces of Atlanta, Baltimore, Denver, and Milwaukee.  
 While Democrats advocated defunding the police, their private police force budget shot up from $375 million in 2016 to $460 million in 2020. And now it’s demanding even more money.  
 Speaker Pelosi claimed, “It's going to take more money to protect the Capitol in a way that enables people to come here."  
 How much money? Who knows.  
 Colonel Bowie managed to hold off the Mexican Army at the Alamo for over a week with a few hundred men, but the Capitol Police couldn't keep Congress for an hour with a thousand.  
 Acting Chief Yogananda Pittman, told Congress that [she needed](https://thehill.com/homenews/house/541382-capitol-police-chief-says-threats-to-members-of-congress-have-nearly-doubled) funding for 212 new sworn officers and 111 dignitary protection agents. That's a fancy name for the congressional version of secret service agents for "high-profile members of Congress." Teams of four of these “agents” accompany their important charges. Since then, the number of agents has been increased and there are six dignitary agents protecting every single “high-profile member of Congress”.  
 (Some dignitary protection agents had even been deployed to protect the homes of “high-profile members of Congress” during the Capitol Riot and weren’t available to help during the fighting.)  
 That would take the Capitol Police up to at least 2,200 sworn officers. And with 535 elected officials in the House and Senate, that’s a ratio of 4 cops for every congressman and woman.  
 Meanwhile the high-profile members get a private security detail of 6 cops.  
 While the names of those high-profile members are not available for security reasons, these likely included senior leadership figures in both parties as well as high-profile politicians who attract a lot of threats. That would likely include some members of the Squad and other Democrat proponents of police defunding. Or defunding other people’s police anyway.  
 While Democrats have advocated for police defunding, their House and Senate majorities currently enjoy some of the densest possible ratio of police for them and their employees.  
 House members had 3,695 staffers (total 6,880 nationwide) and Senate members had 2,342 staffers (total 4,120 nationwide) working in their D.C. offices for a combined 6,037 people.  
 That's up from 146 in 1891, and 304 in 1943, which is understandable since our government works much better now than when we won WW2.  
 Between members of Congress and their staffers (not to mention kits, cats, sacks, and wives), that’s over 6,500 people to be protected by 2,200 sworn officers. Or a cop per 3 employees.  
 Even Vatican City, with the highest police ratio in the world, is more modest than that.  
 The shopkeepers of Kenosha would have appreciated that kind of police ratio during the Black Lives Matter riots that robbed them of their livelihoods with the backing of the Democrats.  
 But it stands to reason that the big government elites of the political faction that embraced police defunding not only need their own private police force, but that while the people in the cities whose police forces they want to defund have to make do with 440 officers per 100,000 people in Chicago and 320 officers per 100,000 people Detroit, they enjoy a 1 officer per 3 people ratio.  
 Police defunding means no cops to answer the call in Seattle or Minneapolis, but 4 cops for every Democrat Congressman whose life is much more important than those of mere taxpayers.  
 Some might argue that Republicans also enjoy the benefit of a private police force. But that’s not how Speaker Pelosi sees things. According to Pelosi, Republicans [are the enemy](https://fox40.com/news/national-and-world-news/pelosi-wants-security-money-to-protect-from-enemy-within-house/).  
 Speaker Pelosi insisted on “more security for members, when the enemy is within the House of Representatives, a threat that members are concerned about.” Who is this enemy within?  
 “We have members of Congress who want to bring guns on the floor and have threatened violence on other members of Congress,” Pelosi incited. If members have actually threatened violence against other members, why doesn’t she file charges? But Pelosi has admitted that she wants more cops to protect Democrat members of Congress from Republican Congressmen.  
 If the “enemy is within the House of Representatives”, then the only solution is to turn the Capitol Police into a Praetorian Guard to accompany Democrat police defunders everywhere. And then Republicans can create their own police force to protect them from the Democrats. If America is going to live out the last era of the Roman Empire, we might as well do it in style.  
 And since history has been cancelled on account of racism, Pelosi will be really surprised when Chief Yogananda Pittman threatens to replace her unless she ups the ‘[donativum](https://military.wikia.org/wiki/Donativum)’ to the force.  
 Meanwhile the calls for more money and more personnel for the Capitol Police continue to grow.  
 D.C. is already the most overpoliced city in America. And yet somehow, no one could manage to cope with one day of riots. The Capitol Police, with 2,000 sworn officers, over 1,000 of whom were on duty, claimed that they couldn’t cope with the riot and needed the National Guard.  
 The D.C. police force, with 3,750 sworn officers, the Park Police, which was also on the scene, and the multitude of other law enforcement personnel and services, some you have heard of, like the FBI, and some which you may have not like the Supreme Court Police (yes, they exist), the D.C. Protective Services Division, and the Federal Protective Service, couldn’t help either.  
 Washington D.C. is the epicenter of law enforcement in the country. There are more law enforcement personnel in the imperial city than anywhere in the country. And there are more individual agencies, services, and sub-services with armed personnel than anyone can count. Nearly every federal agency has its own private police. Some have SWAT teams. These are often attached to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) departments based out of D.C.  
 Four years ago, the Obama administration sent a contingent of heavily armed agents wearing body armor on a Department of Defense plane to Chicken, Alaska, a town of 17 people, on an EPA investigation of Clean Water Act violations that turned up absolutely nothing. If the Democrats could do this to Chicken, Alaska, one of the furthest places in America, they can manage to protect 2 square miles and a handful of buildings with thousands of officers.  
 Four cops for every Congressman is more than enough in Swamp City, USA.

*D*[*aniel 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/)*.*

*Click*[*here to subscribe*](http://sultanknish.blogspot.com/2005/03/blogging-hara.html)*to my articles.*<http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2021/03/4-cops-for-every-congressman.html>

**No-No-No! Your Rights Come From Government, Not God**

*By* [*Ron Ewart*](https://newswithviews.com/author/ronewart/)*|March 10th, 2021* ***“It is remarkable how easily children and grown-ups adapt to living in a dictatorship, organized by lunatics.”*** —*A. N. Wilson, an English writer and newspaper columnist*  
 ***“Dictatorship naturally arises out of democracy, and the most aggravated form of tyranny and slavery out of the most extreme liberty.”*** —*Plato (428 to 348 BCE) 2,500 years ago*  
 Sure!  We know you have been told otherwise. You thought you were free because your rights are natural rights, a gift from the almighty.  Those rights aren’t derived from the power of government.  That would be contrary to all of the utterances of philosophers since Plato and Aristotle.  
 But just because a bunch of well-heeled white men set up a framework of government a couple of hundred years ago that established individual rights, doesn’t change the fact that for the last 100 plus years or so you have been hoodwinked, conned and lied to about where your rights were derived.  Perhaps it was just all a dream with no substance, to back up the false claim that somehow you are actually free of the yoke of government because God granted you certain unalienable rights.  What is the real truth?  
 The fact is, government owns you lock, stock and barrel and you can’t do one damn thing about it, short of going to war.  You are an indentured slave but you just don’t know it.  In 245 years that framework of freedom designed by some pretty bright white men has been so bastardized by socialist Democrats *(Progressives)* as to be essentially unrecognizable.  It was a joke anyhow, wasn’t it, really?  (See: “[***Yes, White Men Built America.  It’s A Fact***](http://www.narlo.org/idarchives/072119.html)”)  
 If you still believe you are “free” you are living in a fantasy world of your own making.  Government has constrained you.  Government regulates everything you do.  Government steals your earnings through the legalized theft of taxation.  Government tells you what you can do and where you can do it.  Government regulates your money, your land, your water, your health care and your life.  It regulates what you can drive, who can drive and where you can drive.  
 If you want to drive a car run by gas, government tells you that you must drive a car run by electricity and raises the price of gasoline to force you to drive an electric car.  In the process government mandates that gasoline-driven cars have to go, along with all fossil fuels and then proceeds to limit the electricity that runs your electric car by forcing intermittent wind and solar upon you.  On top of that government requires you to subsidize the wind and solar power with your tax dollars.  Energy prices have and will skyrocket under these conditions.  
 Just wait until your electric car runs out of charge in the middle of the highway.  You won’t be able to walk down the road to an electric charging station for a gallon of electricity to re-start your electric car.  You will have to wait for a charging truck and then you will have to wait while the charging truck charges up your batteries.  That could take hours.  We prefer the instant energy of the miracle of gasoline and we should have that choice.  You would be wise to ask, “***who are the dumb ones here***?”  
 Government says that you are polluting the planet with your CO2 emissions and they have the right to tax and regulate you to death to “save the planet”.  Of course it is a lie, based on nothing but computer model guesses, but you believe them anyway because the government-paid scientists say that it is so.  Perhaps you might change your mind if you read our *“*[***Climate***](http://www.narlo.org/climate.html)*”* page.  
 Government states that you are killing certain species *(Endangered Species Act – ESA)* and you must sacrifice, at your expense and the relinquishing of your property and unalienable rights, to save the species, even though thousands of species are naturally going in an out of extinction every day, throughout the world.  But at your own peril, you believe them.  Governor Inslee of Washington State wants the taxpayers to spend $1.1 Billion to save 73 killer whales in Puget Sound, or $15,100,000 per whale.  That’s insane!  
 Government tells you that you must lock yourself up in your home to bend the curve against the Coronavirus and you believe them, even though one state is locked up and one state is wide open but the Coronavirus rages on in both states at the same rate.  Duh!  
 Democrats also try to convince you that it is OK to let in millions of illegal aliens that take your jobs.  You get to pay for their education, food, housing, health care and welfare and get very little in return except a Democrat voter.  Meanwhile you stand by and let them do it.  
 Democrats tell you it is the humane thing to do while they lock you up and make you prisoners in your own home but let the Coronavirus-infected illegal aliens go free in the general population and commit crimes against and infect legal Americans.  By a strange twist of logic your government says America can’t deport the sick ones or the criminals and many cities, towns and states form shields around the illegal aliens by declaring sanctuary for them.  And you still say you are free and that your rights come from God?  Just how dumb can you be?  Is your sanity and your intellect still in tack?  How is it that you just look the other way and let the chips fall where they may, even if those “chips” work against you?  **The Colonials declared independence from England in 1776 for far less grievances than what Americans are facing today from their government**.  
 It gets worse.  Your benevolent government forces upon you socialized medicine in what is called ObamaCare, named after an illegitimate socialist, African king we euphemistically called president.  A turncoat U. S. Supreme Court Justice rules, with the four other flaming liberals on the court, that ObamaCare is constitutional when even the dumbest American saw through the smoke and mirrors government used to sell the idea with in-your-face lies about keeping your doctor and keeping your health care and the price would go down.  You watched your private health care insurance go up in smoke, your doctor fade into the dark reaches of the deep state and your health care premiums go out of sight.  But alas, you let it pass.  And you still say you have God-given, unalienable rights?  What mirror are you looking into?  What shimmering mirage are you seeing on the horizon?  What dream are you living?  **Have you forgotten that individual rights, God-given or not, are meaningless unless defended?**  
 And why are Democrats poking their collective noses into our gender and signing executive orders or passing legislation to mess with and upset the natural biological order of man vs. woman?  Why, to pander to the LGBTQ community of course.  At most, only 0.014% (0.00014) of the population is afflicted with gender dysphoria.  For this minute minority Democrats have literally destroyed women’s sports and have rendered womanhood and her wonderful biological differences from man, irrelevant.  
 Socialist Democrats also want to drastically change the rules in their favor.  From voting rules (HR 1), to forcing upon us socialized medicine under Medicare For All, to eliminating the Electoral College, to eliminating the Senate filibuster rule, to packing the U. S. Supreme Court and to make Washington DC and Puerto Rico the 51st and 52nd states, they intend to stack the deck against Republicans.  In effect, they are trying to orchestrate one-party rule.  They are very close to completing those goals and they now have the political power to do it.   Just watch what happens in the next two years.  Even God won’t be able to save you.  
 Ladies and gentlemen, what you ***ARE NOT*** seeing is a “***Shining City On A Hill***.”  What you ***ARE*** seeing, that is if you can truly see, is a garbage dump of shattered dreams and the once-free remnants of a great civilization heading for Hell, perpetrated by a bunch of elite socialist Democrat oligarchs that are 10 cards short of a full deck and who never saw a tax or a regulation they didn’t like.  
 And somehow it doesn’t seem to bother you that public education and even higher education have morphed into public indoctrination for such things as racism, social justice, radical environmentalism, climate change and global government?  Forget about math, reading, writing, geography and American history.  Just how did Americans let this happen?  By not paying attention, that’s how.  
 Oh and you conservatives.  Do you think that the Republicans are going to save your butts, your freedom and the Constitutional Republic?  What planet do you live on?  Most of these Republicans are in it for the money, the prestige and the glory, just like the Democrats.  You are second, third, if not fourth on their list of priorities.  Did you ever send a letter to your representative sharing a grievance of some kind, only to receive a canned response as a hollow, empty, worthless answer to your concern?  
 Democrats stick together and vote as a block.  Republicans are fractured and prone to stick their finger in the air to test which way the wind is blowing ….. in their favor, even if it means voting with the Democrats.  Why won’t Republicans fire Cheney, Romney, Collins, Murkowski, Sasse, Toomey, Burr and Cassidy, all who voted to impeach President Trump?  
 Sadly, representative government, as envisioned by the Founding Fathers, is pretty much dead.  The idea that government has an absolute duty to protect your individual freedom and unalienable, constitutional rights went out the window over 100 years ago with the birth of Progressivism.  Every right in the bill of rights is under attack by government, mostly by socialist Democrats.  Property rights, gun rights, religious rights and the right to speak freely are their favorite targets.  Democrats invented the cancel culture to silence conservatives forever.  If you conservatives are worried about being cancelled, it’s too late.  You have already been cancelled.  
 We can hear some of you say that we are being too negative.  Things can’t be as bad as the picture we have painted.  Oh, but they are.  The people just refuse to believe what they are seeing with their own eyes and what they know to be true.  Why else would your government turn the Capitol of America into an armed camp with fences and barbed wire around Congress?  You’d think the British were coming again, in a replay of the second revolutionary war of 1812!  But no, Democrats are afraid that those nasty, White Supremacist Trump supporters will attack the Capitol ….. again!  
 You may think your rights come from God but the reality is, government is trampling all over those rights and telling you what you can and cannot do, almost to the point of the absolute power of a dictator.  That’s not freedom ladies and gentlemen.  That’s tyranny.  That’s slavery.  
 But just as long as powerful corporations keep us mesmerized and hypnotized by high tech gadgets, we’ll just look the other way and pray that the government doesn’t reach out and “touch” us one day ….. in our own homes.  Good luck with that.  They have already reached out and “touched” you with their virus lock downs.  They have forced you to close your businesses and forced many out of business for good.  Tens of millions have lost their jobs and their livelihood.  But you just rolled over to their demands like compliant robots.  Only a few courageous individuals have fought back and have paid a terrible price for so doing.  
 You say, what happened to freedom?  We say you willingly gave it up for the mirage of anonymity, comfort, safety and security.  America has become a floating crap game of fools while the socialist Democrats rip to pieces what’s left of a once-free America.  Americans killed America, not some foreign power.  
 What we have relayed here is both sad and tragic.  But what is even more tragic is, it was preventable. <https://newswithviews.com/no-no-no-your-rights-come-from-government-not-god/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Jordanian prince refused entry to Israel for violating agreement**

***Prince planning visit to Temple Mount returned to Amman after his security entourage was found to be larger than had been agreed upon.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 10 , 2021 8:37 PM*



***Allenby Crossing terminal Kobi Gideon / FLASH90***

Jordanian Prince Hussein canceled his visit for a coordinated visit to the Temple Mount following an incident at the Allenby Crossing, Kan News reported.

The visit had been closely coordinated between Jordanian and Israeli officials, including security arrangements and the number of armed security guards to enter Israel with the prince.

However, when the prince arrived with his entourage, it became clear that the Jordanians had not complied with the earlier agreement and had brought significantly greater security.

Israel did not agree to the entry of additional security guards, and the entourage and prince returned to Amman.

About two weeks ago, it was reported that Israeli officials had approached Jordan and the Palestinian Authority with the aim of activating a vaccination point on the Temple Mount.

However, Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas vehemently refused to establish such a point because he claimed it would "allow Israel a foothold on the Temple Mount." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298266>

**Report: PM UAE visit 'delayed' because Jordan hasn't approved route**

***PM Netanyahu won't travel to United Arab Emirates this week - because Jordan hasn't approved the flight route, report says.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 11 , 2021 11:51 AM*

Israeli officials say Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's trip to United Arab Emirates (UAE) "is delayed" because Jordan has not approved the flight route, Channel 13 reported.

The officials cited say it might be connected to the cancellation of Jordan's Crown Prince's visit to the Temple Mount Wednesday due to an argument over security arrangements.

On Wednesday, it was [reported](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298241) that Netanyahu would fly to Abu Dhabi Thursday, marking the first time an Israeli premier has visited the United Arab Emirates. During his [visit](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298258) to the UAE, Netanyahu was slated to meet with the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

*Kan* *News* reported Wednesday that Netanyahu may have been [planning](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298265) to meet with Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman during his visit to the United Arab Emirates. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298303>

**Sara Netanyahu hospitalized with appendicitis**

**Prime Minister's wife hospitalized at Hadassah Ein Kerem Hospital and is expected to remain there for several days.**

*Elad Benari , Mar 11 , 2021 3:16 AM*

Sara Netanyahu, wife of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, was hospitalized at Hadassah Ein Kerem Hospital in Jerusalem overnight Wednesday.

Netanyahu arrived at the hospital for a test after feeling unwell. The test revealed that she is suffering from appendicitis.

Following the diagnosis, it was decided that she will remain in the hospital for several days.

The Prime Minister accompanied his wife during the tests. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298278>

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**03/10/2021 NEWS AM**

**יובל דיין - שרק תחייך**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nzT5YPAIGZA>

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| **I know there are angels in the world**  **Waiting for me on the way**  **No need to hurry, everything will work out**  **It will come with time**  **There are really important things**  **It's at the end in the small details**  **Sometimes you don't have to talk**  **Even quietly we found words**  **May you just smile all your life**  **That's all I'm asking for**  **Small house, garden for children**  **Believe me I'm happy**  **You will know that I am forever guarding us** | **And you will see more**  **Things by themselves will connect with the way**  **Fears will scare, questions will resolve**  **It will come with time**  **There are really important things**  **It's at the end in the small details**  **Sometimes you don't have to talk**  **Even quietly we found words**  **May you just smile all your life**  **That's all I'm asking for**  **Small house, garden for children**  **Believe me I'm happy**  **You will know that I am forever guarding us** |

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| **""If you analyze it I believe the very heart and soul of conservatism is libertarianism. I think conservatism is really a misnomer just as liberalism is a misnomer for the liberals -- if we were back in the days of the Revolution, so-called conservatives today would be the Liberals and the liberals would be the Tories. The basis of conservatism is a desire for less government interference or less centralized authority or more individual freedom and this is a pretty general description also of what libertarianism is." -- Ronald Reagan (1911-2004) 40th US President** |

**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 TR – abnormal Mammogram having double biopsy – Positive for cancer**  **Pray for ZH - having trouble with PTSD**  **Pray for LAC – recurrent cancer getting treatment**  **Pray for Ella – emotionally disturbed abused child and brother with ? heart problem**  **Pray for JN – Neuro disease**  **Pray for MS – Job issues and change**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Felicia – post op problems – continuing**  **Pray for SH and family – lady’s husband passed away and she is in Nursing home. Not doing well.**  **Pray for MP – Very complex problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 21:9 and Sarah seeth the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she hath borne to Abraham, mocking, 10and she saith to Abraham, `Cast out this handmaid and her son; for the son of this handmaid hath no possession with my son--with Isaac.' 11And the thing is very wrong in the eyes of Abraham, for his son's sake; 12and God saith unto Abraham, `Let it not be wrong in thine eyes because of the youth, and because of thy handmaid: all that Sarah saith unto thee--hearken to her voice, for in Isaac is a seed called to thee. 13As to the son of the handmaid also, for a nation I set him, because he *is* thy seed.'**

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| **ETBPF has a new venue called Discord. It is a private web site where we are posting news and the daily news posting and you can respond with posts if you want. This ‘app’ can be used almost like facebook and twitter but without the intervention. We are just starting it and a bit slow to learn how to use it but it helps keep us off the Big Guys. It is a freebee and private. We have set levels of access to make sure only real responsible people are able to access. You can look at and join by going to:** [**https://discord.gg/4576x47ezN**](https://discord.gg/4576x47ezN) |

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| **Three minutes of an amazing display to total stupidity!**  [**https://brandnewtube.com/v/L1kIgz**](https://brandnewtube.com/v/L1kIgz) |

**Just 29% of Israelis think elections will end the political deadlock, poll shows**

***Israel Democracy Institute survey finds leap in support for idea of Arab parties joining a coalition; 32% of Israelis say Netanyahu trial should be halted if he forms government***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:57 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/F210223FFF108.jpg)

***Workers at the Central Elections Committee warehouse in Modiin, ahead of the upcoming elections. February 23, 2021. (Flash90)***

Less than three in ten Israelis think this month’s election will resolve the two-year-long political stalemate, a poll from the Israel Democracy Institute (IDI) published Tuesday showed.

Among all Israelis, just 29% think the upcoming vote will offer a decisive answer regarding the identity of the next prime minister, while supporters of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s Likud party are far more optimistic, at 52%, the survey found.

Left-voting respondents appeared to be the least confident that the fourth Knesset election in two years will result in a clear victor, at just 15%. Meanwhile, 23% of centrist voters and 36% of right-wing voters said they believe the vote will yield a clear-cut outcome.

Speaking on the matter Tuesday at a conference for the senior command of the IDF Military Intelligence, President Reuven Rivlin said that “the ongoing political crisis not only strengthens voices seeking to exclude entire groups from broader Israeli society, but also threatens to destroy [whatever remaining trust the people still] have in government institutions, in the democratic system, and in our ability to argue, critique, but ultimately to compromise, to agree, to build and to lead the Jewish and democratic State of Israel, together.”

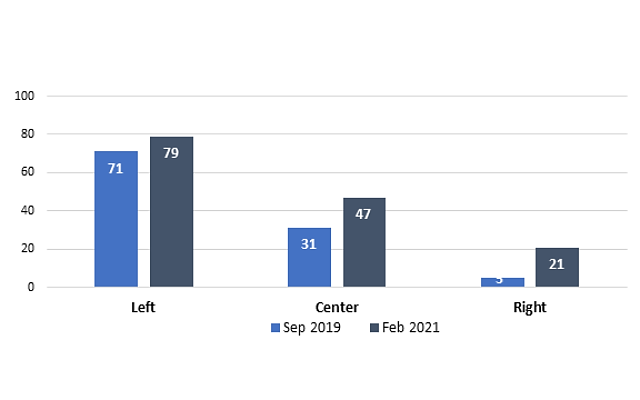


President Reuven Rivlin at a conference for the senior command of the IDF Military Intelligence on March 9, 2021. (Amos Ben Gershom/GPO)

The IDI survey respondents were also asked about Netanyahu’s corruption cases, with 59% of them saying they oppose halting his trial if he succeeds in forming a government, while 32% believe his trial should be suspended.

Netanyahu faces charges of fraud and breach of trust in three cases, as well as bribery in one of them. He has denied wrongdoing and claimed that the charges are an effort by political rivals, the media, law enforcement, and prosecutors to remove him from office.

The poll also showed that while a majority of Jewish Israelis — 53% — still oppose a coalition that relies on support from Arab-majority parties, there has been a marked increase in support for Arab-Jewish political cooperation, particularly among those who identify as centrist or right-wing.



Percentage of Jews that support having Arab parties in the government, including the appointment of ministers, by political camp (Courtesy: IDI)

Support for the idea among left-wing Jewish Israelis has grown since September 2019 from 71% to 79%, among centrists from 31% to 47%, and among right-wingers from just 5% to 21%.

At the same time, a majority of Arab Israelis — 74% — oppose having an Arab party in a coalition.

In recent years, Arab-majority parties have grown in size, reaching a peak of over 12% of votes cast in the 2020 election, when the Joint List won 15 seats, becoming the second-largest opposition party.

Following the second 2019 election, most Joint List members recommended Blue and White leader Benny Gantz for prime minister, marking the first time Arab parties — separately or together — had recommended a mainstream Zionist politician since Yitzhak Rabin in 1992.

The party [split](https://www.timesofisrael.com/3-of-4-arab-parties-agree-on-united-run-as-raam-decamps-joint-list/) into two factions for the current race, with Hadash, Balad, and Ta’al agreeing to run together under the Joint List name, while Ra’am, an Islamist party, will run alone.

The March 23 election was called after the power-sharing government of Likud and Blue and White failed to agree on a budget by a December 23 deadline. The election, like the previous three votes, is largely seen as a referendum on Netanyahu’s rule amid his ongoing trial on corruption charges, as well as his government’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/just-29-of-israelis-think-elections-will-end-the-political-deadlock-poll-shows/>

**AG said to think Blue and White can stay in cabinet even if party not in Knesset**

***Report says Mandelblit leaning toward letting ministers retain posts in transition government if Gantz’s party fails to clear electoral threshold***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:37 pm*

Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit is reportedly leaning toward allowing ministers from the Blue and White party to keep their cabinet posts in a transition government, even if the party fails to enter the Knesset in the March 23 elections.

Quoting sources who recently spoke with Mandelblit, the Globes business daily reported Tuesday that the attorney general believes the power-sharing agreement between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s Likud and Defense Minister Benny Gantz’s Blue and White — which the parties passed into law — remains in force until it is amended or a new government is formed.

By remaining in the transition government, Blue and White would have veto power over government decisions and Netanyahu would be unable to fire the party’s ministers, which Gantz has warned the premier may do if Blue and White fails to clear the minimum electoral threshold.

The newspaper said it was not known what Mandelblit’s position was on whether Gantz could take over as prime minister in November of this year as part of the rotation agreement with Netanyahu, if no government is formed by then. Under Israeli law, the prime minister must be a member of Knesset.

The report came days after [Mandelblit told Gantz](https://www.timesofisrael.com/ag-says-wont-rule-now-on-whether-pm-can-eject-gantz-from-govt-after-election/) he will only rule on whether Netanyahu can fire Blue and White ministers if the party does not pass the electoral threshold when the question becomes relevant.

Gantz has said recently that he fears if he fails to enter the next Knesset, Netanyahu may fire him and his ministers before a new government is established and take far-reaching steps to cripple the justice system and hinder his trial on criminal charges.

He spoke as several polls at the time showed Blue and White falling beneath the four-seat threshold to enter the Knesset, though more recent polling has had the party pass with 4-5 seats.

Gantz currently serves as alternate prime minister, an unprecedented post created as part of the power-sharing deal between himself and Netanyahu in May 2020. In that role, he has the power to veto cabinet votes and holds control over key ministries that Netanyahu cannot pry away from him, as long as the government holds.

He is also slated to take the reins as premier in November, if that government is still in office — an unlikely scenario, but one that could potentially come to pass should political deadlock continue and no new government is formed following the upcoming election.

Legal experts recently told The Times of Israel that they believe Gantz’s position is secure, as the laws governing the current coalition, now in an interim capacity, must remain in effect until a new permanent government is formed.



Defense Minister and Blue and White party leader Benny Gantz attends a Channel 12 News conference in Jerusalem on March 7, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Gantz has said repeatedly in recent months that Blue and White’s presence in the outgoing coalition has protected Israeli democracy in the face of concerted efforts by Netanyahu and his supporters to weaken it, as he stands trial for corruption.

When Gantz signed the coalition deal with Netanyahu, critics warned that Netanyahu could not be trusted to hand over the premiership in November 2021, as was required by the Likud-Blue and White agreement.

The deal’s lone loophole that allowed the premier to avoid doing so was a failure to pass an annual budget. Gantz and many others now believe Netanyahu used that loophole precisely to prevent the deal from coming to fruition. For months, Likud and Blue and White fought over the budget as Netanyahu sought to change aspects of the coalition agreement. Ultimately, a deadline to approve a budget passed in December and the Knesset was automatically disbanded, leading to a new election, Israel’s fourth in two years. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/ag-said-to-think-blue-and-white-can-stay-in-cabinet-even-if-party-not-in-knesset/> [Strange as it seems, the Israel government at this time is about as dysfunctional and the US government is with the left hand not knowing what the right hand is doing and they are all in the dog eat dog mode. – rdb]

**3 arrested in gang rape of mentally challenged teen in Galilee**

***Preliminary investigation reveals the 16-years-old girl was taken by one of the suspects from the town of Rameh, to a rural area near Karmiel, where she was allegedly raped for hours by a group of men***

*Hassaan Shaalan | Published: 03.09.21 , 17:17*

Police on Tuesday arrested three men from a predominantly-Arab town in northern Israel on suspicion of orchestrating a gang-rape of a mentally challenged teen from a local village.

Following a complaint filed with the law enforcement a few days ago about the suspected rape, local police set up a special task force to investigate the case and locate the suspects.

According to the preliminary police investigation, one of the suspects from the town of Rameh in the Galilee had picked up the 16-year-old victim from her home in the local village and took her by car to a rural area near the city of Karmiel.

Once there, the victim was allegedly raped for hours by several men who were waiting for the car at the location.

Her family contacted the police that same day and reported she had been missing for several hours.

"By utilizing a series of complex and rapid investigative methods, while using advanced technological means, the investigators were able to figure out the identities of three of the suspects involved in the gang rape within days,” the police said in a statement.

“The suspects, residents of villages in the Galilee, were arrested and taken for questioning by the Karmiel police."

A hearing will be held Wednesday where the police will ask to extend the two men's remand. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/HyOVOA4mO> This is just disgusting. Rape is a violent horrid crime and to take advantage of a mentally challenged person makes it even more despicable. – rdb]

**Israel said not planning to follow CDC in relaxing mask rules for vaccinated**

***Issue could become crucial ahead of Passover when families gather for Seder meal; US health body allows family meetings without face covering or social distancing***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *and* [*AP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ap/) *Today, 6:38 am*

Israel currently has no plans to adopt US guidelines that relax mask-wearing requirements for people who are fully vaccinated, the Kan public broadcaster reported.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced new guidelines on Monday, saying that fully vaccinated Americans can gather with other vaccinated people indoors without wearing a mask or social distancing.

The recommendations also say that vaccinated people can do the same with unvaccinated people considered at low-risk for severe disease, such as in the case of vaccinated grandparents visiting healthy children and grandchildren.

However, senior Israeli health ministry officials told Kan that Israel would not advocate similar steps yet, saying there was not yet enough information on whether vaccinated people could still transmit the virus. [Is that really the issue or is it that they can still exercise more control and perhaps use this as a means of further coercing people to get the JAB. – rdb]

Kan called the Israeli approach “very strict,” given clear evidence that the vaccines dramatically lower infections. [that is a bunch of horse hockey and distorted statistics which mean absolutely nothing. – rdb]

The issue is likely to come to the fore in a few weeks during the Passover holiday, when families traditionally gather for large, festive Seder meals. Last year’s holiday was [celebrated under Israel’s first](https://www.timesofisrael.com/under-passover-lockdown-thousands-take-to-balconies-to-sing-mah-nishtana/) — and tightest — coronavirus lockdown, with many people forced to celebrate alone.

Channel 12 news reported, without citing a source, that Health Ministry officials have started discussions on whether to make it easier for families to gather.

Health Minister Yuli Edelstein told Channel 12 on Sunday that he hoped families would be able to celebrate Passover together at the end of the month.

“I very much hope we will be able to be with the whole family… I am hopeful, and this is a hope with a pretty good basis… that with proper conduct [by the public], we will be able to avoid more lockdowns. I really do ask everyone to help us with this,” Edelstein said.

The CDC issued its guidance as more adults have been getting vaccinated and wondering if it gives them greater freedom to visit family members, travel, or do other things that they had done before the COVID-19 pandemic swept the world last year.

“We know that people want to get vaccinated so they can get back to doing the things they enjoy with the people they love,” said CDC director Dr. Rochelle Walensky in a statement.

The CDC is still recommending that fully vaccinated people continue to wear well-fitted masks, avoid large gatherings, and physically distance themselves from others when out in public. The CDC also advised vaccinated people to get tested if they develop symptoms that could be related to COVID-19. [Which is a totally lamebrained approach. If the so called ‘vaccine’ supposedly protects your from getting the disease then why should you wear a mask or distance after “vaccinated”? If it is allegedly effective you shouldn’t have the virus in you so you shouldn’t be able to spread anything. NONE of these recommendations are consistent with any form of logic. – rdb]

Officials say a person is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the last required dose of vaccine. About 30 million Americans — or only about nine percent of the US population — have been fully vaccinated with a federally authorized COVID-19 vaccine so far, according to the CDC.

In Israel, the percentage is much higher. On Monday Israel vaccinated its five millionth citizen against the coronavirus as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu predicted that the entire adult population would be inoculated by the end of April.

Of the five million who have now had the first vaccine dose, 3,789,118 have also had the second, according to Health Ministry figures released Monday. I

Since the start of the coronavirus outbreak early last year, 803,260 people have been diagnosed with the virus and there are 37,698 active patients.

Out of Israel’s 9.3 million total population, some three million, including children and those who recovered from COVID-19, were not initially eligible to be vaccinated. Israel announced last week it would start giving the recovered a single shot.

The prime minister also said Monday he had been in contact with Pfizer and the company will soon announce a vaccine that is approved for use on children. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-said-not-planning-to-follow-cdc-in-relaxing-mask-mandates-for-vaccinated/>

**Coronavirus: Positive serological test gives right to green passport**

***Some 3,662 new cases of coronavirus were reported on Monday, with only 4% of tests returning positive.***

*By* [*ROSSELLA TERCATIN*](https://www.jpost.com/author/rossella-tercatin) *MARCH 9, 2021 14:52*

Anyone who undergoes a serological test and is found with antibodies can receive a green passport, Dr. Sharon Alroy-Preis told the Knesset Law and Constitution Committee on Tuesday.

For the past two weeks, those who enter the country after being vaccinated abroad have been given the right to do such a test in one of the labs accredited by the Health Ministry, in order to be released by the mandatory quarantine.

During the meeting, Alroy-Preis revealed that the solution can also give people the right to receive a certificate from the ministry and the green passport.

Among others, the option might be relevant for those who believed they had COVID but never officially tested positive or recovered, including children.

Also, people who got vaccinated without being members of a health fund, or foreign workers, who at the moment are not able to download the official documents, might be interested in exploring this possibility.

Alroy-Preis also told the committee that the Health Ministry is working round the clock to set up a system of rapid testing in order to allow those who are not vaccinated or have not recovered from the virus to receive a temporary green passport. She added that she hopes the system will be ready within two weeks.

Some 3,662 new cases of the novel [coronavirus](https://www.jpost.com/tags/coronavirus) were reported in Israel on Monday, with just 4% of tests returning positive, according to a Tuesday morning update by the ministry.

Of those infected, some 668 were in serious condition – the first time the number of serious cases fell this far below 700 since the end of December – and 212 were on ventilators. The death toll stood at 5,922. <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/coronavirus-rapid-testing-for-green-passport-ready-in-2-weeks-661420>

**Israel launches rapid COVID-19 testing at Ben Gurion Airport**

***After a 4-month delay, service will offer the public two high-quality and reliable PCR testing options - a quick test that provides results within 4 hours or a test that provides results within 14 hours***

*Itay Blumenthal, Nina Fuchs | Published: 03.09.21 , 22:31*

As Israel keeps making strides towards fully reopening its economy, on Tuesday it started operating a rapid COVID-19 antigen testing service at Ben Gurion Airport for travelers who wish to go abroad.

 The project was initially launched by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Transportation Minister Miri Regev [last November](https://www.ynetnews.com/health_science/article/HyN6ljIKv), but recurring coronavirus lockdowns, including the shuttering of the airport, postponed its opening.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stands next to a Check2Fly coronavirus testing booth at Ben Gurion Airport, November 2020 (Photo: Ohad Zwigenberg)

The lab will be operated by Check2Fly, a joint company made up of Omega Pharmaceuticals and Haifa's Rambam Health Care Campus, and will offer the public two high-quality and reliable PCR testing options. The first is a quick test that provides results within four hours, costing NIS 134.64, and a second that provides results within 14 hours at a cost of NIS 44.88.

"After much hard work of everyone involved, we are proud to announce the launch of the rapid testing service," said Omega CEO Lily Nankin.

"This is an exciting landmark, and now we are looking forward to the opening of the country's skies. I have no doubt that the new test route will benefit returning travelers and that the system will provide the best and highest quality service to safeguard national health security." <https://www.ynetnews.com/travel/article/B1l0w11SQ00>

**Israel to establish its 10th university in Safed**

***PM announces the move during a tour of the northern city; Galilee region in recent years has developed an urgent need for a higher education institution seeing as the closest university is located in Haifa, some 50km away***

*TPS | Published: 03.09.21 , 21:13*

Israel's is set to establish its 10th university in Safed, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced Monday during a tour of the northern city.

Since the country's northernmost university is located in Haifa, a growing need to establish a higher education institution in the Galilee region (some 51 km or 32 miles from Haifa) has developed in recent years.

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| Safed  ***Safed (Photo: Ahiya Raved)*** | הפקולטה לרפואה צפת  ***Azrieli Faculty of Medicine in Safed, which is part of the Bar Ilan University (Photo: Azrieli Faculty of Medicine)*** |

In 2005, Israel's government decided to establish a new university in the Galilee but for the next ten years no plans appear to have materialized. In 2015, however, Netanyahu vowed to make good on the previous government's claims during a Galilee Conference.

Safed Mayor Shuki Ohana said the decision to establish the university in the city will revive the entire region.

“Together we will make a dream a reality. Safed is prepared for this. We will roll up our sleeves together and go out to plan and execute,” he added.

Safed currently boasts more than 2,000 students enrolled in the Azrieli Faculty of Medicine - an extension of Bar-Ilan University, the Safed Academic College and the School of Nursing.

At this time, 66 institutions of higher education operate in Israel, including seven research universities, the Open University of Israel and 37 academic colleges, facilitating the education of over 315,000 Israelis annually. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/HkMmrZB7u>

**Israel, Cyprus agree framework for settling offshore gas dispute**

***Aphrodite gas field discovered in 2011 is in Cypriot waters while a small part of it stretches into Israel's maritime zone; field estimated to hold 4.1 trillion cubic feet of gas can now be developed after nine-year delay***

*Reuters | Published: 03.09.21 , 15:10*

Israel and Cyprus have reached an understanding over gas reserves straddling their maritime border, the Cypriot energy minister said on Tuesday, in a key step towards resolving a nine-year impasse over offshore spoils.

Development of the Aphrodite gas field in Cypriot waters has been held up because a small part of it stretches into Israel's maritime zone. The field was first discovered in 2011.

Cypriot energy minister Natasa Pilides said she and her Israeli counterpart Yuval Steinitz had agreed upon a framework to resolve the issue, and guidelines would be passed on to the companies involved in the project.

"The framework will be set out in a joint letter which is being prepared. We are both very satisfied we are now at this point after nine years of discussion," Pilides told reporters as Steinitz, who was in Cyprus to sign a memorandum of understanding on another project, prepared to depart the island.

Steinitz said there was a 'fair chance' of an eventual resolution. "Nothing is certain, but there is a good chance that this might lead us to a solution of this little but significant obstacle in the wonderful relations and cooperation between Cyprus and Israel on energy and on many other issues," he said in comments carried by the semi-official Cyprus News Agency.

Cyprus had in 2019 signed a 25-year concession with Noble Energy, Shell and Delek Drilling for exploitation of the Aphrodite field.

Israel had maintained an agreement was required before work started because part of Aphrodite overlapped on to the Israeli side.

The Aphrodite field holds an estimated 4.1 trillion cubic feet of gas. At stake was about 10% of the deposit, which is a fraction of the gas already discovered in Israel.

Cyprus, Israel and Greece [on Monday signed an initial agreement](https://www.ynetnews.com/business/article/HkN40FQQd) to build the world's longest and deepest underwater power cable that will traverse the Mediterranean seabed at a cost of about $900 million and link their electricity grids.

The project, called the Euro-Asia interconnector, will provide a back-up power source in times of emergency, said Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz, who was in Nicosia to sign a memorandum of understanding with his counterparts.

<https://www.ynetnews.com/business/article/SJbRmJrm00>

**Boy finds 2,500-year-old fertility figurine during family hike**

***Experts say amulet dates from a time with high infant mortality and no fertility treatments, and could have provided hope in the absence of advanced medicine***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 11:12 am*

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| The 2,500-year-old figurine found by an 11-year-old boy (Yevgeny Ostrovsky, Israel Antiquities Authority)  The 2,500-year-old figurine found by an 11-year-old boy (Yevgeny Ostrovsky, Israel Antiquities Authority) | The 2,500-year-old figurine found by an 11-year-old boy (Yevgeny Ostrovsky, Israel Antiquities Authority)  The 2,500-year-old figurine found by an 11-year-old boy (Yevgeny Ostrovsky, Israel Antiquities Authority) |

***Zvi Ben-David, who found a 2,500-year-old figurine Oren Shmueli, Israel Antiquities Authority)***

An 11-year-old boy discovered a rare figurine from around 2,500 years ago during a family hike in the south of Israel, the Israel Antiquities Authority announced Tuesday.

The figurine, depicting a bare-breasted woman wearing a scarf, is an amulet that was believed to protect children or increase fertility.

The authority said that only one similar example, also from the northern Negev Desert, has been previously found and is now housed in the National Treasures collection.

 Zvi Ben-David from the southern city of Beersheba was on a family trip to Nahal Habesor a few weeks ago when he found the figurine. His mother, a professional tour guide, realized the significance of the discovery and contacted the IAA.

The 2,500-year-old figurine found by an 11-year-old boy (Yevgeny Ostrovsky, Israel Antiquities Authority)

Oren Shmueli, district archaeologist in the western Negev, and Debbie Ben Ami, curator of the Iron Age and Persian periods in the Israel Antiquities Authority, said in a joint statement that the figurine, just a few centimeters high, was made in a mold.

“The figurine that Zvi discovered is rare and only one such example exists in the National Treasures collection. It was probably used in the sixth–fifth centuries BCE, at the end of the Iron Age or in the Persian period (the late First Temple period, or the return to Zion),” they said.

“Pottery figurines of bare-breasted women are known from various periods in Israel, including the First Temple era. They were common in the home and in everyday life… and apparently served as amulets to ensure protection, good luck and prosperity,” said Shmueli and Ben Ami.

The experts noted that there was little medical understanding at the time, and high rates of infant mortality as well as no fertility treatments: “In the absence of advanced medicine, amulets provided hope and an important way of appealing for aid.” <https://www.timesofisrael.com/boy-finds-2500-year-old-fertility-figurine-during-family-hike/>

**Palestinian hospitals fill up as Israel loosens COVID-19 restrictions**

***Palestinian PM says hospital occupancy in some areas has reached more than 100% as pressure mounts on PA for sending slim vaccine stockpiles to VIPs and failing to provide jabs to ordinary citizens***

*Reuters | Published: 03.09.21 , 23:05*

Palestinian hospitals are overfull and intensive-care units operating at 100% capacity with coronavirus patients in some areas of the West Bank, Palestinian Authority (PA) Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh said on Tuesday.

Palestinian cities have introduced full lockdowns over the last two weeks to control soaring COVID-19 infections, even as neighboring Israel has begun to lift restrictions as it proceeds with the world's fastest vaccination campaign.

"The percentage of hospital occupancy in some areas has reached more than 100%," Shtayyeh said in Ramallah. "The number of casualties is increasing and the number of deaths is increasing on a daily basis, forcing us to take strict, direct and unprecedented measures."

The West Bank and Gaza, home to a combined 5.2 million Palestinians, have received around 34,700 vaccine doses to date. These came from small donations by Israel and Russia as well as 20,000 sent by the United Arab Emirates to Gaza.

Meanwhile in Israel, restaurants reopened on Sunday as the country kept up a fast pace of mass vaccinations.

"I brought millions of doses, now I'll have to bring tens of millions of doses. I am currently in talks with Pfizer and Moderna to bring more," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told Army Radio, campaigning ahead of a March 23 election.

Israel has given 53% of its 9 million population at least one dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, according to Health Ministry data, and over 40% have received both doses.

The contrast has not gone unnoticed among Palestinians.

On Monday, Israel extended its vaccination program to include Palestinian laborers who work in Israel and in its West Bank settlements.

Many Palestinians argue that Israel is neglecting its obligations as an occupying power by not including them in the mass roll-out. "The number of vaccinations in Israel is really high," said 75-year-old Saji Khalil. "Even the Palestinian laborers whom they vaccinated, they did it to serve the Israeli community, not to look out for the well-being of the laborers."

However, under the terms of the Oslo Accords, the Palestinian Authority is responsible for the healthcare of its own population and has repeatedly said it is obtaining its own vaccines via a UN scheme.

Israeli officials stressed that they were not responsible for covering for the PA's failings.

Many Palestinians are dissatisfied with their leaders. The PA came under fire from rights groups last week after admitting that it had sent 10% of the COVID-19 doses that it received to VIPs.

Firas Narawesh, from Ramallah, said the government had failed to provide vaccinations to ordinary Palestinians, and had "distributed vaccinations in an unfair way and in an unequal way with clear favoritism and corruption." <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/r1IihHHXd>

**Tight election battle for Hamas leadership in Gaza**

***Officials now preparing for second round of voting after the first round saw Nizar Awadallah, former head of Hamas's advisory Shura Council, lead current political chief in the enclave, Yahya Sinwar, by only 7 votes***

*Elior Levy/Ynet, AFP | Updated: 03.09.21 , 18:53*

There appear to have developed a tight battle for political leadership in the Gaza Strip during Tuesday's internal elections held by Hamas terror organization.

 Hamas this week is holding elections to pick the head of their Gaza political branch - the group's de facto leader in the Palestinian enclave, sources from within the terror group have said.

***Yahya Sinwar and his main opponent Nizar Awadallah (Photo: Shutterstock)***

Although there are five candidates contesting the election, the main battle appears to be between current political leader Yahya Sinwar and his main opponent Nizar Awadallah.

At the moment, it seems that no candidate received more than 50% of the votes and there are preparations under way for a second round of voting between Sinwar and Awadallah.

Lebanese TV channel Al-Mayadeen said Awadallah was leading Sinwar by seven votes after the first round of voting.



Gaza's Hamas chief Yehya Al-Sinwar talks to media, in Gaza City (Photo: Reuters)

Sinwar is a former commander of Hamas's military branch who served more than two decades in an Israeli prison before being released in 2011 as part of a prisoner exchange. Awadallah, meanwhile, is the former head of Hamas's advisory Shura Council.

Hamas sources, who requested anonymity, said the result announced "next week".

Sinwar was elected to the post in 2017.

The poll comes ahead of May 22 Palestinian legislative elections, the first such vote in 15 years. Hamas is a key player in that vote, along with the Fatah movement - led by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas - that controls the West Bank.

Hamas's internal elections are normally shrouded in secrecy but some leaders in the Islamist group have called for greater transparency.

The overall head of Hamas's political wing, Ismail Haniyeh, is currently based in Qatar.

Elections for that post are also expected soon, with Haniyeh due to run against his deputy Jamal al-Aruri and former Hamas chief Khaled Meshal.

In addition to its political wing, Hamas has an armed branch that counts thousands of fighters in Gaza.

<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/HymK5WB7O>

**Bipartisan group of US lawmakers: Iran deal must address ‘full range of threats’**

***Citing Iran’s ‘dangerous behavior,’ letter to Blinken says any nuclear agreement must also include Tehran’s ballistic missile program and funding of terror***

By [TOI staff](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) and [Agencies](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) Today, 10:27 amUpdated at 12:01 pm

A group of 140 members of the US Congress, 70 Democrats and 70 Republicans, sent a letter on Tuesday to US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, urging him to ensure that any nuclear agreement or set of agreements that the Biden administration reaches with Iran “comprehensively address the full range of threats that Iran poses to the region.”

Citing Iran’s “dangerous behavior,” the letter stated that any deal “must address three core tenets: “their nuclear program, their ballistic missile program, and their funding of terrorism,” according to a statement by the pro-Israel lobby group AIPAC.

“As Democrats and Republicans from across the political spectrum, we are united in preventing an Iranian nuclear weapon and addressing the wide range of illicit Iranian behavior,” the letter read.

The letter was initiated by Rep. Anthony Brown of Maryland, a Democrat, and Rep. Michael Waltz of Florida, a Republican.

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Jarad Zarif responded to the letter, saying the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action was already “comprehensive.”

“JCPOA IS the comprehensive plan concluded by E3+3 (incl US) & Iran. The “C” stands for COMPREHENSIVE,” Zarif tweeted. “It has been implemented only by Iran. Instead of posturing, US & E3 must finally live up to their commitments made, but never fulfilled.”

US President Joe Biden has expressed a desire to return to the 2015 nuclear deal if Iran honors the deal’s limits on its nuclear program.

Additionally, tensions remain high after militias in Iraq — likely backed by Iran — continue to target American interests. MORE -<https://www.timesofisrael.com/bipartisan-group-of-us-lawmakers-iran-deal-must-address-full-range-of-threats/> [Good luck fellows. You are dealing with a vile radical group of criminals in Iran and an equally vile group of US criminals. – rdb]

**China’s military must spend more’ to meet US war threat**

***The second in command of the armed forces says the country must prepare for the ‘Thucydides trap’***

***Comments highlight pessimism about relations with the United States***

[*Jun Mai*](https://www.scmp.com/author/jun-mai) *in Beijing Published: 9:31pm, 8 Mar, 2021*

China must increase military spending to prepare for a war with a dominant power, according to the country’s top general, raising the spectre of armed conflict with the United States.

General Xu Qiliang, second in command of [the armed forces](https://www.scmp.com/topics/china-military) after President Xi Jinping, said the spending was necessary to prepare the country for the “ [Thucydides trap](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3085321/destined-conflict-xi-jinping-donald-trump-and-thucydides-trap)”, the idea that conflict is inevitable when one power rises to displace a great one.

“In the face of the Thucydides trap and border problems, the military must speed up increasing its capacity,” said Xu, who is also one of the 25 members of the Politburo, the Communist Party’s inner circle.

“[We] must make breakthroughs in combat methods and ability, and lay a sound foundation for military modernisation.”

He said China was already rising in economic power, saying the country’s GDP was equivalent to more than 70 per cent of the US’ economy. “This means we are already standing on the key position of a new chapter towards strength,” he said.

Xu gave his assessment on Friday in a group discussion alongside the annual gathering of China’s

[National People’s Congress](https://www.scmp.com/topics/national-peoples-congress), according to official reports made available to journalists registered at the event.

The phrase “Thucydides trap” is widely used to refer to possible armed conflicts between China and the United States and was made popular by Harvard political scientist Graham Allison, who argued that the two sides were heading towards a war that neither wants.

Few Chinese officials have referred to the Thucydides Trap in public. One of the exceptions is Xi.

“There is no such thing as the so-called Thucydides Trap,” he said during his visit to Seattle in 2015. “But should major countries time and again make the mistake of strategic miscalculation, they might create such traps for themselves.”

Xu’s comments underline Beijing’s growing pessimism about its relationship with the United States under President

[Joe Biden](https://www.scmp.com/knowledge/people/joe-biden?module=inline&pgtype=article), after brief optimism over the departure of Donald Trump.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi warned on Sunday that the United States should not cross China’s “red lines” such as Taiwan. But he also said Beijing was willing to work with Washington on pandemic control, economic recovery and climate change.

Discussions about tensions with the United States have also gained traction among members from the military at this year’s legislative sessions. MORE - <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/politics/article/3124591/chinas-military-must-spend-more-meet-us-war-threat> [The situation with escalating substantially now that Sleepy Joe is in office and they want to make sure they get ‘their job done’ before anything happens and they might loose their competitive edge also known as their ‘agent’. – rdb]

**Hackers say they breached 150,000 live-feed cameras, incl. in hospitals, prisons & schools to expose lax security standards**

*10 Mar, 2021 03:24*

A hacker collective claims to have gained access to roughly 150,000 security cameras, including in jails, hospitals and even a Tesla factory. The intruders say they found the login and password to a ‘super admin’ account online.

The hacktivists targeted Silicon Valley security firm Verkada, which sells surveillance cameras that users can manage through an online portal, breaching a “Super Admin” account that gave access to feeds for all of the company’s customers, according to a Tuesday Bloomberg [report](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-03-09/hackers-expose-tesla-jails-in-breach-of-150-000-security-cams). In addition to more than 200 cameras in Tesla factories and warehouses, the hackers viewed security footage from schools, hospitals – including psychiatric wards – and a number of jails and prisons. Verkada’s own offices also fell victim to the breach.

A software engineer claiming to have taken part in the hack, Tillie Kottmann, told Bloomberg the breach *“exposes just how broadly we’re being surveilled, and how little care is put into at least securing the platforms used to do so, pursuing nothing but profit,”* adding that the admin’s username and password were found on the open web.

***It’s just wild how I can just see the things we always knew are happening, but we never got to see.***

Kottmann, who has previously claimed involvement in leaks of hacked material from [chipmaker Intel](https://www.wired.com/story/intel-is-investigating-how-confidential-data-ended-up-online/) and [Nissan Motor Co.](https://www.cyberscoop.com/nissan-source-code-leak-exposure-investigation/), said the cyber collective is motivated by *“lots of curiosity, fighting for freedom of information and against intellectual property, a huge dose of anti-capitalism, a hint of anarchism – and it’s also just too much fun not to do it,”* jokingly dubbing the group *“Advanced Persistent Threat 69420.”*

Among the tens of thousands of devices affected in the breach, the intruders were able to access some 330 security cameras around the Madison County Jail in Huntsville, Alabama, which use facial recognition tech to track inmates and staff. In some cases, the hackers said they also accessed audio of police interviews with suspects, while other footage seen by Bloomberg showed officers interrogating a handcuffed man inside a police station in Stoughton, Massachusetts. Medical facilities were also swept up, with the outlet reviewing security video from Halifax Health, a Florida hospital that was featured in a [now-deleted *“customer story”*](https://web.archive.org/web/20210309231546/https:/www.verkada.com/customers/halifax-health/) on Verkada’s website.

A spokesperson for the California security firm noted that all internal administrator accounts at the company were disabled after it noticed the intrusion, saying *“Our internal security team and external security firm are investigating the scale and scope of this issue, and we have notified law enforcement.”* Kottmann also confirmed to Bloomberg that the hackers had since lost access to the surveillance feeds.

The hack comes just days after another massive breach targeting Microsoft’s Exchange servers, which gave blackhatters access to data from up to 30,000 organizations across the US, including *“a significant number of small businesses, towns, cities and local governments,”* according to cybersecurity analyst Brian Krebs. <https://www.rt.com/usa/517672-hackers-security-cameras-hospitals/>

**Massive layoffs at Huffington Post after it pushed to deplatform right**

***Left-leaning website previously said 'inaction is dangerous'***

*By* [*Joe Kovacs*](https://www.wnd.com/author/jkovacs/) *Published March 9, 2021 at 6:26pm*

After having pushed for the deplatforming of conservative voices, the left-leaning Huffington Post announced massive layoffs of its workforce on Tuesday – 47 U.S. writers including eight in management – and entirely shuttering its Canadian operation.

The decision was made to "fast-track the path to profitability," enabling the company to break even this year and eventually turn a profit, [according](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/huffpost-buzzfeed-layoffs_n_60479ba2c5b6af8f98beb89d) to Jonah Peretti, the CEO of BuzzFeed which acquired HuffPost from Verizon Media just three weeks ago.

He noted HuffPost's losses totaled around $20 million in 2020.

"Though BuzzFeed is a profitable company, we don't have the resources to support another two years of losses."

"We want to ensure the homepage remains a top destination on the internet," he added. "We also want to maintain high traffic, preserve your most powerful journalism, lean more deeply into politics and breaking news, and build a stronger business for affiliate revenue and shopping content."

Huffington Post has struggled financially for several years, and some of its own staff blasted the lack of promotion for the site under its new Verizon Media bosses.

In reaction to the layoffs and restructuring, the HuffPost Union slammed the effort in a [statement](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/huffpost-buzzfeed-layoffs_n_60479ba2c5b6af8f98beb89d):

"Today, we learned that 33 of our colleagues – nearly 30% of our unit – will be laid off. We are devastated and infuriated, particularly after an exhausting year of covering a pandemic and working from home. This is also happening less than a month after HuffPost was acquired by BuzzFeed. We never got a fair shot to prove our worth. These layoffs reiterate the importance of forming a union and advocating for our colleagues. We are glad that we are protected by a collective bargaining agreement and that our colleagues will receive severance. Our union will continue fighting to make HuffPost a more just and equitable workplace, including pushing for clear and accountable commitments to hiring and promoting more people of color and for transparency around pay equity."

Some opinion writers at HuffPost have been extremely vocal against those on the political right.

Last summer, commentary writer Imran Ahmed wrote a [piece](https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/cancel-culture-deplatforming_uk_5f2d1abec5b6e96a22b108c2) indicating "Deplatforming Works," with a subtitle stating: "Some deride deplatforming as a sign of an emerging 'cancel culture' and an attack on free speech. But inaction is dangerous too."

Others in major media have recently called for deplatforming those on the political right.

Former CBS News anchor Katie Couric scorched Republicans in Congress who voted against impeaching President Trump over a charge of inciting rioters on Jan. 6, Fox News [reported](https://www.foxnews.com/media/liberal-media-members-deprogramming-deplatforming-trump-supporters).

"The question is how are we going to really almost deprogram these people who have signed up for the cult of Trump," Couric said. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/massive-layoffs-huffington-post-pushed-deplatform-right/> [May a similar problem plague the NYTimes and WAPO both of whom are dreadful leftist rags that shouldn’t be publishing because over half their material is nothing more than OP eds and most have little basis. - rdb

**WATCH: Biden forgets name of his Defense secretary. And the Pentagon**

***'The guy who runs that outfit over there'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published March 9, 2021 at 11:29am*

It's Lloyd Austin, Joe.

And it's called the Pentagon.

That's the name of the U.S. Defense secretary, a name forgotten by President Biden when he was announcing the appointment of two generals to commands on Monday. The president also forgot the name of the "outfit" he runs.

Whoops: Biden forgets the name of the Pentagon, as well as the name of his secretary of Defense, Lloyd Austin [pic.twitter.com/ZtcgHLBIAO](https://t.co/ZtcgHLBIAO)

— Tom Elliott (@tomselliott) [March 8, 2021](https://twitter.com/tomselliott/status/1369044328807596036)

"I want to thank the — former general, I keep calling him general — the guy who runs that outfit over there. I want to make sure we thank the secretary," Biden said.

It was only a day earlier that former White House chief strategist Steve Bannon said America should prepare for a transition to a President Harris.

Bannon was speaking with the author of the book "Biden Unauthorized," Mike McCormick, on his "War Room" video podcast, [reported Conservative Brief.](https://conservativebrief.com/soundsthealarm-36420/)Bottom of Form

Bannon pointed to a photo of Biden on the cover of McCormick's book that was taken some years ago, showing a glint in the eyes of the longtime senator and former vice president.

His "eyes are now dead," Bannon said of Biden, noting Harris has a much greater role than previous vice presidents, including meeting with foreign leaders.

"Kamala Harris is printed up in playbooks, always there for these meetings," Bannon said. "Pence was never that. That's not the role of the vice president."

*See the remarks:*

Former Secret Service member Dan Bongino, in a recent interview with Sean Hannity, said he was "hearing from people close to the situation that Biden’s cognitive decline is rapidly worsening and is becoming increasingly difficult to mask."

"The Democrats are going to have to make a decision soon," he said.

Democrats already have moved in Congress to restrict Biden's authority to launch a nuclear strike as well as presidential war powers. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/watch-biden-forgets-name-defense-secretary-pentagon/>

**The ‘Massive Scandal’ Buried in Covid 'Relief' Bill**

[*Leah Barkoukis*](https://townhall.com/tipsheet/leahbarkoukis/) *| Posted: Mar 09, 2021 8:00 AM*

Republicans warned that only a [small percentage](https://townhall.com/tipsheet/leahbarkoukis/2021/02/23/mccarthy-only-9-percent-of-covid-relief-bill-is-about-covid19-n2585176) of the American Rescue Plan was actually going toward Covid-19 relief, and that the rest is filled with pork, far-left policies, and bailouts—hence why it passed on a party-line vote. One provision in the $1.9 trillion legislation that’s now coming under scrutiny is the $86 billion bailout for failing pensions. As The New York Times reports, taxpayer money is going towards problems that existed *prior* to the pandemic.

Tucked inside the $1.9 trillion stimulus bill that cleared the Senate on Saturday is an $86 billion aid package that has nothing to do with the pandemic.

Rather, the $86 billion is a taxpayer bailout for about 185 union pension plans that are so close to collapse that without the rescue, more than a million retired truck drivers, retail clerks, builders and others could be forced to forgo retirement income.

The bailout targets multiemployer pension plans, which bring groups of companies together with a union to provide guaranteed benefits. All told, about 1,400 of the plans cover about 10.7 million active and retired workers, often in fields like construction or entertainment where the workers move from job to job. As the work force ages, an alarming number of the plans are running out of money. [The trend predated the pandemic](https://dealbook.nytimes.com/2014/04/12/thought-secure-pooled-pensions-teeter-and-fall/?searchResultPosition=1) and is a result of fading unions, [serial bankruptcies](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/24/business/coal-miner-pensions-bailout.html?searchResultPosition=1) and the misplaced hope that investment income would foot most of the bill so that employers and workers wouldn’t have to. ([NYT](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/07/business/dealbook/bailout-pensions-stimulus.html?referringSource=articleShare))

What's even more appalling? "The provision does not require the plans to pay back the bailout, freeze accruals or to end the practices that led to their current distress, which means their troubles could recur. Nor does it explain what will happen when the taxpayer money runs out 30 years from now."

That led some to argue that not only is the Covid "relief" bill "the biggest single act of corruption in U.S. history," but that this bailout provision alone is a "massive scandal."

"The provision does not require the plans to pay back the bailout, freeze accruals or end the practices that led to their current distress"  
this ON ITS OWN is a massive scandal. Biden's Bailout Bill is the biggest single act of corruption in U.S. history<https://t.co/CMTttpO3Uf>

— steve hilton (@SteveHiltonx) [March 9, 2021](https://twitter.com/SteveHiltonx/status/1369109249402368001?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Washington spending $86 billion to bail out \*private\* pensions is a strong indicator of how Congress will respond to the SocSec & Medicare trust funds hitting zero - no reforms, just permanent bailouts. That's how you get $100 trillion in 30-year deficits.<https://t.co/BSehLTw0QW>

— Brian Riedl ?? (@Brian\_Riedl) [March 9, 2021](https://twitter.com/Brian_Riedl/status/1369119545013731328?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

"Using taxpayer dollars to bail out pension plans is almost unheard-of. "<https://t.co/UtXyreYIUD>

— Ann Coulter (@AnnCoulter) [March 8, 2021](https://twitter.com/AnnCoulter/status/1368969263218888710?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Unfortunately, the backlash is too little too late, as President Biden is expected to sign the legislation this week.

<https://townhall.com/tipsheet/leahbarkoukis/2021/03/09/pension-bailout-rescue-package-n2585940> [The “Bi-dumb”’s and the jackass party should be tarred feathered and left outside to rot for this. – rdb]

**Commentary: [You may not want to believe this one but the lady has documented her resources and it is truth.**

**America’s Medical Guinea Pigs, Depopulation and Eugenics, Part One***By* [*Kelleigh Nelson*](https://newswithviews.com/author/kelleigh/)*|March 9th, 2021  
 There is absolutely no need for vaccines to extinguish the pandemic.  I’ve never heard such nonsense talks about vaccines.  You do not vaccinate people who aren’t at risk from a disease.  You also don’t set about planning to vaccinate millions of fit and healthy people with a vaccine that hasn’t been extensively tested on human subjects. —Dr. Michael Yeadon – Former Vice President and Chief Scientist of Pfizer*   
 *One of the medical profession’s greatest boasts is that it eradicated smallpox through the use of the smallpox vaccine. I myself believed this claim for many years. But it simply isn’t true! —Dr. Vernon Coleman*  
 *I am no longer ‘trying to dig up evidence to prove’ vaccines cause autism. There is already abundant evidence. This debate is not scientific but is political.  —David Ayoub*  
 A recent Johns Hopkins study claims more than 250,000 people in the U.S. die every year from medical errors. Other reports claim the numbers to be as high as 440,000. Medical errors are the third-leading cause of death after heart disease and cancer. Medication errors account for one out of 131 outpatient deaths and one out of 854 inpatient deaths. Medication-related errors occur frequently in hospitals; not all result in actual harm, but those that do are costly. These are accidental deaths, but since tort reform, negligence and medical malpractice [have risen](https://apnews.com/article/21eccba0c1d445f1b225440d72ccbf29).  Tragedies occur because of error, but there’s a far darker side.  
 American citizens have been used as guinea pigs for decades, resulting in hundreds of thousands of early and often painful deaths of those in the general populace and in our military.  
**Nuclear Guinea Pigs**  
 From the 1940s to 1970s, [American citizens were used as “nuclear guinea pigs](https://fromthetrenchesworldreport.com/how-scientists-secretly-used-us-citizens-as-guinea-pigs-during-the-cold-war/145576),” to borrow a phrase from the Congressional report that lays out the record. They were deliberately exposed to dangerous radioactive substances. These experiments were scientifically, as well as ethically, questionable.Rep. Edward Markey (D-MA) pressed the Department of Energy for documentson Americans who suffered.  [Link](https://medium.com/lessons-from-history/downwind-the-forgotten-guinea-pigs-of-america-s-nuclear-testing-319e524304b6), [Link](https://beyondnuclearinternational.org/2018/11/25/we-were-used-as-guinea-pigs-every-one-of-us/)  
 At the time,the dangers of radio-iodine were known and Markey detailed these tests which took place all over America.  [Subjects included elderly people, prisoners, the terminally ill, and even babies](https://www.democracynow.org/2004/5/5/plutonium_files_how_the_u_s). Ostensibly, these people, or those legally competent to act for them, had consented to the tests. But it’s hard to believe that it was truly informed consent.  These experiments were repugnant because human subjects were essentially used as guinea pigs and calibration devices.  
 Neither were there recommendations or medals for [America’s atomic vets](https://beyondnuclearinternational.org/2018/11/25/we-were-used-as-guinea-pigs-every-one-of-us/) who were subject to over 27 nuclear tests over three months when they had been assigned to witness [Operation Hardtack I](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/2811345/hardtack1-Historic.pdf), a series of nuclear tests in the Pacific.  When the blasts went off and the men covered their eyes, they could see their bones through their hands.The [National Association of Atomic Vets](https://www.naav.com/) who suffered through these tests had higher rates of cancers and health issues.  [John Wayne](https://www.theguardian.com/film/2015/jun/06/downwinders-nuclear-fallout-hollywood-john-wayne), [Susan Hayward, and 90 other people developed cancer](https://www.thevintagenews.com/2018/02/19/the-conqueror-film/) after filming “[The Conqueror](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Conqueror_(1956_film))” near a nuclear testing site.  
 When the vast wartime factories of the Manhattan Project began producing plutonium in quantities never before seen on earth, scientists working on the top-secret bomb-building program grew apprehensive.  Fearful that plutonium might cause a cancer epidemic among workers and desperate to learn more about what it could do to the human body, the Manhattan Project’s medical doctors embarked upon an experiment in which eighteen unsuspecting patients in hospital wards throughout the country were secretly injected with the cancer-causing substance.  Most of these patients would go to their graves without ever knowing what had been done to them.  
 Reporter Eileen Welsome spent 10 years researching the fifty-year cover-up surrounding the plutonium injections as well as the deceitful nature of thousands of other experiments conducted on American citizens in the postwar years.  The result was her Pulitzer Prize-winning book, [The Plutonium Files](https://www.amazon.com/Plutonium-Files-Americas-Medical-Experiments/dp/0385314027/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=the+plutonium+files&qid=1615070307&sr=8-2).  
**Tuskegee Syphilis**   
 In 1932, the government used 623 men as human guinea pigs in a 40-year medical experiment. This in itself is bad enough, but for 40 years these black men, predominately poor and uneducated, were deliberately kept in the dark about what was happening to them. This “experiment” continued for 20 years after the Nuremburg trials and the set of standards that came out of the trials called the [Nuremburg codes](https://www.ushmm.org/information/exhibitions/online-exhibitions/special-focus/doctors-trial/nuremberg-code). The civilized world agreed that human beings would not be used as research animals and that doctors would never forget their first duty to heal their patients.  
 The United States Public Health Service (PHS) (now the CDC) conducted this experiment. More than half of the 623 men had syphilis, the others, a control group, did not. They were told they were being treated for “[Bad Blood](https://www.amazon.com/Bad-Blood-Tuskegee-Syphilis-Experiment/dp/0029166764/ref=sr_1_5?dchild=1&keywords=bad+Blood&qid=1615146404&sr=8-5).” The men were told they’d get free lunches, free medical care, free burial and 100 dollars. That may sound odd, but at the time burial money and free medical care were coveted. Despite the development of penicillin in the early 40’s and the availability of it by 1944, the men were never treated. In actuality, the “experiment” was to see what illnesses developed and how long it took the men to die.  
 No PHS officer who had been directly involved in the study felt any contrition. [Link](https://newswithviews.com/Nelson/kelleigh109.htm)  
**Polio Vaccine and SV40**   
 In 2010, I wrote about the [polio vaccine and its lasting effects](https://newswithviews.com/Nelson/kelleigh110.htm).  In the 1960s, we had both needle and sugar cube vaccines for polio, even though polio was officially over and done with in 1959.  The vaccine was grown on Simeon monkey kidneys and contaminated with SV-40 monkey viruses which caused soft tissue cancers for those who received the vaccine. From 1954 to 1963, almost every dose of polio vaccine produced in the world was given to 98 million Americans and was contaminated with the cancer-causing virus. Despite knowing this vaccine caused cancer, the government continued giving it to Americans.  
 Former virologist, John Martin, MD, PhD, said, “SV-40 infection is now widespread within the human population almost certainly as a result of the polio vaccine.” This vaccine was given to millions of American and European children. SV-40 has been discovered in tumors of children never inoculated with the vaccine leading most scientists to believe it is genetically passed.  
 When questioned on the safety of the polio vaccine he developed, Jonas Salk said, “It is safe, and you can’t get safer than safe.”  Sadly, the polio vaccine’s growth on Simeon Monkey kidneys has caused an American cancer epidemic in baby boomers.  
 Ed Haslam’s book, [Dr. Mary’s Monkey](https://www.amazon.com/Dr-Marys-Monkey-Cancer-Causing-Assassination/dp/1634240308/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=dr.+mary%27s+monkey&qid=1615142434&sr=8-1) gives the full story along with [The Virus and the Vaccine](https://www.amazon.com/Virus-Vaccine-Contaminated-Cancers-Government/dp/0312342721/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=The+Virus+and+the+Vaccine%3A+The+True+Story+of+a+Cancer-Causing+Monkey+Virus%2C+Contaminated+Polio+Vaccine%2C+and+the+Millions+of+Americans+Exposed&qid=1615148115&sr=8-1) by Bookchin and Schumacher. The latter two authors reported the story in the [Atlantic Monthly Magazine](https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2000/02/the-virus-and-the-vaccine/377999/).  
 Millions of Americans are unaware that government officials and leading scientists have played Russian roulette with the health of American citizens for over a century.  The US Government has a [secret history of grisly experiments](https://www.rcreader.com/news-releases/us-government%E2%80%99s-secret-history-grisly-experiments).  Sadly, despite the [Nuremburg Codes](https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/the-nuremberg-code), these unethical medical and psychological human experiments continue today and here come the Covid-19 vaccines.  
**Covid-19 Vaccines**  
 Out of dozens of drug makers, Pfizer, Moderna, Astra Zeneca, and Johnson and Johnson are the leading vaccine producers.  Most Americans are not aware that all vaccine makers worldwide have been given a free pass from any legal prosecution regarding any deaths or injuries caused by the new vaccines.  Pfizer is still engaging in phase 3 trials for two more years, which means their covid-19 vaccine is still very much in experimental stages, even though it is widely offered to the public.  
 Many scientists and physicians have stated there is no real necessity for a vaccine, that the numbers of deaths from Covid, along with their skewed PCR false positive tests, are inflated to promote fear in the public allowing lockdowns, masks and the destruction and elimination of middle class small businesses.  Overall COVID-19 recovery rate is between 97% and 99.75%.  So why the vaccine?  
 The same thing was accomplished by Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam and his good buddy, our former Senator Lamar Alexander, who promoted internet taxes even on those companies who had no physical presence in your state, overriding the [1991 Supreme Court decision](https://taxfoundation.org/important-tax-cases-quill-corp-v-north-dakota-and-physical-presence-rule-sales-tax-collection/). Small businesses were bought out by Amazon and others and they lost the ability to survive by government’s forced implementation of 25,000 nationwide tax codes at a cost far above their yearly sales.  
 The ultimate goal is the total elimination of the middle class, while government and big business grow larger and stronger.  
**Weaponized Medicine**  
 It is a well-known fact that Anthony Fauci denied the use of the safe and cheap 60-year-old drug Hydroxychloroquine for treatment in early diagnosis of COVID-19.  He preferred his more expensive drug, Remdesivir, along with the vaccine that he and Bill Gates promoted to end Covid-19, an untested and dangerous inoculation that will fill their personal coffers.  
 He also originally stated that mask wearing was unnecessary, but changed his mind and now has decided we should wear two masks to keep Covid from spreading, albeit there is no proof whatsoever that masks stop Covid.  In fact, masks actually can make you more susceptible to the virus…because we touch them, re-use them, carry them in our purses, and inundate them with countless germs that we then breathe into our lungs every time we reuse it.  And how thrilled the totalitarian dictatorial commies in our governments were when they saw how many lemmings donned the face diapers in compliance with the draconian orders.  
 And those astronomical death counts…!  As I’ve previously mentioned, the [John Hopkins report](https://web.archive.org/web/20201126163323/https:/www.jhunewsletter.com/article/2020/11/a-closer-look-at-u-s-deaths-due-to-covid-19) stated that there were no more deaths in 2020 than there were in previous years.  Yes, the yearly death rate is the same.  Why?  Because in 2020, no one seemed to die of seasonal flu, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, etc. Every death was Covid.  
 Covid actually killed the ability for Americans to think, use logic and common sense.  What Covid ultimately decimated was the economy, the working middle class and millions of jobs.  It destroyed forever millions of small businesses, human connection, love and compassion.Even more barbaric was the cruelty of our elderly loved ones dying alone without family being close.  
 Now those same mask-wearing American lemmings are standing in line hoping and praying for an untested vaccine to be shot into their arms, not once, but twice.  
**Depopulation and Eugenics**   
 Is that the ultimate goal?  It certainly seems that way when a Chinese virus was released upon the world, and five democrat governors thought nothing of putting Covid infected patients in nursing homes, ultimately killing tens of thousands more elderly with susceptible comorbidities.  One need only read [Earth Summit, Agenda 21, the United Nations Programme of Action from Rio](https://www.dataplan.info/img_upload/7bdb1584e3b8a53d337518d988763f8d/agenda21-earth-summit-the-united-nations-programme-of-action-from-rio_1.pdf).  They’re main goal is depopulation.  
 And [Anthony Fauci](https://newswithviews.com/is-dr-anthony-fauci-guilty-of-negligent-homicide/) has long been funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.  Fauciwas photographed with a [coterie of globalist elites in 2001](https://nationalfile.com/fauci-photographed-with-soros-and-bill-gates-father-who-was-head-of-planned-parenthood/) at the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy event. The unassuming government bureaucrat was present alongside such titans of globalism as Ted Turner, David Rockefeller, George Soros, and Bill Gates Sr. Records reveal that Gates Sr. was a board member of Planned Parenthood prior to the *Roe v. Wade* 1973 Supreme Court decision, and Bill Gates himself said in a [video clip](https://youtu.be/3lKfTMIPMro) that his father was the “head of Planned Parenthood.”  
 Bill Gates believes we need a vaccine to stop the spread of Covid-19…even though 98% of the people who contract Covid recover…Robert Kennedy, Jr. has made it clear what he thinks of [Bill Gates and his devastating vaccine results](https://phibetaiota.net/2020/04/robert-f-kennedy-jr-is-bill-gates-satans-spawn-or-merely-a-geek-gone-mad-and-turned-traitor/) in foreign countries.  
 The origin of the Gates Foundation is that both his father’s foundation and his own foundation were merged into the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. [Population control was very much a core facet](https://vocal.media/theSwamp/covid-ops-history-of-eugenics-and-sterilization) of both foundations. Both father and son are strong [eugenicists](https://catholicstand.com/eugenics-in-america/).  Their beliefs are much like those of Margaret Sanger…[only healthy seed must be sown.](https://www.nature.com/scitable/forums/genetics-generation/america-s-hidden-history-the-eugenics-movement-123919444/)  
 The eugenics movement took root in the United States in the early 1900‘s, led by Charles Davenport (1866-1944), a prominent biologist, and Harry Laughlin, a former teacher and principal interested in breeding.  It became a popular social movement that peaked in the 1920s and 30s but was perused and used by the Nazis. During this period, the [American Eugenics Society](https://embryo.asu.edu/pages/american-eugenics-society-1926-1972) was founded, in addition to many local societies and groups around the country ([PBS 1998](https://www.nature.com/scitable/forums/genetics-generation/america-s-hidden-history-the-eugenics-movement-123919444/)). Members competed in “fitter family” and “better baby” competitions at fairs and exhibitions. Movies and books promoting eugenic principles were popular.A film called[*The Black Stork*](https://eugenicsarchive.ca/discover/timeline/517224eceed5c60000000012) (1917), based on a true story, depicted as heroic a doctor that allowed a syphilitic infant to die after convincing the child’s parents that it was better to spare society one more outcast.  
 The eugenics movement in the US quickly focused on eliminating negative traits just like Margaret Sanger’s hatred of black Americans.  “Undesirable” traits were concentrated in poor, uneducated, and minority populations. In an attempt to prevent these groups from propagating, eugenicists helped drive legislation for their forced sterilization ([Norrgard 2008](https://www.nature.com/scitable/topicpage/human-subjects-and-diagnostic-genetic-testing-720/)). The first state to enact a sterilization law was Indiana in 1907, quickly followed by California and 28 other states by 1931 ([Lombardo n.d.](https://dnalc.cshl.edu/view/15214-Eugenics-and-forced-sterilization-in-the-U-S-Paul-Lombardo.html)). These laws resulted in the forced sterilization of over 64,000 people in the United States.  
 At first, sterilization efforts focused on the disabled but later grew to include people whose only “crime” was poverty. These sterilization programs found legal support in the Supreme Court. In [Buck v. Bell (1927)](https://www.liveaction.org/news/coercive-population-control-eugenics-alive-today/supreme-court-upholds-compulsory-sterilization-in-buck-v-bell/?gclid=Cj0KCQiAs5eCBhCBARIsAEhk4r64OxcuyGBSxS86BcgoO9_0rl6zytYJXK8u_9O8X-zQG6BCAlY3d60aArR3EALw_wcB), the state of Virginia sought to sterilize Carrie Buck for promiscuity as evidenced by her giving birth to a baby out of wedlock (some suggest she was raped). In ruling against Buck, Supreme Court Justice Wendell Holmes opined, “It is better for all the world, if instead of waiting to execute degenerate offspring for crime, or to let them starve for imbecility, society can prevent those who are manifestly unfit from continuing their kind. Three generations of imbeciles are enough” ([Black 2003](https://www.nature.com/scitable/forums/genetics-generation/america-s-hidden-history-the-eugenics-movement-123919444/)). This decision legitimized the various sterilization laws in the United States.  
 In particular, California’s program was so robust that the Nazi’s turned to California for advice in perfecting their own efforts. Hitler proudly admitted to following the laws of several American states that allowed for the prevention of reproduction of the “unfit” (Black 2003).  
 The US eugenics movement began to lose power in the 1940s and was completely discredited following the horrors of Nazi Germany. With modern advances in genetic testing, it is important to keep America’s eugenics history in mind. Yet, can we [avoid repeating this dark chapter](http://knowgenetics.org/is-eugenics-happening-today/), if so many in our country don’t know about it?  
 As did Sanger, Gates believes in the eugenicist [Thomas Malthus’s](https://www.britannica.com/biography/Thomas-Malthus) idea that the sustainability of the world’s resources is completely dependent upon maintaining population control. Ironically, Gates believes that improving health care, primarily through vaccinations, will accomplish this.  
**Conclusion**  
 In part two we’ll discuss the many deaths and disabilities already evident from the unnecessary Operation Warp Speed Covid vaccines. <https://newswithviews.com/americas-medical-guinea-pigs-depopulation-and-eugenics-part-one/>

**Equity Vaccines, Immunity Passports, and Racial Segregation**

[Daniel Greenfield](https://www.blogger.com/profile/13575285186581875356) [March 08, 2021](http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2021/03/equity-vaccines-immunity-passports-and.html)

Vaccine passports aren’t coming: they’re already here. And while discriminating against people based on their vaccination status is bad enough: the implications are even worse.  
 A vaccine passport transforms all of society into a two-tier system, but the basis for it isn’t a needle, it’s a set of government guidelines that were based on identity politics or ‘equity’.

From the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to various state equity initiatives, some even worse than the [CDC’s push to prioritize people by race](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/12/cdcs-affirmative-action-eugenics-coronavirus-daniel-greenfield/), the vaccine rollout was designed to put minorities at the head of the line. These prioritizations were meant to be invisible, using disparate impact to advance groups with the right demographic skew.  
 The government using race to prioritize medical treatment is horrifying enough, but vaccine passports take the biased vaccine system and embed that bias into everyday areas of life.  
 The end result is a horrifying cross between China’s social credit system and the racial segregation of the South. Call it the equity credit system based on racial and sexual identity.  
 Take New York’s ‘Excelsior Pass’: an app which allows users to get into events by showing their vaccination status. Excelsior is still in the testing phase, but it is based on IBM technology and variations of it are likely to be adopted by multiple venues and states once the testing is done.  
 California had previously tethered reopenings to ‘equity’, but vaccine passports shift the burden from the region to the person, using the criteria of an inherently racist system to determine access. In New York City, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that the city would use the Taskforce on Racial Inclusion and Equity’s demographics to “prioritize appointments for residents at vaccine sites in the Taskforce neighborhoods, setting aside specific hours and slots”.  
 What that really means is that the people more likely to have an Excelsior Pass are those who benefited from the racial discrimination policies of New York City’s equity. Expand that pass and New York City becomes the new epicenter of racial segregation under the equity credit system.  
 Generations after the end of segregation, the pandemic has been used to impose racially discriminatory conditions that have the potential to recreate the worst of segregation with people being barred from eating at diners or riding the bus because of the color of their skin.  
 The social and economic consequences of vaccine passports could easily become as devastating as those of segregation by preventing store owners from doing business, segregating flights, and determining who is allowed to socialize and who isn’t. And while the vaccine rollout will come and go, the legal precedents created here will not easily disappear.  
 Governments don’t give up emergency powers even after an emergency has passed. And using equity to prioritize vaccines and then using that as a passport to a normal life is creating an entitlement. The special interests who benefit from that entitlement, the multitude of task forces on equity that have popped up in the last year, are not about to let go of their new power.  
 Some vaccines will require booster shots. New strains will continue to pop up. Just as some experts insist that masks should be a long-term mandate, the regular development of new vaccine booster shots, and their allocation, and the resulting vaccine passports could create a system of medicalized segregation meant to enforce the identity politics goals of the Left.  
 What we are experiencing now may very well become an annual rite of medical social justice.  
 Vaccine equity is a vicious cycle. Since more members of minority groups are skeptical of the vaccine, more resources are directed at vaccinating them. The more resources are directed at persuading minorities to be vaccinated, the more skeptical some members are likely to become. Unable to organically meet the minority vaccine demographic targets, equity will be used to prioritize those minorities willing to be vaccinated while excusing those who don’t. Since disparate impact would not allow for minorities to be excluded from a vaccine passport system, they will receive access on the grounds of having a legitimate reason to refuse vaccinations.  
 We’ve already seen this play out when Cornell University students who "identify as Black, Indigenous, or as a Person of Color" were told they could opt out of a flu vaccine, and Lincoln County, Oregon, decided to exempt minorities from its mask mandate if they have “heightened concerns about racial profiling and harassment”.  
 Not only has equity prioritization for vaccines baked the bias into a systemically racist pipeline, but there will also be a racial double standard for those who opt out of the pandemic regime.  
 Skepticism about vaccines and hostility to pandemic measures have been treated very differently along racial, ethnic, and religious lines during all of last year much as political protests by lockdown opponents were banned on the grounds of public health, while the Black Lives Matter riots were endorsed, celebrated, and mandated by the political establishment.  
 The medical experts eager to warn about the dangers of Trump rallies or Chassidic weddings were hesitant to express any doubts about the health impact of thousands of race rioters.  
 Beyond the left-right paradigm, there is a clear racial bias when it comes to the censorship of vaccine skeptics with Robert F. Kennedy Jr. being banned from Instagram while Louis Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam are free to use the platform for attacks on vaccines.  
 The leftist establishment sees vaccine skepticism from minorities as understandable, if mistaken, responses to oppression, and is much more willing to excuse and tolerate it.  
 Vaccine passports would build these biases into the basis for systemic medical discrimination that would make it increasingly difficult for people to go out in public, earn a living, or just exist on the basis of their race. Unlike China’s social credit system, the equity obsession of our elites is obsessed with punishing or rewarding people based on their identity politics category.  
 The emergency powers of the pandemic have given our elites the power to do just that.  
 Vaccine passports would plug into an already pervasive equity credit system built around systemic racism that deprives people of basic needs and civil rights on the basis of race.  
 Access to higher education, to employment, to mortgages, and government contracts, is already based on a system of racial discrimination as egregious as anything in the segregated South.  
 Americans have accepted this silent systemic racism for generations. But the new vaccine segregation threatens to turn the equity credit system from covert discrimination, rewarding some on the basis of their group identity or feigned group identity through affirmative action, to an overt system that segregates those with poor equity credit from being able to live their lives.  
 A civil rights system that was built to reverse segregation is instead laboriously recreating it, by embedding the racial inferiority theories of critical race theory into schools and workplaces, denying medical treatment, and even the ability to eat out at a diner based on race.  
 The only thing missing are the separate water fountains for those with a poor equity score.

*D*[*aniel 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/)*.*

*Click*[*here to subscribe*](http://sultanknish.blogspot.com/2005/03/blogging-hara.html)*to my articles.* <http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2021/03/equity-vaccines-immunity-passports-and.html>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Some beaches open after tar pollution**

***Interior, Environment, and Health Ministries approve resuming water sport activities and activities on some beaches.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 09 , 2021 9:58 PM*

The Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Health update that in recent days, normal results have been obtained from seawater sampling, after tar contamination, and therefore it is possible to carry out routine sports activities in the water.

Regarding activity on the bathing beaches, it was reported that in some of the beaches, cleaning operations were completed, and the amount of tar was found to be normal. The beaches where activity is allowed are:

* Asher Council: Betzet.
* Nahariya: Galei Galil North, Galei Galil Darom.
* Acco: Argaman, Tmarim.
* Hefer Valley: Beit Yanai, Neurim.
* Netanya: Kiryat Sanz, Haonot, Argaman.
* Herzliya: Nof Yam, Hasharon, Zevulun, Acadia North, Acadia South, Acadia Center, HaKochavim, the separate beach.
* Tel Aviv: Tel Baruch South Station 1, Hatzuk Station 1, Hatzuk Station 2, Nordau Mtzitzim, Nordau Separate, Hilton North Beach, Allenby Jerusalem Beach, Charles Clor, Givat Aliya, Gordon, Frishman, Bograshov.
* Bat Yam: Jerusalem Beach, Hasela A - Station 1, Hasela B - Station 2, Hasela C - Station 3, for example, Riviera.
* Rishon Lezion: Blue Station 1, Neve Hof Station 2, Hofit Station 3, Tel Yona Station 4, Hayeladim Station 5, Separate Station 6.
* Gan Raveh: Palmachim.
* Ashdod: Lido, Oranim, Keshatot, Riviera.
* Ashkelon: Delilah North, Delilah South, Separate, Ashkelon National Park, Bar Kochba North, Bar Kochba South.
* Ashkelon Beach: Zikim, Nitzanim.

For the other beaches as well as beaches where additional tar has settled, the cleaning and monitoring operations are ongoing, and the public is asked not to attend activities on the bathing beaches.

Government Ministries emphasize that in most beaches the bathing season has not yet begun, and that bathing on undeclared beaches is prohibited (there are no rescue services). In addition, the ministries say that it is possible to later reach the beaches where a certain amount of tar has sunk near the shallow water. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298198> [If this was just an accident and not terrorism it was certainly a huge and expensive event. – rdb]

**Poll: Netanyahu rises while Sa'ar plummets**

***Poll finds New Hope party falling below 10 seats. Shas also sees decline.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 09 , 2021 9:33 PM*

A new poll conducted by Prof. Camille Fox and published tonight on Channel 13 News shows that if the elections were held today, the Likud party would be the largest party in the Knesset with 29 seats.

The Yesh Atid party would place second, rising to 20 seats, while the Yamina party would finish third with 11 seats.

The New Hope party led by Gideon Sa'ar sees a decline from previous polls, falling to just nine seats. The Joint Arab List would receive eight seats.

The Yisrael Beyteinu and United Torah Judaism parties would receive seven seats each, while the Shas party would fall to just six seats.

The Labor party would receive six seats as well, while the Religious Zionism party would receive five seats.

Blue and White, Meretz, and Raam would receive four seats each. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298200>

**'We'll regret failure to adopt Trump Plan for years to come'**

***Former Israeli ambassador who helped Trump admin. draw up its sovereignty plan, laments settlement leadership's opposition to Trump deal.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 09 , 2021 12:01 PM*

Settlement leaders made a strategic blunder in opposing the Trump administration’s plan for Israeli sovereignty in Judea and Samaria, Dore Gold said Tuesday, lamenting what he said was a lost opportunity for Israel to secure itself territorially.

Speaking at a conference hosted by Makor Rishon, the former Israeli ambassador to the United Nations and former advisor to prime ministers Netanyahu and Sharon, blasted the Yesha Council (the umbrella organization representing Israeli towns in Judea and Samaria) for its opposition to the Trump plan.

“I thought [their rejection] would be a tragedy for years to come,” said Gold.

Gold, who currently serves as President of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs and advised the Trump administration in its drafting of its Middle East peace plan, said that Israel “could have secured for future generations a wonderful map that would have protected the country.”

“If someone gives you the opportunity to annex the Jordan Valley, don’t turn up your nose at the offer.”

The former ambassador mused that if Trump had won reelection, Israel would likely now have official diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia.

“We’d have diplomatic ties with the Saudis. Back during the Second Intifada, the Saudis funded 50-70% of Hamas’ budget. Today that’s down to 0%. Now it is Iran supplying Hamas with the missiles they’re launching. That means that it is our [Israel and Saudi Arabia’s] mutual foe who is responsible for the improvement in relations between Israel and Saudi Arabia.”

Regarding the change in administrations in the White House, Gold said that while the Trump administration was the most supportive of Israel on many core issues, the Biden administration’s opposition to the Hague probe of Israel “has been wonderful”.

“President Trump was the friendliest on issues that are important to use: the settlements, Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, and even the possibility of annexing the Jordan Valley.”

“Biden is coming from a different direction, though he was a hawkish Democrat when he was a senator, and was also a supporter of Israel. His administration’s behavior on the issue of the ICC probe has been wonderful.”

Gold excoriated the International Criminal Court over its decision to probe Israel for alleged “war crimes”, saying that his “blood boils when I see the accusations against Israel claiming that we violated the Fourth Geneva Convention because of the settlements.”

“I know what they don’t do when there are real violations. For instance, in the Syrian civil war, one of the things that happens is they expel Sunni families from their homes. That’s a classic violation of international law, but does the ICC say anything about it?” <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298156>

**The Church's secret tunnel - hidden by the Jerusalem Municipality**

***In the heart of Jerusalem’s Old City, an area dense with historical and archaeological treasures, a church digs an illegal tunnel***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 10 , 2021 1:21 PM*

The Regavim Movement on Tuesday filed a petition in the Jerusalem District Court against the Jerusalem Municipality, which has been concealing the existence of an underground tunnel dug by the Church of the Dormition, one of the largest and most recognizable Catholic churches in Jerusalem.

The Dormition, located just outside the Zion Gate, on the highest point in ancient Jerusalem, is included in the historic preservation compound known as “The Sovev Homot [Jerusalem Ramparts] National Park.”

As a result of Regavim’s legal pressure over the past two years, the Jerusalem Municipality was forced to measure and document the tunnel, which encroaches on public property in an area dense with archaeological remains. Since the completion of the mapping project, the municipality has ignored Regavim’s continued requests for documentation of the tunnel and law enforcement at the site.

Mount Zion, one of the gateways to the Old City of Jerusalem, is well known for its unparalleled historic and archaeological importance to the three monotheistic faiths. The section of the mountain that is protected by the “Sovev Homot (Ancient Jerusalem Ramparts) National Park” contains numerous archaeological sites, including the site identified as King David’s tomb, the Hasmonean-era city walls, and the First Temple-era city wall.

Despite the national, religious, scientific and historical importance of the area as a whole, the Dormition Church dug an underground tunnel, more than 100 meters long, to connect the Church with “Beit Josef,” a dormitory/guest house it built nearby decades ago.

For years, the existence of the tunnel was nothing more than a rumor shared among local residents and Jewish institutions active on Mount Zion, until Regavim sent an official request to the Jerusalem Municipality in 2019 for confirmation of its existence and precise details of the tunnel’s location, in order to determine the extent to which it encroaches on public land as well as the extent to which priceless antiquities may have been harmed by the unsupervised digging.

Last year, as a result of Regavim’s demand and after the Jerusalem Municipality was forced to admit that the there is, in fact, an “old tunnel” at Beit Josef, official documentation was carried out on behalf of the Jerusalem Municipality; the illegal underground passage, measuring some 150 meters, was documented at last.

The investigation revealed that along the path of the tunnel there are underground rooms containing ancient artifacts, and the tunnel itself encroaches to a significant extent on public property. This illegal passageway was dug without a permit, violating existing planning codes and Israel’s Archeological Protection Law, without any oversight by engineers or archaeologists, as required by law, and may have damaged antiquities and other artifacts.

Despite its findings, the Municipality has not charged the Church municipal land taxes for the illegal tunnel, while all other residents of the city are expected to pay these and other taxes and tariffs or face heavy penalties.

 “When the details began to come into focus, we demanded over and over that the Jerusalem Municipality publicize the documentation of its findings, as required by the Freedom of Information Law. We further demanded that oversight, inspection and law enforcement procedures be taken immediately, to restore the site to its previous condition either by sealing off or demolishing the tunnel,” said Attorneys Avi Segal and Yael Cinnamon of the Regavim Movement. “We filed this petition only when our repeated requests to the Jerusalem Municipality were not answered.”

**The illegal tunnel runs under this street** Regavim

<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298231>

**20 lone soldiers from one yeshiva enlist in the IDF**

***20 students from 'American' yeshiva in Beit Shemesh get uniforms ahead of draft. 'The yeshiva will continue to be their home here in Israel'***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 10 , 2021 9:38 AM*

***The new draftees Lev HaTorah Hesder Yeshiva***

The March draft is in progress and among the many soldiers who received their uniforms today were also twenty students of the Lev HaTorah Hesder Yeshiva in Beit Shemesh, who are enlisting as lone soldiers. The students joined the army through "Lev LaChayal", a unique program run by the yeshiva where young men come for a year and a half of Torah study in Israel, and enlist in the IDF in the middle of their second year as part of the Hesder track.

During their stay at the yeshiva, students are prepared physically, spiritually and mentally for their military service. Also, due to their special lone solider status they receive extra assistance from the national Hesder Association helping them navigate much of the army bureaucracy . During their military service, the yeshiva continues to care for the students handling all of the logistics for them, visiting them on their military bases and providing them with special programming when they return to yeshiva for shabbatot. The yeshiva runs two lone soldier homes staffed by two yeshiva alumni who were once lone soldiers themselves; along with their wives these families take care of their many needs including hosting them for meals on Shabbat and chagim.

These twenty soldiers who received their uniforms today, will be drafting into various units including Combat engineering, the Armored Corps and the Paratroopers. These are students who came to Israel from Canada, England and a variety of states in the US such as New York, California, Florida, Texas, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Kansas and more. MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298226>

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**03/09/2021 NEWS AM**

**אמני ישראל - שמור עלי**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=No1njdnllno>

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| **Open the gates of love for us**  **Bless us and give some of your own**  **And opened for us the gates of redemption**  **Talk to us and give us hope**  **And opened to us the gates of thanksgiving**  **And give our share fuel to the soul**  **And opened for us gates of singing**  **Embrace us need no reason**    **Take care of me, I moved a little too far, I just wanted to tell you, what are words for**  **Not everything about me, how do you always notice me what else is left? What else is left alive**    **And opened to us the gates of purity**  **Sitting sky back to you**  **And opened for us the gates of atonement**  **Teach us to choose between good and evil**  **And opened for us gates of fortune**  **A player with us opened a hall for us**  **And opened for us the gates of forgiveness**  **Another day will come, we will all sing to you** | **Take care of me, I moved a little too far, I just wanted to tell you, what are words for**  **Not everything about me, how you always pay attention to me**  **What else is left? What else is left alive**    **Open to us will open in a big way**  **One should breathe between the sacred and the profane**  **The sound of my uncle knocking wants to fall apart**  **Release it fast**  **Wake up!**    **Take care of me, I moved a little too far, I just wanted to tell you, what are words for**  **Not everything about me, how you always pay attention to me**  **What else is left? What else is left alive** |

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| **"Spiritual movements are revolts of thought against inertia, of the few against the many; of those who because they are strong in spirit are strongest alone against those who can express themselves only in the mass and the mob, and who are significant only because they are numerous." -- Ludwig von Mises (1881-1973) Economist and social philosopher** |

**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 TR – abnormal Mammogram having double biopsy – Positive for cancer**  **Pray for ZH - having trouble with PTSD**  **Pray for LAC – recurrent cancer getting treatment**  **Pray for Ella – emotionally disturbed abused child and brother with ? heart problem**  **Pray for JN – Neuro disease**  **Pray for MS – Job issues and change**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Felicia – post op problems – continuing**  **Pray for SH and family – lady’s husband passed away and she is in Nursing home. Not doing well.**  **Pray for MP – Very complex problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 21:5And Abraham *is* a son of a hundred years in Isaac his son being born to him, 6and Sarah saith, `God hath made laughter for me; every one who is hearing laugheth for me.' 7She saith also, `Who hath said to Abraham, Sarah hath suckled sons, that I have born a son for his old age?' 8And the lad groweth, and is weaned, and Abraham maketh a great banquet in the day of Isaac's being weaned;**

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| **ETBPF has a new venue called Discord. It is a private web site where we are posting news and the daily news posting and you can respond with posts if you want. This ‘app’ can be used almost like facebook and twitter but without the intervention. We are just starting it and a bit slow to learn how to use it but it helps keep us off the Big Guys. It is a freebee and private. We have set levels of access to make sure only real responsible people are able to access. You can look at and join by going to:** [**https://discord.gg/4576x47ezN**](https://discord.gg/4576x47ezN) |

**IDF troops shoot two Palestinian teens suspected of firebombing cars**

***One suspect said to be in serious condition, other sustains light injuries, as soldiers attempt to arrest them in central West Bank***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 8:41 pm*

Israeli troops shot two Palestinian teenagers who were suspected of throwing firebombs at cars along a central West Bank highway on Monday night, the military said.

According to Palestinian media, one of the two 17-year-old suspects was seriously injured, while the second sustained light wounds.

“IDF troops spotted two suspects throwing Molotov cocktails at passing Israeli cars on the roadway near the village of al-Khadr. IDF soldiers who were serving in the area began an arrest protocol, including opening fire at the suspects. Hits were confirmed,” the military said.

According to the Palestinian WAFA news agency, the two teenagers were taken to a nearby hospital for care.

Earlier in the day, a Palestinian woman was arrested after she entered an illegal agricultural outpost in the central West Bank and allegedly tried to stab the wife of the farm’s owner, the military said.

“A report was received from residents of Sdeh Efraim Farm that a short while ago an assailant entered the farm… and tried to stab the farm owner’s wife with a knife,” the Israel Defense Forces said.

Residents of the outpost subdued the Palestinian woman without seriously injuring her and handed her over to IDF troops who arrived at the scene.

The military said a knife was recovered.

According to a local resident who spoke to The Times of Israel, the woman was said to be named Anhar al-Deek and came from the nearby village of Ni’ma. WAFA reported that al-Deek was 25 years old and had one young child.

In the predawn hours of Monday morning, the military said a Palestinian man [tried to stab a soldier](https://www.timesofisrael.com/palestinian-tries-to-stab-soldier-during-west-bank-raid-is-shot-army-says/) as his unit was conducting an arrest raid in the northern West Bank village of Tubas.

The soldier was lightly wounded in the exchange, but succeeded in pushing his attacker back, allowing his commander to open fire, shooting and injuring the assailant. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-troops-shoot-two-palestinian-teens-suspected-of-firebombing-cars/> [Never ending stupidity from these “PA” creeps. When you inculcate children from birth to hate and kill this is what you get. – rdb]

**IAEA says Iran enriching uranium with advanced centrifuges, in further breach**

***UN nuclear watchdog tells member states Islamic Republic has started using a third cluster of advanced IR-2m centrifuges at underground Natanz plant***

*By* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:08 pm*

The International Atomic Energy Agency reportedly told its member states Monday that Iran has started enriching uranium with a third cascade, or cluster, of advanced IR-2m centrifuges at its underground plant at Natanz, in a further breach of the 2015 nuclear deal.

“On 7 March 2021, the Agency verified… that: Iran had begun feeding natural UF6 into the third cascade of 174 IR-2m centrifuges,” the [Reuters news agency](https://www.reuters.com/article/iran-nuclear-iaea-int/iran-starts-enriching-with-more-advanced-ir-2m-machines-at-natanz-iaea-idUSKBN2B0262) quoted the UN atomic watchdog as saying in a new report.

UF6 is uranium hexafluoride, a compound that can be fed into centrifuges to produce nuclear fuel.

“The fourth cascade of 174 IR-2m centrifuges was installed but had yet to be fed with natural UF6; installation of a fifth cascade of IR-2m centrifuges was ongoing; and installation of a sixth cascade of IR-2m centrifuges had yet to begin,” the IAEA report said, according to Reuters.   
 Since the US left the nuclear deal in 2018 under Donald Trump, Iran has walked away from the pact’s limitations on its stockpile of uranium and has begun enriching up 20 percent, a technical step away from weapons-grade levels.   
 It is also spinning advanced centrifuges barred by the deal, which saw Iran limit its program in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions.   
 Iran’s conservative-dominated parliament last month ordered the government to start limiting some inspections by the IAEA, after which the head of the agency, Rafael Grossi, hammered out a temporary technical deal with Tehran.   
 They confirmed that Iran will continue to allow access to UN inspectors to its nuclear sites — but will for three months bar inspections of other, non-nuclear sites.   
 According to a report last month, IAEA inspectors last summer found uranium particles at two Iranian nuclear sites that Iran tried to block access to.   
 Iranian authorities had stonewalled the inspectors from reaching the sites for seven months before the inspection, and Iranian officials have failed to explain the presence of the uranium, [Reuters reported](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-iaea-idUSKBN2AJ269), citing diplomats familiar with the UN agency’s work. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/iaea-says-iran-enriching-uranium-with-advanced-centrifuges-in-further-breach/>

**IDF to increase number of top female officers by 50% in 5 years, army chief says**

***Kohavi has nominated few women for senior positions in his time as head of the military; announcement comes in honor of International Women’s Day***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 8:58 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/WhatsApp_Image_2021-03-08_at_15.27.05.jpg)

IDF Chief of Staff Aviv Kohavi and the IDF General Staff hold a meeting to discuss the role of women in the military's upper ranks, in the IDF's Tel Aviv headquarters on March 8, 2021. (Israel Defense Forces)

IDF Chief of Staff Aviv Kohavi announced Monday that he intends to put forward a plan that would see the number of female senior officers rise by 50 percent within the next five years, which would have been a bolder objective had the already low number of promotions of female officers for top positions not fallen dramatically in recent years.

In his more than two years as chief of staff, Kohavi has promoted no women to the rank of major general and only one — who was tapped to serve as the chief intelligence officer of the Central Command — to the rank of brigadier general. According to a recent Haaretz tally, of the nearly 200 officers promoted to the rank of colonel under Kohavi, 19 have been women.

There are currently no female major generals in the IDF, nor have there been since 2014, when the only one so far — Maj. Gen. (res.) Orna Barbivai — retired from the military. There are also only six female brigadier generals, some of whom have not actually received their ranks officially, but — for bureaucratic reasons — are only permitted to wear them ceremonially, as their positions demand them.

Kohavi’s announcement came on International Women’s Day, when the military often rolls out such initiatives. The military said the chief of staff’s plan would be put together within the next three months.

“We must act to increase the number of female senior officers by 50% within the next five years and to increase the number of women serving in technology and cyber roles,” Kohavi said.

While the advancement of women in the upper ranks of the military has lagged in recent years, there has been a growing trend of women serving in combat units and in other roles previously held by men.

The increase in the number of women in combat units — a 250% rise in the past six years — has not been without criticism, as conservative voices in Israel have accused the military of endangering national security by lowering standards in order to include women to appease progressive demands of gender equality. The IDF has rebuffed those allegations, saying that women are serving in those combat roles because they are needed in them, not due to a liberal agenda.

Facing a lawsuit by four female recruits demanding full gender integration, the military announced last year that it was forming a committee led by Ground Forces commander Maj. Gen. Yoel Strick to consider such a move. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-to-increase-number-of-top-female-officers-by-50-in-5-years-army-chief-says/> [Great! So Ladies want to go out and get shot like the men do? Sometimes you just have to wonder. – rdb]

**Israel said renewing vaccine diplomacy, to send extra shots to friendly nations**

***Original move halted by Justice Ministry; Israel said to have 100,000 surplus Moderna doses that will expire by end of May, to go to 20 countries plus Sinai peacekeepers***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *9 March 2021, 1:51 am*

Israel is renewing a plan to supply surplus coronavirus vaccines to a group of friendly nations, Israel’s Kan public broadcaster reported on Monday.

The report comes two weeks after the effort was halted by legal authorities, saying that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu did not have the authority to authorize the moves without consulting with the cabinet.

Israel is now negotiating with the 20 countries and Moderna to send up to 100,000 vaccine doses abroad, according to criteria laid out by the Attorney General, the report said, noting that there was some urgency to the move as the doses were due to expire by the end of May.

Israel has surplus Moderna doses that it purchased before signing an agreement with Pfizer for rapid delivery of enough doses to innoculate the entire population in exchange for sharing the medical data with Pfizer. [This last statement simply means that BIBI turned the land of Israel into an experimental lab and its citizens into guinea pigs. – rdb]

It was the latest twist in a saga that has raised questions at home about Netanyahu’s decision-making authority as well as his move to help far-flung nations in Africa and Latin America at a time when the neighboring Palestinian territories are struggling to secure their own vaccine supplies. The plan has also illustrated how at a time of global shortages, the vaccine has become an asset that can be used for diplomatic gain.

Announcing the initial plan, Netanyahu said Israel has hundreds of thousands of surplus vaccines and announced he had personally decided to share a small quantity of them with several friendly countries he did not name, as a mostly symbolic thank-you “in return for things we already have received.”

Even though the plan was frozen, one delivery had already landed in Honduras, the country’s President Juan Orlando Hernandez announced, saying the doses will go to frontline workers. The Czech Republic also said that it received 5,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine from the Jewish state.

Kan said that among other countries expected to receive doses were Cyprus, Mauritania, Hungary, Guatemala, the Maldives, San Marino, Ethiopia, Chad, Kenya Uganda and Guinea. Each was expected to get some 5,000 doses.

Among the 19 countries reportedly slated to get 1,000-5,000 vaccine doses each is Mauritania, which has no diplomatic ties with Israel. US officials told The Times of Israel last month that [Mauritania was close to normalizing relations](https://www.timesofisrael.com/mauritania-indonesia-were-next-in-line-to-normalize-but-trump-ran-out-of-time/) with Israel before former US president Donald Trump’s term ended.

Israel would also supply coronavirus vaccines to the multinational force of [peacekeepers stationed in the Sinai Peninsula](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-to-provide-covid-vaccines-to-peacekeeping-force-in-sinai-report/), following a request from the US.

The request to provide the 14-nation Multinational Force and Observers (MFO)  peacekeeping force with some 2,400 vaccines was received by the Defense Ministry and was approved by the relevant legal authorities, Kan reported.

Netanyahu, who is up for reelection on March 23, has staked his political success on Israel’s successful vaccination drive, in which about half of the country’s 9.3 million people have been inoculated with at least one dose in just under two months.

Israel on Monday also began vaccinating some 120,000 Palestinians who have permits to work inside Israel and the West Bank settlements.

The move to vaccinate Palestinian workers comes as the West Bank is seeing a rapid rise in coronavirus infections. There are currently 17,989 active coronavirus cases in the West Bank, one of the highest levels since the beginning of the pandemic. [Do they have ‘cases’ or simply positive PCR tests? – rdb]

Large swaths of the Palestinian Authority entered total lockdown over the weekend in an attempt to curb the rising infection rates, as hospitals reached full capacity in Ramallah and Bethlehem.

While Israel has vaccinated over 5 million of its citizens, the Palestinian Authority has yet to receive a single major vaccine shipment. Of the doses that did reach Ramallah, a substantial number were allegedly distributed to those with connections to the PA elite. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-said-renewing-vaccine-diplomacy-to-send-extra-shots-to-friendly-nations/>

**Israel to bus COVID patients to polling stations, may set up booths at airport**

***Central Elections Committee budget much higher than normal due to challenges posed by pandemic; official laments shortage of thousands of election day employees***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:16 pm* [*1*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-to-bus-covid-patients-to-polling-stations-may-set-up-booths-at-airport/#comments)

Israel will fund special shuttles to polling stations for active COVID-19 patients during the March 23 Knesset elections, a top official said Monday, alongside further adaptations forced by the pandemic that will turn the election into the most expensive in the country’s history.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/image.png)

A bus converted into a polling station ahead of the Knesset elections, in a photo released March 8, 2021. (Chaim Levy/Central Elections Committee)

Central Elections Committee director Orly Adas also told reporters that dozens of buses will be converted into ballot stations for people in quarantine and to lower crowding in certain polling stations.

The committee is weighing placing voting stations at Ben Gurion Airport, so that arrivals to the country will be able to vote there before they enter home quarantine.

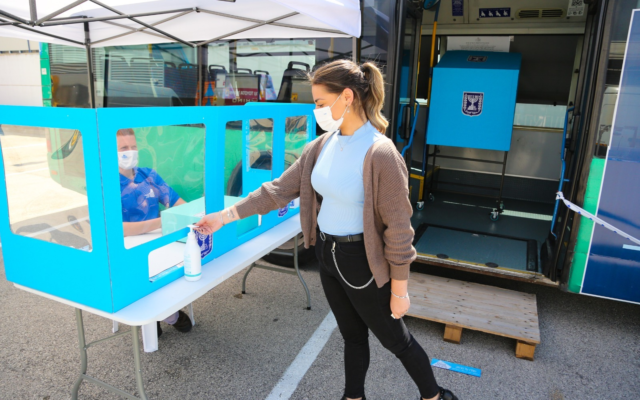
There are currently around 40,000 active COVID-19 cases in the country, and 120,000 others are in quarantine.

The parliament’s Economic Affairs Committee approved the CEC’s budget, totaling NIS 674 million ($202 million), including NIS 237 million ($71 million) for facing the challenges posed by the coronavirus crisis.

There will be some 15,000 voting stations throughout the country, more than the normal 11,000, Adas said, in hopes of limiting potential infections at crowded stations.

שימו לב לזה – בוועדת הבחירות נערכים לעומס בקלפיות של חולים ומבודדים ויעמידו לרשותם אוטובוס שישמש כעמדת קלפי [pic.twitter.com/t556aIdfAr](https://t.co/t556aIdfAr)

— נדב אלימלך Nadav Elimelech (@NadavElimelech) [March 8, 2021](https://twitter.com/NadavElimelech/status/1368909869437362181?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/image-1.png) But Adas noted that there was still a shortage of thousands of employees for ballot stations serving COVID-19 patients and those in quarantine. She called on volunteers in first aid organizations, healthcare workers and medical students to fill that gap.

A bus converted into a polling station ahead of the Knesset elections, in a photo released March 8, 2021. (Chaim Levy/Central Elections Committee)

Adas added that the CEC was still devising a plan for how to count the ballots and verify the results, with the number of absentee ballots expected to be double the normal. [HUMMM? Absentee ballots? Have we heard that line before? – rdb]

The week-long Passover festival also poses a challenge, starting three days after the election. Adas said the goal is to complete the tally within two days.

[The election](https://www.timesofisrael.com/vote-and-swab-planning-unprecedented-election-ballot-officials-get-creative/) is Israel’s fourth in under two years, amid an unprecedented political crisis that failed to produce a government after the first two votes in 2019 and yielded a short-lived unity government after the third. The vote is largely regarded as a referendum on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s leadership, including his handling of the coronavirus crisis.

Israel’s previous election, in March 2020, was held shortly after the coronavirus first reached the country, with several special polling stations serving the relatively few people who had then been suspected or confirmed to have contracted the virus or come in contact with confirmed carriers. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-to-bus-covid-patients-to-polling-stations-may-set-up-booths-at-airport/>

**5 million Israelis vaccinated; PM: All adults will be inoculated by next month**

***Netanyahu, Health Minister Edelstein on hand as 5th millionth dose given to Janet Lavi-Azulay, 34, who is pregnant; premier says kids to get the shots soon***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 1:57 pm*

Israel vaccinated its five millionth citizen against the coronavirus on Monday as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu predicted that the entire adult population would be inoculated by the end of April. [I find that interesting because I know quite a number of people in Israel who say they have no intention of getting the Jab in the arm. – rdb]

Netanyahu and Health Minister Yuli Edelstein were on hand on watch as Janet Lavi-Azulay, 34, a pregnant woman from the central city of Petah Tikva, was given her first shot of the two-dose Pfizer-BioNTech vaccination that Israel is using for its immunization program.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/F210308MA11.jpg)

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (left) and Health Minister Yuli Edelstein (sesond right) during a visit at a Leumit Covid-19 vaccination center in Tel Aviv, with the 5 millionth Israeli who received a vaccination. March 08, 2021. (Miriam Alster/Flash90)

Edelstein jovially pointed out that, due to her condition, it was unclear if Lavi-Azulay’s vaccination was number 5,000,000 or 5,000,001.

Lavi-Azulay told the Kan public broadcaster that it was a “wonderful feeling.”

As for getting the vaccine even though she is pregnant, Lavi-Azulay said, “The danger from the virus is much greater, that’s for sure.”

המתחסנת החמישה מיליון | שר הבריאות אדלשטיין: "החיסונים הללו מאפשרים לנו לפתוח את הכלכלה, התרבות והספורט"[@YoavBorowitz](https://twitter.com/YoavBorowitz?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [pic.twitter.com/oMffNcHPtI](https://t.co/oMffNcHPtI)

— כאן חדשות (@kann\_news) [March 8, 2021](https://twitter.com/kann_news/status/1368868766835212289?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Israel has advised pregnant women to be vaccinated after several expectant mothers died from COVID-19 and dozens of others have experienced serious infections.

Netanyahu called on the public to ignore the “fake news” against being vaccinated and said authorities are working on obtaining tens of millions more vaccine doses for the country to ensure the economy stays open and there are no further lockdowns. [Fake News = anything that doesn’t corroborate your narrative! How about this article:

|  |
| --- |
| **UK: 35 people deaf and 25 blind after taking mRNA vaccine shots**  The Yellow Card scheme tracking potential vaccine injuries has flagged a combined 191,832 individual adverse events, or side effects, related to COVID vaccines.  *Fri Mar 5, 2021 - 2:56 pm EST By David McLoone*  LONDON, England, March 5, 2021 ([LifeSiteNews](http://lifesitenews.com/)) — Among people in the U.K., 35 cases of deafness and 25 cases of blindness have been reported by people who have taken the [experimental](https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/frontline-doctors-experimental-vaccines-not-safer-than-covid-19) mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. The numbers are derived from the U.K. [Yellow Card](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-vaccine-adverse-reactions/coronavirus-vaccine-summary-of-yellow-card-reporting) vaccine reporting scheme, which is the British equivalent to the American Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS).  Both the Pfizer/BioNTech and Oxford/AstraZeneca mRNA COVID vaccines were given temporary authorization in the U.K. by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), the former in mid-December 2020, and the latter at the beginning of January 2021. Since then, the Yellow Card scheme has flagged a combined 191,832 individual adverse events, or side effects, of varying degrees of injury. Of the injuries recorded, AstraZeneca’s vaccine consistently performed the worst, accounting for 60% of all adverse events, and 58% of deaf and blind reports. Additionally, of the [402 fatalities](https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/uk-data-show-402-reports-of-deaths-following-covid-vaccines), 197 were reported following use of the [Pfizer](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/964207/COVID-19_mRNA_Pfizer-_BioNTech_Vaccine_Analysis_Print__1_.pdf) formula, and 205 after taking [AstraZeneca](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/964208/COVID-19_AstraZeneca_Vaccine_Analysis_Print__2_.pdf)’s vaccine.  The latest data, which runs up to February 19 and was published on February 22, reveals a plethora of debilitating side-effects, but this has not alarmed officials at the MHRA who maintain that “no other new safety concerns have been identified from reports received to date.” They conclude from this that the “overall safety experience with both vaccines is so far as expected from the clinical trials.” MORE -  <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/uk-35-people-deaf-and-25-blind-after-taking-mrna-vaccine-shots> |

Does this seem fake to you? I for one will not take the Jab and there are quite a number in Israel I think who don’t plan on it either. – rdb]

He predicted that by the end of April the entire over-16 population will be vaccinated, adding that there were a million more eligible Israelis who have yet to be immunized. When that is done, Israel will be “out of the coronavirus” pandemic, he said. Israel’s total population is around 9.3 million.

“It is a world achievement,” Netanyahu said. [HUMMM? So Jabbing someone with an experimental treatment that may ultimately lead to severe debilitation and potentially death from unusual and dreadful disease is an achievement. God help those spreading this poison Koolaid in a needle.– rdb]

The prime minister also said he had been in contact with Pfizer and the company will soon announce a vaccine that is approved for use on children.

“Kudos to the citizens of Israel who reached five million vaccinated people,” Edelstein said, after admitting that just weeks earlier he doubted that the country would reach the target in the foreseeable future.

“We can now open up nearly everything, the economy, culture, sport, leisure, tourism,” Edelstein said, referring to lockdown restrictions to curb the virus spread, which were already significantly rolled back on Sunday.

In January, Health Ministry Director-General Chezy Levy predicted Israel would reach “herd immunity” when the combined number of vaccinated, those who have recovered from the coronavirus, and those infected reaches 5 million, according to leaks at the time from a cabinet meeting.

Of the five million who have now had the first vaccine dose, 3,789,118 have also had the second, according to Health Ministry figures released Monday. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/5-million-israelis-vaccinated-pm-all-adults-will-be-inoculated-by-next-month/>

**Opening new prison, Military Police seeks criminal reform in IDF**

***Army’s top cop says his unit has undergone significant reforms following the suicide of a soldier being recruited as a police informant***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 12:35 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/WhatsApp_Image_2021-03-07_at_22.10.13.jpg)

The military's nearly completed Prison 10 complex, which will replace the Israel Defense Forces' existing British Mandate-era prisons in March 2021. (Israel Defense Forces)

Two years ago, an Israel Defense Forces soldier died by suicide while being aggressively recruited to serve as an informant against his comrades, who were suspected of selling drugs on their base. Since then, the Military Police says, it has sought to reform not only its methods of recruiting assets but all aspects of the military’s internal justice system, which has long been accused of unequal enforcement and arbitrary punishments.

According to the IDF’s top police officer, Brig. Gen. Yair Bareket, the death of Cpl. Niv Lubaton in January 2019 and its circumstances are discussed constantly within Bareket’s unit as a cautionary tale. He notes that there have been no cases like it since.

Following Lubaton’s suicide, his two Military Police recruiters were arrested and charged, not only over the methods they used to coerce him into cooperating but also for failing to report that he had expressed intentions to harm himself, as they were required to do. The pair did not pass along the information to their superiors even after Lubaton went missing — a first indicator of a potential suicide — and when they finally did report the matter, they did so with false information, according to the indictment.

 Lubaton’s case has returned to the headlines in recent weeks, after the investigatory television program “Uvda” obtained and broadcast recordings of the recruiters’ phone calls with him before his death.

The IDF has appealed to a civilian court to allow it to take disciplinary action against the recruiters’ commander, who was held responsible for their behavior but was not directly implicated in Lubaton’s suicide.

Cpl. Niv Lubaton, an IDF soldier who committed suicide as he was being recruited as a Military Police informant in 2019. (Facebook)

Following an internal investigation, IDF Chief of Staff Aviv Kohavi ordered that the officer, a major, be removed from the Military Police’s Investigatory Unit, known by its Hebrew acronym Metzah, and barred from promotion for the next six years.

The officer successfully appealed to a civilian court to have his punishment revoked, a ruling the IDF saw as deeply problematic as it undermines its ability to hold commanders responsible for their subordinates even in cases where they are not personally culpable — a fundamental concept in military hierarchies. Last week, the military filed an appeal with the Supreme Court asking it to overturn the lower court’s ruling.

In light of Lubaton’s suicide, Bareket ordered a full review of the procedure by which Military Police informant recruiters are chosen and trained, adding a psychological evaluation to the process along with a number of additional oversight protocols, he said.

In addition to those specific reforms, the Military Police has more broadly been working to overhaul the IDF’s justice system, with the goal of reducing the number of soldiers in military prisons as well as the rate of recidivism.

Bareket spoke Monday to reporters inside the military’s nearly completed Prison 10, which is scheduled to open in approximately three weeks. The new complex, near the town of Kfar Yona in central Israel, is meant to replace the IDF’s Prison 4 and Prison 6, as well as the military’s three courthouses, bringing them all into one facility. Still, Bareket stressed that the courts and the prison would maintain a high degree of separation and independence.



The military’s nearly completed Prison 10 complex, which will replace the Israel Defense Forces’ existing British Mandate-era prisons in March 2021. (Israel Defense Forces)

The new facility, which is outfitted with some 700 cameras and surrounded by a three-meter-tall (10-foot) concrete wall topped by a 1.5-meter-tall (5-foot) metal fence with barbed wire, can house over 900 inmates. As not all IDF barracks have air conditioning, it was decided that the prison should not have air conditioning in the living quarters, despite it being a new building.

“It is a prison, after all,” said Col. Meital Shushan, the head of policing.

However, each room does come equipped with a flat-screen television, which Shushan said would not only be used for regular broadcasts, but also for educational content and internal messages.

In order to keep as many people as possible out of that prison, the Military Police has been instituting a new ranking system for offenses within the IDF, designed to keep soldiers who have committed comparatively minor disciplinary infractions out of prison and have them serve out their sentences on their home bases instead. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/opening-new-prison-military-police-seeks-criminal-reform-in-idf/>

**Syrian dictator Assad and first lady test positive for COVID**

***Official statement says both feeling well, will isolate for 2-3 weeks; unclear if they’d been vaccinated; Israel reportedly funded shipment of Sputnik V doses to Syria last month***

*By* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 3:36 pm*

Syrian President Bashar Assad and his wife Asma have tested positive for COVID-19 after experiencing mild symptoms, the presidency said Monday. “After experiencing mild symptoms that resemble… COVID-19, President Assad and first lady Asma Assad took a PCR test, and the result showed that they are infected with the virus,” the presidency said in a statement.

“They are in good health and their condition is stable,” the statement said.

It said that the two will spend between two to three weeks in isolation in their home.



Syrian President Bashar Assad and his wife, Asma (photo credit: AP/Michel Spingler/File)

It was not immediately clear if Assad and his family members have been vaccinated.

Assad is 55 and his wife is 10 years his junior.

In 2019, Asma [announced](https://www.timesofisrael.com/asma-assad-wife-of-syrian-dictator-says-she-totally-conquered-cancer/) she was “totally” free of breast cancer after a year of treatment.

Syria, which marks 10 years of war next week, has recorded nearly 16,000 virus cases in government-held parts of the country and 1,063 deaths, but the numbers are believed to be much higher with limited amounts of PCR testing being done.

Syria began a vaccination campaign last week, but no details have been given about the process.

The development came after media reports in Israel and abroad claimed that [Jerusalem had agreed to fund the purchase](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-said-to-purchase-russian-covid-vaccine-for-syria-in-exchange-for-captive/) of an unknown quantity of Russia’s Sputnik V vaccine for Syria, as part of a deal for the return of an Israeli woman who was held by Damascus after she crossed the border at the start of February.

The terms of the clandestine trade-off negotiated by Moscow remained murky; Damascus denied it happened and Russia had no comment.

Though Syria is under international financial sanctions, medicines are generally exempt. However, sanctions imposed on Syria to pressure the regime over its human rights record have left the country with little financial resources to negotiate deals for a national inoculation program. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/syrian-dictator-assad-and-first-lady-test-positive-for-covid/>

**Ten years on, no peace after war in Syria**

***With 400,000 dead and over 11 million displaced — largest induced by conflict since WWII — Assad is still in power, offering no credible prospects of reconciliation or change for the Syrian people left as prey to foreign powers***

*AFP | Published: 03.08.21 , 23:24*

After a decade of unfathomable violence and human tragedy that has made Syria the defining war of the early 21st century, the fighting has tapered off but the suffering hasn't.

In 2011, Bashar al-Assad and his government briefly looked like another domino about to fall in the whirlwind of pro-democracy revolts sweeping the Middle East.

A Syrian man mourns over his destroyed home in Arbin in the eastern Ghouta region of Syria


***A Syrian man mourns over his destroyed home in Arbin in the eastern Ghouta region of Syria (Photo: AFP)***

Ten years later, Assad is still there, a pyrrhic victor offering no credible prospects of reconciliation for the Syrian people and exercising limited sovereignty over a land left prey to foreign powers.

In late January 2011, the uprisings that toppled dictators in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya became known as the "Arab Spring" and the contagious nature of the region's revolts became obvious.

It took time for the wave of protests to take hold in Syria, where demonstrations had been banned for half a century and the government seemed more entrenched than anywhere else in the region.

Some of the first gatherings, such as vigils outside the Libyan embassy, were ostensibly in support of the other uprisings and not a direct challenge to the four-decade-old rule of the Assad clan.

"We would call for freedom and democracy in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya, but we were actually chanting for Syria," prominent Syrian activist Mazen Darwish recalled.

"We became obsessed with finding the spark that would put us next in line," he says, retracing the beginnings of Syria's revolt in a phone interview with AFP. "Who was going to be Syria's Bouazizi?"

The closest equivalent to Mohamed Bouazizi, the young street vendor whose self-immolation was the trigger for Tunisia's revolt, turned out to be youngsters who spray-painted the words "Your turn, doctor" on a wall in the southern town of Daraa.

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| --- | --- |
| Syria docs  Anti-government protestors in Damascus in 2011 (Photo: AP) | סוריה מחנה פליטים אל הול  A refugee camp in north-western Syria (Photo: AFP) |

The slogan was a clear reference to Assad, wishing the London-trained ophthalmologist the same fate as Tunisia's Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali, who had to flee into exile -- or perhaps even Libya's Moamer Kadhafi, who was later that year lynched by a frenzied mob.

The graffiti led to arrests and torture, which in turn caused an uproar that rallied a critical number of Syrians behind the protests. March 15, the date which AFP and many others use for the start of the Syrian uprising, was not the first day of protests but the day that demonstrations happened nationwide and simultaneously.

Journalist and author Rania Abouzeid describes the moment that gives its title to her book on the Syrian war: "No Turning Back".

“The great wall of fear had cracked, the silence was shattered. The confrontation was existential – for all sides – from its inception,” she wrote.

***Exodus***

What came next led to the planet's worst conflict in a generation.

The displacement, which saw half of Syria's pre-war population of 22 million forced to flee their homes, was the largest induced by conflict since World War II.

Half of those displaced fled the country, some of them swelling a wave of refugees reaching the shores of Europe, a phenomenon whose scope affected public opinion, politics and the outcome of elections on the continent.

In the chaos that followed the eruption of civil conflict in Syria, the most violent group in modern jihad -- the so-called Islamic State -- proclaimed a "caliphate" straddling Syria and Iraq that reshaped global terrorism.

Arch foes Iran and the United States both sent troops to Syria to protect their interests, as did Turkey. Russia for its part launched in 2015 its largest military intervention since the collapse of the Soviet Union, a move that turned the tide in Assad's favor.

Almost 400,000 people were killed in 10 years, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a UK-based war monitor that has continued to keep count after international organizations gave up.

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| סוריה פליטים סורים בגבול טורקיה חוזרים לבתיהם מחוז חלב  Syrian refugees escaping the fighting in Aleppo (צילום: AFP) | Syrian Democratic Forces fighters in Raqqa, Syria  Syrian Democratic Forces fighters in Raqqa, Syria (Photo: Reuters) |

Most of the 117,000 civilians in that grim tally were killed by the government, whose willingness to turn against the population surprised even its fiercest opponents.

"I didn't think it would reach this level of violence," said Darwish. "But I was mistaken."

The government has used chemical weapons on civilian areas to subdue pockets of resistance, it has raided densely inhabited areas with crude barrel bombs that sow indiscriminate death, and systematically resorted to siege and starvation tactics.

***War spiral***

Countless strikes were carried out against medical facilities in defiance of global outrage.

Huge swathes of Aleppo, once the country's economic hub and a heritage jewel considered one of the world's longest continuously inhabited cities, were leveled. MUCH MORE - <https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/BJG8kq7Qd>

**Middle East expert fears trainwreck in region if Iran emboldened**

***"Because of the Iran threat and possibility of US abandoning the Saudis, the Saudis may decide that they need a strategic alliance with Israel sooner rather than later."***

*By* [*SETH J. FRANTZMAN*](https://www.jpost.com/author/seth-j-frantzman) *MARCH 8, 2021 22:37*

An Iranian-backed war against Israel involving Hezbollah in Lebanon on one end, and [a Saudi peace deal](https://www.jpost.com/opinion/how-saudi-arabia-is-our-ticket-to-iran-661360) on the other, could be in the air, according to author Joel Rosenberg, who has spoken with leaders in the region.

"I write about worst case scenarios,” said Joel Rosenberg.   
 The author of political thrillers has also become a witness to history in the region in recent years, meeting monarchs and political leaders as the [Abraham Accords](https://www.jpost.com/tags/abraham-accords) took shape. As such his political thrillers, the fourth of which has just been released, can be a window into what might happen in the region, gleaned from real life scenarios.   
 “One of themes of my novels is this: To misunderstand the nature and threat of evil is to risk being blindsided by it. I’m not trying to predict a Third Lebanon War is going to happen, much less in 2021. I don’t want it to happen at all.   
 "But a novel can act like a war game, it can take people into threats and dangers that they may not be thinking about and help them imagine what could happen if American leaders are blindsided by threats they don’t see coming,” he says.  
 The last time I saw Rosenberg [was in Dubai](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/unprecedented-israeli-turnout-for-dubais-gitex-hi-tech-confab-651679) during the brief window when thousands were traveling daily from Tel Aviv to Dubai.   
 In December he met the UAE's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs for an interview he published at All Israel News. In the past he has met the King of Jordan and Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman in Saudi Arabia.   
 In November I spoke to Rosenberg after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu flew to Saudi Arabia. His views tend to reflect some of the tectonic changes taking place in the region.   
 Now he has a warning, and it is one that is mirrored, in a way, by his recent book. “The Second Lebanon War in 2006 was horrible. But I actually believe that the Lebanon theatre is the most likely next major war in the Middle East, and possibly even in 2021.   
 "In the 34 days of the Second Lebanon War, we saw 4,000 missiles fired by Hezbollah at Israel – but in a Third Lebanon War, we could see 4,000 missiles a day being fired at Israel. I am very concerned. This is the type of thing that could erupt at a moment’s notice.”   
 He says that in his new book *Beirut Protocol*, a former US Marine named Marcus Ryker, gets caught up in a war that breaks out on the Lebanese border. “In The Beirut Protocol, the US is trying to finalize a historic peace agreement between Israel and Saudi Arabia. But the US is also worried that Iran is going to try to use the peace process to foment trouble,” he says.   
 If this reminds us of what is actually going on in the region, it is for good reason. Like Tom Clancy’s books, which looked at real concerns during the Cold War era and after, this is about the here and now.    
 In his book, the Secretary of State is coming to the region to try to finalize the peace deal. On her way to Riyadh, she plans to stop in Israel and wants to tour the border with Lebanon and get a briefing on the latest threat from Hezbollah, he says.   
 Today, in the non-fiction world, the US administration [has said](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/peace-with-israel-a-shared-goal-of-saudi-arabia-and-us-state-dept-says-660634) that it supports a possible peace deal between Israel and Saudi Arabia.    
 Rosenberg encourages us to look at Lebanon as a major focus and one the US should take seriously.   
 He notes that the US was more focused on Lebanon in the 1970s and 1980s. “But in recent years, very little attention has been paid to Lebanon.”   
 He says that the Biden administration is “beginning to take a series of actions that looks very weak toward Iran. There is a growing sense among senior Israeli officials that they may have to go back to the way they were thinking in 2012 – that if the US and international community don’t take decisive action either diplomatically or militarily to stop Iran from getting The Bomb, then the IDF may be forced to launch pre-emptive airstrikes against nuclear facilities inside Iran.”  
 These concerns have been made clear by Israeli defense officials in recent weeks. Warnings about Iranian nuclear enrichment have been made public. In addition Israel is concerned about Iran’s role in Yemen and its threats from Syria, as well as Hezbollah.  
 “Israeli official are increasingly worried that the Biden administration could stumble into a weak and ineffectual Second Nuclear Deal,” says Rosenberg. “What people don’t realize is that Iran’s number one way of striking back at Israel is not primarily with Iranian missiles but with Iranian-built missiles – 150,000 of them – positioned in Lebanon and all aimed at us here in Israel.”   
 He has a bitter warning for the future as well. “That type of scenario – with thousands of missiles raining down on Israel every day – could completely overwhelm Israeli missile defense systems. That is a terrifying prospect and not just for Israel. It could also pull the US into a war inadvertently and the Biden administration must take this seriously.”   
 This is an important issue that is not well understood sometimes. During the Trump era Israel was given a free rein to do as it wanted. Israel’s choices, given that blank check, was generally to keep the status quo. That meant continuing the so-called ‘Campaign Between the Wars’ in Syria by carrying out airstrikes on Iranian targets. It also meant warning about Iran’s ballistic missile and drone programs. MORE - <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/middle-east-expert-fears-trainwreck-in-region-if-iran-emboldened-661370> [Rosenberg is a most insightful author and just like Jonathan Cahn seems to have a remarkable handle on world events and what seems to be coming down the pike. – rdb]

**Egypt's Education Ministry to teach Judaism in schools for first time ever**

**Thr** [sic-rdb]**move will allow Egyptian students to study verses from the Jewish religion for the first time in the country's history.**

*By* [*JERUSALEM POST STAFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/jerusalem-post-staff) *MARCH 9, 2021 02:54*

In an unprecedented move, the Egyptian parliament recently commended the Ministry of Education on approving a new school subject: Religious values ​​and verses that have the same meaning in the three Abrahamic religions - Judaism, Christianity and Islam, Al-Monitor [reported](https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2021/03/egypt-education-religion-christianity-judaism-quran-verses.html).

The decision will allow Egyptian students to study verses from the Jewish religion for the first time ever.

“The Ministry of Education’s approval of the subject of religious values ​​shared between the divine religions expresses the state’s keenness to spread the values ​​of tolerance and fraternity,” declared Kamal Amer, the head of the parliamentary defense and the National Security Committee, in the Egyptian Parliament.

The three religions “include common values ​​that students must study to be able to confront the extremist and takfirist ideas that backward groups are working to spread in society,” Amer continued. [Glori-oski! No way would anyone have ever thought this would occur. BUT- you must remember that when you look at Ezekiel 38, the bordering nations are not mentioned and not a party to the war! Why? Either they don’t exist OR they have a valid workable peace agreement with Israel. – rdb]

He added that “President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi is keen to teach the youth the values ​​of respect for others, tolerance and rejection of fanaticism and extremism. This is why the Ministry of Education decided to teach the subject of common values ​​in schools.”

On February 14, the Ministry of Education approved the parliament’s proposal on the subject of common values ​​between all the Abrahamic religions and the principles of tolerance, citizenship and coexistence.

"Due to its importance, the subject will be factored into students' GPAs, even though religious classes are usually not counted," Deputy Minister of Education Reda Hegazy said during the meeting, Al-Monitor reported.

Farid el-Bayadi, a member of the Defense and National Security Committee and author of the proposal told Al-Monitor that “The decision to teach this subject ​​in schools will play an important role in spreading principles and values ​​that stand against extremism and hatred,” as he also called for the removal of Islamic religious texts from a number of subjects such as Arabic.

“Teaching religious texts through subjects unrelated to religion leads teachers to interpret such texts in extremist and subversive ways and studies have established a link between this issue and the spread of extremist ideas,” he added.

“Teaching students texts that carry common values from the three Abrahamic religions ​​is essential in terms of strengthening the principles of humanity," Bayadi continued. "The crisis lies in extremist interpretations of texts that may lead to intolerance and hatred.”

He added, “The current religious curricula must be developed so that their goals promote the fight against intolerance and extremism.”

Journalist Kamal Zakher told Al-Monitor, “The decision to teach the subject of common values ​​cannot alone confront extremism because Egyptian society is riddled with extremism and intolerance.” <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/egypts-education-ministry-to-teach-judaism-in-schools-for-first-time-ever-661383>

**China's Military Budget Keeps Growing: Why the World Should Worry**

***China’s massive military budget demonstrates the central place that China’s armed forces hold in implementing (or influencing) the country’s foreign policy.***

*by* [*Jagannath Panda*](https://nationalinterest.org/profile/jagannath-panda) *March 8, 2021*

Beijing’s rising defense budget has long been a critical indicator of the nation’s economic growth and perceived security threats, offering crucial insight into the authoritarian regime’s not-so-transparent plans. It offers the international community crucial insight into an otherwise non-transparent authoritarian regime that is increasingly at odds with the West and major powers in the Indo-Pacific. On the inaugural day of the annual parliamentary meeting of the National People’s Congress (NPC), Chinese Premier Li Keqiang [announced](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/terminal/QPH7IFDWLU72) that China has increased its defense budget for 2021 by [6.8 percent to 1.35 trillion yuan](https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202103/1217416.shtml) (USD 209 billion). Although this increase follows Beijing’s trend of single-digit year-on-year growth, it comes despite the economic dip that China has witnessed amid the pandemic. What is the significance of Beijing’s budgeted military spending for the coming year, particularly in the backdrop of the Chinese Communist Party’s (CCP) forthcoming centennial anniversary?

The 2021 budget marks China’s [third yearly increase](https://www.csis.org/analysis/understanding-chinas-2021-defense-budget#:~:text=The%20Stockholm%20International%20Peace%20Research,2019%20figure%20at%20%24234%20billion.) in defense budget growth; although the budget hike in 2021 is only slightly higher than that of 2020 ([6.6 percent](https://www.defensenews.com/global/asia-pacific/2020/05/22/china-announces-1782-billion-military-budget/) increase to USD 179 billion), it is representative of Beijing’s ongoing modernization efforts to transform its People’s Liberation Army (PLA) into a “[world-class military by the mid-21st century](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-10/26/c_136708142.htm).” The communique of the fifth plenary session of the Nineteenth Central Committee of the CCP in October 2020 made [military modernization](https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1205446.shtml) a primary goal under the Fourteenth Five-Year Plan (2021-25). The budget builds on the extensive [reforms and restructuring](https://news.cgtn.com/news/2020-08-01/Graphics-China-s-military-reform-in-past-5-years--SceNvpfC92/index.html) that the PLA underwent over the past five years since 2015, aiming to achieve a comprehensive overhaul by 2020. With these objectives achieved, Beijing is now looking to enter the second phase of its military modernization with a more acute focus on areas like military-civilian integration and tech innovation. In other words, China’s defense budget for the coming year is in line with this objective, meant to “[vigorously support](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-03-05/china-s-defense-budget-climbs-6-8-as-economy-recovers)” rising defense capabilities.

Besides, Beijing’s [two centennial goals](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-10/17/c_136686770.htm)—marking the centenary of the CCP in 2021 and the centenary of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) in 2049—another major one-hundredth anniversary that Beijing is set to celebrate is the founding of the PLA, marking its completion in 2027. For President Xi Jinping, the PLA’s centennial comes as a precursor to his political maneuvers for using the military as a tool to strengthen the CCP’s domestic and global clout. By then, China plans on building a fully modernized military that aligns with its national defense needs to deal with [threats](https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1205238.shtml) brought by “hegemonism and power politics” and safeguard its overseas economic, strategic, and developmental interests. Hence, the [Government Work Report](https://www.caixinglobal.com/2021-03-05/two-sessions-2021-highlights-of-premiers-government-work-report-101671410.html) (GWR) delivered at the 2021 NPC session decreed that in 2021, China will be [focused](https://www.cnbc.com/2021/03/05/china-sets-2021-gdp-growth-target-of-over-6percent.html) on promoting military training across all sectors, enhancing the PLA’s capacity to protect national sovereign interests, improving response to security risks, and technological and industrial development of the defense sector to enhance mobilization. MORE -<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/chinas-military-budget-keeps-growing-why-world-should-worry-179573> [And the toads in DC think homeland terrorism (by people on the right) or that Russia is the primary problem for the USA. Stupidity is incurable particularly if your are a leftist ideologue – rdb]

**Biden White House hammered for 'religious discrimination'**

***Arbitrarily fires EEOC lawyer who fought for Christians, Hindus, Jews, Muslims, Sikhs***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published March 8, 2021 at 7:40pm*

President Biden's firing of the general counsel for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, a non-partisan position, reflects an intolerance of religious rights, critics contend.

EEOC lawyer Sharon Gustafson, appointed in 2019 for a term scheduled to end in 2023, was told to resign. She refused, so Biden immediately fired her.

[BizPacReview reported](https://www.bizpacreview.com/2021/03/08/trump-appointed-attorney-who-refused-to-resign-in-fiery-letter-is-booted-by-biden-1039396/) the Biden administration dismissed Gustafson allegedly because they regarded her as "anti-LGBTQ."

The report cited former Obama EEOC general counsel David Lopes.

"One of the issues she made as her hallmark, was the issue of discrimination against religious minorities, the law requiring religious accommodation of beliefs," he said. "Some lawyers from the conservative Christian right view this right as a conflict with requiring nondiscrimination against LGBTQ people."

Democrats propose to resolve that conflict through the Equality Act, which would prioritize LGBT rights over First Amendment's protections of free speech and the exercise of religion. [The ‘equality act’ is a vile infringement on the rights of people to have an opinion and to adhere to Judeo-Christian beliefs. You can bet your bottom dollar that there will be more of this coming under the new Obamanation government which is currently in the Whitehouse – rdb]

In her response to Biden's order to resign, she pointed out that information about her efforts to promote religious freedom were removed from the web immediately upon Biden's inauguration.

"I can only assume that my resignation would be followed by similar suppression of our work promoting religious freedom," she wrote.

Gustafson explained: "During my term, I established a Religious Discrimination Work Group that hosted a series of Listening Sessions in which a diverse group of representatives – including Christians, Hindus, Jews, Muslims, and Sikhs – recommended ways the EEOC could improve its response to employees who experience religious discrimination.  
 "The Work Group built on a 2016 initiative of the Obama-Biden White House and Department of Justice to promote religious freedom and combat religious discrimination."  
 She said her report was published on the EEOC's website in January, but shortly after Biden took office, "the report and press release were removed."  
 A podcast on religious discrimination also was removed, she said.  
 "I can only assume that my resignation would be followed by similar suppression of our work promoting religious freedom," she said.  
 Gustafson said she didn't know who demanded her removal, but "please be aware that there are those who oppose my advocacy on behalf of employees who experience religious discrimination and on behalf of constitutional and statutory protections for religious entities."  
 [Bloomberg reported](https://news.bloomberglaw.com/daily-labor-report/biden-to-fire-trump-eeoc-general-counsel-who-refused-to-resign) the firing came shortly after Biden fired National Labor Relations Board General Counsel Peter Robb, who was also a Trump appointee to another nonpartisan post.  
 The EEOC and NLRB are independent agencies within the executive branch, and Gustafson’s termination could have legal as well as political implications, Bloomberg Law explained.  
 "After Biden sacked Robb at the NLRB, employers challenged the board’s prosecutorial power, alleging the administration lacked the legal authority to terminate him prior to the end of his term."  
 The report said Republican EEOC commissioner Andrea Lucas called Gustafson’s firing “deeply troubling."  
 ...telling evidence of what “unity” actually means to this President and his Administration. In his inaugural address, the President said, “The right to dissent peaceably, within the guardrails of our Republic, is perhaps our nation’s greatest strength.”  
 — Andrea R. Lucas (@andrealucasEEOC) [March 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/andrealucasEEOC/status/1367958635574394880)  
 In the days leading up to the President’s decision to fire Ms. Gustafson, a report and related materials dealing with religious discrimination were removed from the EEOC’s website shortly after inauguration.  
 — Andrea R. Lucas (@andrealucasEEOC) [March 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/andrealucasEEOC/status/1367958637344350208)  
 I argued in my letter that calls for unity “cannot come at the expense of diversity” and that we “must find a way to be unified despite strongly held disagreements, not unified through uniformity.”  
 — Andrea R. Lucas (@andrealucasEEOC) [March 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/andrealucasEEOC/status/1367958639051476996)  
 Gustafson criticized the White House for turning what should be a bipartisan agency into a partisan battlefield.  
 "Civil rights is a bipartisan issue, and all the statutes I enforce as general counsel were passed with bipartisan support. Congress deliberately created the EEOC as a bipartisan entity – with commissioners from both parties who have staggered 5-year terms of office that straddle presidential elections – and manifested the intention that the agency have a measure of political independence," she said.  
 Rep. Virginia Foxx, R-N.C., said: "This is a pattern. President Biden calls for the end to ‘partisan warfare,’ only to turn around and demand that Senate-confirmed officials resign so he can make room for his left-wing friends.  
 Foxx said Biden "should take a note from General Counsel Gustafson, who stuck to her commitment and refused to cave to partisan pressure."  
 "This unprecedented firing of an honorable public official which occurred just hours after she was asked to resign is unwarranted and should be immediately rescinded," she said. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/biden-white-house-hammered-religious-discrimination/> [What should be rescinded is the approval of the election results which were flagrantly fraudulent feculent material. – rdb]

**Biden's eyes 'are now dead': Bannon says President Kamala is imminent**

***Dan Bongino: 'Democrats are going to have to make a decision soon'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published March 8, 2021 at 7:05pm*

Former White House chief strategist Steve Bannon believes America should prepare for a transition to a President Harris.

Bannon was speaking with the author of the book "Biden Unauthorized," Mike McCormick, on his "War Room" video podcast, [reported Conservative Brief.](https://conservativebrief.com/soundsthealarm-36420/)

Bannon pointed to a photo of Biden on the cover of McCormick's book that was taken some years ago, showing a glint in the eyes of the longtime senator and former vice president.

His "eyes are now dead," Bannon said of Biden, noting Harris has a much greater role than previous vice presidents, including meeting with foreign leaders.

"Kamala Harris is printed up in playbooks, always there for these meetings," Bannon said. "Pence was never that. That's not the role of the vice president."

*See the remarks:*

Former Secret Service member Dan Bongino, in a recent interview with Sean Hannity, said he was "hearing from people close to the situation that Biden’s cognitive decline is rapidly worsening and is becoming increasingly difficult to mask." Bottom of Form

"The Democrats are going to have to make a decision soon," he said.

Democrats already have moved in Congress to restrict Biden's authority to launch a nuclear strike as well as presidential war powers.

President Trump mentioned during House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's second attempt to remove him from office through impeachment that he wasn't concerned about Congress using the 25th Amendment to remove him.

But he said Joe Biden should be.

"Free speech is under assault like never before," the president said during a visit to the Mexican border. "The 25th Amendment is of zero risk to me, but will come back to haunt Joe Biden and the Biden administration. As the expression goes, be careful what you wish for." MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/bidens-eyes-now-dead-bannon-says-president-kamala-imminent/>

**Dems' stimulus includes $86 billion bailout for union pensions**

***Handouts to go to weakest plans that are not required to change***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published March 8, 2021 at 1:03pm* ***By Thomas Catenacci*** *Daily Caller News Foundation*

An $86 billion bailout for nearly 200 union pensions was included in the Democrats’ massive stimulus package, which President Joe Biden is expected to sign into law soon.

More than a million unionized truck drivers, retail clerks, construction workers and others would likely miss out on retirement income without the bailout, according to [The New York Times](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/07/business/dealbook/bailout-pensions-stimulus.html?action=click&module=Spotlight&pgtype=Homepage). The union bailout, among the $1.9 trillion [coronavirus relief package’s](https://dailycaller.com/2021/03/01/democrats-minimum-wage-senate-bernie-sanders-ron-wyden-corporations-small-business/) provisions [unrelated to the pandemic](https://dailycaller.com/2021/02/22/joe-biden-coronavirus-relief-package-chuck-schumer-pet-priority/), rescues 185 pension plans across several states.

“There’s more money in this to bailout [sic] union pension funds, than all the money combined for vaccine distribution and testing,” Republican Tennessee Sen. Bill Hagerty [tweeted](https://twitter.com/SenatorHagerty/status/1367279329915322371) last week.

Republican Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley [said](https://www.republicanleader.senate.gov/newsroom/research/democrats-support-totally-unrelated-pension-bailout-in-their-spending-bill) the provision was “totally unrelated to the pandemic” and fails to even address the root cause of the failing pensions.

Declining union membership and bankruptcies have contributed to the trend of pension plans nationwide running out of money, the NYT reported. The trend of failing pensions started long before the pandemic.

The bailout included in the stimulus package gives government funding to the weakest pension plans, which will be enough to keep the plans solvent for 30 years, according to the NYT. There are no conditions tied to the funding meaning plans aren’t required to make changes, pay the government back or freeze accruals.

“Imagine that you have a college-aged kid who runs up $1,500 in credit card debt,” James P. Naughton, a professor at University of Virginia’s Darden School of Business, told the NYT. “If you give him $1,500 and you don’t do anything else, the odds that the problem is going to get fixed are pretty low.”

A taxpayer-funded pension bailout is unprecedented, according to the NYT. Past failed attempts to aid insolvent pensions proposed to offer 30-year loans to the plans, not multibillion-dollar check.

The Senate [passed](https://dailycaller.com/2021/03/06/senate-passes-trillion-covid-19-relief-bill-joe-biden-stimulus-checks/) the [coronavirus relief package](https://dailycaller.com/2021/02/24/corporate-executives-joe-biden-american-rescue-plan/) along party lines on Saturday. The House, which [passed](https://dailycaller.com/2021/02/27/american-rescue-plan-covid-19-coronavirus-relief-package-house-of-representatives-joe-biden/) a version of the package last week also along party lines, will vote on the revised version Tuesday, CNN [reported](https://www.cnn.com/politics/live-news/stimulus-update-us-relief-bill-03-06-21/h_f2c8f1828f0680d2f85bece3262dd72d).

“You’d say, why would that be? Why would every Republican vote against it as well as some Democrats? And it’s because it is packed with pork,” Republican Wyoming Sen. John Barrasso [told reporters](https://www.republicanleader.senate.gov/newsroom/research/democrats-support-totally-unrelated-pension-bailout-in-their-spending-bill). “It is a wish list of liberal spending. What does it do? Bails out states, bails out big cities, bails out failed union pension plans.” <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/dems-stimulus-includes-86-billion-bailout-union-pensions/>

**Commentary:**

**The COVID Hypochondriacs Think They’re Saving the World, But They're Actually Destroying It**

[*Scott Morefield*](https://townhall.com/columnists/scottmorefield/) *Posted: Mar 08, 2021 12:01 AM*  
 The United States recently passed a grim “milestone” of sorts with over 500,000 deaths being attributed in some way to COVID-19. What this really means, of course, is that more than 500,000 mostly super-old and/or mostly super-sick people have died who, at some point prior to or at their deaths, discovered COVID-19 in their systems thanks to super-sensitive PCR testing that may or may not have been correct. Sadly, that’s the extent of what we know for sure at this point, though our overlords pretend they know everything while [consistently being proven wrong](https://twitter.com/SKMorefield/status/1366439982873862144) weeks later.  
 Half a million is a big number, for sure, but around 3 million people die in this country every year, to the tune of well over 7,000 every single day. Yes, there have been excess deaths caused by COVID, but those are probably two-thirds of that grim number we constantly see on the TV ticker. Further, overall deaths over the coming years are likely to be significantly lower as we find that COVID-19 took many people weeks and months earlier than they otherwise would have gone.  
 I don’t point these things out to be insensitive or disrespectful of the dead, but I do think society has lost all sense of perspective. All death is tragic and sad, especially for those who lose loved ones, and my intention is not to minimize any of it. It is, however, my responsibility to point out that, as absurd as it sounds, a significant proportion of the population of this country seems to have forgotten that we are all, at some point, going to die. Indeed, even as 500,000 were dying of or with COVID-19, 660,000 others were dying of heart disease, and 600,000 were dying of cancer. Where, pray tell, is the national memorial for them?

The truth is, throughout human history, the chance has ALWAYS existed that one could transmit a virus or pathogen either directly or indirectly to someone already super old, super sick, and/or super vulnerable (i.e. immunocompromised) and that that virus or pathogen could play a part in someone’s death. Humans have been at least to some degree aware of this for hundreds of years. It’s not that society shouldn’t be wary of germs and viruses and take reasonable, sustainable precautions against them. But THIS? What has gone on over the past YEAR? To say these draconian lockdowns, unscientific mandates, and bizarre restrictions have been entirely disproportionate to the actual threat would be the understatement of the century. They have been a gross, pathological, hard-to-believe-it’s-not-intentional OVERreaction.  
 Seemingly out of nowhere, society has turned itself into a pretzel in a futile attempt to prevent anyone from dying of or with COVID-19, even though the survival rate is well above 99.5% and the vast majority of those who have died with the virus would have likely soon been dead of something else. We have destroyed livelihoods, futures, and even lives in this Quixotic quest, yet have accomplished absolutely nothing except paving the way for further tyranny down the road exchanged for a false sense of security and protection. In the name of ‘saving’ humanity, we have tragically undermined and destroyed so many things that bring joy to life.  
 So where does this all end? Vaccine distribution has been ramping up, and Johnson & Johnson is in the game now with a one-shot non-RNA vaccine that could be a game-changer for those who are hesitant. I’m skeptical, but if vaccines ‘work’ to get the fearful feeling good enough to end this charade, that’s good enough for me. Yet, despite increasing vaccination rates and declining infection numbers, Team Apocalypse refuses to budge and are now literally mask-shaming Texas and Mississippi for ending their unconstitutional mandates.   
 Now, Dr. Fauci wants fewer than 10,000 cases a day to even consider relaxing restrictions, a number that hasn’t been reached since the beginning of the pandemic. The often untold reality is, while vaccines may (hopefully) help, they will never eliminate COVID-19 entirely. This virus will ALWAYS be with us, albeit hopefully in a less lethal form. Given that and based on their actions so far, is there evidence our overlords don't intend for the current measures of masking, restrictions, and social distancing to last for years, if not forever, at least in the areas they control?

Zero-COVID, obviously, is the ‘goal’ of [the psychopaths](https://unherd.com/2021/02/inside-the-zero-covid-campaign/) who want to use this pandemic to impose their twisted policy aims on society, and people like Fauci and others who advise President Biden are increasingly looking like they adhere to this ridiculous notion. If ZERO COVID is the impossible goal now, this insane 'New Normal’ we’ve been experiencing for nary on a year will NEVER go away. Not without a fight anyway.  
 We are living in a time when most people seem to believe that appalling (in any era) assaults on individual liberties are completely worth it if they provide the off-chance that SOME lives could maybe, possibly, conceivably be prolonged by a few weeks or a few months. The irrational fear these hypochondriacs can’t let go of has made life intolerable for the living in countless places worldwide. Consequently, we’ve been watching the world die a slow, self-inflicted death. It’s time to choose life. It's past time to fight back against the fear and the fearmongers, assess the risk, and live our lives to the fullest. Because COVID or not, none of us are guaranteed tomorrow. <https://townhall.com/columnists/scottmorefield/2021/03/08/the-covid-hypochondriacs-think-theyre-saving-the-world-but-theyre-actually-destroying-it-n2585854>

**The COVID Hypochondriacs Think They’re Saving the World, But They're Actually Destroying It**

[*Scott Morefield*](https://townhall.com/columnists/scottmorefield/) *Posted: Mar 08, 2021 12:01 AM*  
 The United States recently passed a grim “milestone” of sorts with over 500,000 deaths being attributed in some way to COVID-19. What this really means, of course, is that more than 500,000 mostly super-old and/or mostly super-sick people have died who, at some point prior to or at their deaths, discovered COVID-19 in their systems thanks to super-sensitive PCR testing that may or may not have been correct. Sadly, that’s the extent of what we know for sure at this point, though our overlords pretend they know everything while [consistently being proven wrong](https://twitter.com/SKMorefield/status/1366439982873862144) weeks later.  
 Half a million is a big number, for sure, but around 3 million people die in this country every year, to the tune of well over 7,000 every single day. Yes, there have been excess deaths caused by COVID, but those are probably two-thirds of that grim number we constantly see on the TV ticker. Further, overall deaths over the coming years are likely to be significantly lower as we find that COVID-19 took many people weeks and months earlier than they otherwise would have gone.  
 I don’t point these things out to be insensitive or disrespectful of the dead, but I do think society has lost all sense of perspective. All death is tragic and sad, especially for those who lose loved ones, and my intention is not to minimize any of it. It is, however, my responsibility to point out that, as absurd as it sounds, a significant proportion of the population of this country seems to have forgotten that we are all, at some point, going to die. Indeed, even as 500,000 were dying of or with COVID-19, 660,000 others were dying of heart disease, and 600,000 were dying of cancer. Where, pray tell, is the national memorial for them?

The truth is, throughout human history, the chance has ALWAYS existed that one could transmit a virus or pathogen either directly or indirectly to someone already super old, super sick, and/or super vulnerable (i.e. immunocompromised) and that that virus or pathogen could play a part in someone’s death. Humans have been at least to some degree aware of this for hundreds of years. It’s not that society shouldn’t be wary of germs and viruses and take reasonable, sustainable precautions against them. But THIS? What has gone on over the past YEAR? To say these draconian lockdowns, unscientific mandates, and bizarre restrictions have been entirely disproportionate to the actual threat would be the understatement of the century. They have been a gross, pathological, hard-to-believe-it’s-not-intentional OVERreaction.  
 Seemingly out of nowhere, society has turned itself into a pretzel in a futile attempt to prevent anyone from dying of or with COVID-19, even though the survival rate is well above 99.5% and the vast majority of those who have died with the virus would have likely soon been dead of something else. We have destroyed livelihoods, futures, and even lives in this Quixotic quest, yet have accomplished absolutely nothing except paving the way for further tyranny down the road exchanged for a false sense of security and protection. In the name of ‘saving’ humanity, we have tragically undermined and destroyed so many things that bring joy to life.  
 So where does this all end? Vaccine distribution has been ramping up, and Johnson & Johnson is in the game now with a one-shot non-RNA vaccine that could be a game-changer for those who are hesitant. I’m skeptical, but if vaccines ‘work’ to get the fearful feeling good enough to end this charade, that’s good enough for me. Yet, despite increasing vaccination rates and declining infection numbers, Team Apocalypse refuses to budge and are now literally mask-shaming Texas and Mississippi for ending their unconstitutional mandates.   
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**This “Racism” and “Woke” Thing is Getting WAY Out of Hand***By* [*Frosty Wooldridge*](https://newswithviews.com/author/frosty/)*|March 8th, 2021* Dr. Seuss’ “Cat in the Hat” is now a racist book!  That’s like saying if you drink white milk instead of chocolate, you’re a racist.  If you like daytime more than nighttime, you’re a racist.  That’s like saying the reason that Tom Brady won the Superbowl stems from the fact that he enjoys “White Privilege.”  That’s like Coca Cola telling its majority of ‘White” consumers to be “less White.”  That’s like CNN talk show host Black Don Lemon telling us that the biggest terrorists in America are ‘White men’, when in fact, last year, Black Lives Matter rioters burned, looted and killed people to the tune of over $2 billion.  
 Whatever and whomever continues to push the race narrative in this country, they’re winning.  Virtually every day, you hear that Asian-Americans are being beaten up.  All those gunfights in Chicago are the fault of “White society’s” racism. In the news every night, there is some kind of racial injustice, racial incident and racial prejudice in every corner of America.  It makes anyone wonder why we created a “multicultural” society?  It’s not working!  
 I must admit that I have been integrated all my life as a service brat, as a college student, as an inner-city teacher, as a hospital medical tech, as a ski instructor, as a dance teacher, and as a gym rat.  I have played with, competed against and tipped beers with every race, creed and color of the rainbow all my life.  
 But this past summer of 2020 and even in 2021, I find myself almost apologetically walking around minority people.  I’m not sure of myself anymore because I am blamed for just about everything that’s going wrong for minorities.  
 It makes me wonder if I can order Black Coffee at a restaurant.  Are Brownies off limits?  Are White Castle restaurants that originated in Black dominated Detroit now supposed to be renamed to White Castle restaurants?  What about Chinese Checkers?  Should we call them ‘no gender or race’ checkers?  Should we outlaw Italian sausages because that’s racist?  Should a Black Crow be more deserving than a White Dove?  Should we change White soaps to Black soaps to give equal credence?  
 What about ‘transgender” DNA males competing against DNA females? Is that nuts or what? Why not have transgender types compete among themselves?  Why don’t all DNA female athletes Boycott all events where a DNA male transgender competes?  That would stop that nonsense, immediately. Oh, that wouldn’t be “woke”!  
 Last week, the Cherokee Nation demanded that the Jeep Cherokee SUV to be renamed anything other than ‘Cherokee’ because it’s racist.  What about Cracker Barrel Restaurants being too white? Can Black persons eat in them without fear of being ‘less Black’?  
 Should the United States of America now be called the “Equal States of America”?  
 Should we install ‘affirmative action white quotas’ in the NFL and NBA to give lesser White athletes equal numbers on the field?  Let’s face it, the NBA is virtually 98 percent Black and a smidgen of White boys who cannot jump.  Blacks dominate the NFL by 9 to 1 over lowly unathletic White players. Do we force equal numbers of Blacks into the NHL which is 99 percent White?  Should we force 50 percent Black fans into NHL games to watch a game that doesn’t interest them, and 50 percent White fans to give Black fans a sense of equality?  
 Should we allow Black Lives Matter to completely destroy our cities because they have the right to loot any store, or burn any car parking lot and/or kill anyone in their path?  
 Should we allow Antifa members to continue busting, breaking and burning up any city they choose?  I mean, they haven’t stopped in Portland, Oregon for the past 10 months.  What ever happened to the ‘rule of law’?  
 Should America become a banana republic where the most violent rise to the surface and the rest of us cower in our homes?  That’s what happened in Mexico, Panama, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Columbia and Honduras.  That’s why their citizens are fleeing to America as you read this report.  They sat by while drug cartels, crooked politicians and bad people took over because good people did nothing to stop them.  
 Right now, President Joe Dementia allows anyone to enter our Southern Border without papers, without medical check-up, without background checks and without invitation.  Come one, come all!  Dump your children, your drugs, your poor, your desperate and anyone who wants to make the journey from their wretched countries.  
 There’s only one BIG problem:  how many refugees can we support in our country before all our systems collapse?  The United Nations reported that 100 million refugees would love to move to America tomorrow if given a ticket and vias.  There will be mathematical point where we cannot handle the rest of the world’s refugees.  
 “Most Western elites continue urging the wealthy West not to stem the migrant tide [that adds 83 million net gain annually to the planet], but to absorb our global brothers and sisters until their horrid ordeal has been endured and shared by all—ten billion humans packed onto an ecologically devastated planet.” Dr. Otis Graham, Unguarded Gates  
 Even the beloved movie “Grease” cannot withstand the “Woke Invasion” of our country.  John Wayne, Jimmy Stewart and Clint Eastwood don’t stand a chance because they weren’t perfect in the Woke’s eyes.  
 And, if we allow our historical statues to be trashed, and if we allow our books to be banned, and if we tear down our “Ethos” to a point that no one in America understands what it is to be an “American”, how will we survive into the future?  
 We cannot build a future if we fail to respect our past.  We need reminders to our imperfections.  We can only improve ourselves by understanding ourselves via national self-reflections.  We better get the Black-White equation solved or we’re going to tear ourselves apart.  It gets down to respect.  The great science fiction writer Robert Heinlein said, “When the citizens of a country lose respect for one another; that’s when that country begins to fail.”  
 As to what these videos report, do you want your children to face this kind of a future?  If you don’t, it’s time to speak up across this great country of ours.  
 This video graphically and dramatically illustrates America’s immigration-population crisis as well as the world’s. I wrote it and narrated it. Tim Walters of Cleveland, Ohio directed and produced. Please forward it to all your friends, networks and beyond. Place it on FB, Twitter, Linkedin, Parler and more.  Just click the link below to see the video.  
 [Immigration, Overpopulation, Resources, Civilization](https://www.bitchute.com/video/Txj6kYxtkpD6/) by Frosty Wooldridge  
 Share these videos all over America:  
 “In a five minute astoundingly simple yet brilliant video, [Immigration, Poverty, and Gum Balls](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPjzfGChGlE&feature=player_embedded)”, Roy Beck, director of [www.numbersusa.ORG](http://www.numbersusa.org/), graphically illustrates the impact of overpopulation.  Take five minutes to see for yourself:  
 “[Immigration by the numbers—off the chart](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=muw22wTePqQ)” by Roy Beck  
 This 10-minute demonstration shows Americans the results of unending mass immigration on the quality of life and sustainability for future generations: in a few words, “Mind boggling!”  [www.NumbersUSA.org](http://www.numbersusa.org/) <https://newswithviews.com/this-racism-and-woke-thing-is-getting-way-out-of-hand/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**'I will run for Likud leadership, but only after Netanyahu steps away'**

***MK Nir Barkat at Arutz Sheva studio: The US is Israel’s best strategic partner, we have to find common ground with the Biden administration.***

*Yoni Kempinski , Mar 09 , 2021 1:09 AM*

MK Nir Barkat (Likud) was a guest on Monday at Arutz Sheva’s new studio in Jerusalem and said that he would run for the leadership of the Likud after Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu steps down.  
 Commenting on the March 23 election, Barkat noted that he sees two possible outcomes to the election.  
 “The first, which is the recommended one, is once we pass 61 seats, we can form a right-wing government to focus on the challenges that we have on the right: How to work with the American administration, how to support and strengthen and grow the settlement in Judea and Samaria, how to reform some of the systems in our country, mainly the legal system. We have to boost the economy, and there’s no one better than the Likud and Netanyahu to lead that process,” he said.  
 “The other extreme, if God forbid we cannot reach 61, is that [Yair] Lapid and Meretz and Labor, with the support of the Joint List, with [Naftali] Bennett and [Gideon] Sa’ar will form a government,” added Barkat. “That’s not a right-wing government. That’s a government where the folks from the right of center will be a third of the coalition. They will not be able to do anything that we believe in on the right of center. God forbid, if this happens, we will have a government which will not be able to support the settlement, will stutter with respect to the Palestinian Authority and I am really concerned about that option.”  
 Asked about Israel’s relationship with the new Biden administration, Barkat noted that most of his time as Mayor of Jerusalem overlapped with President Barack Obama’s time in office.  
 “It was very difficult. It was very tough for us to build and Netanyahu maneuvered very wisely. We did grow, not at the rate we wanted, but we worked with the American administration which is the best strategic partner Israel has,” he said.  
 “With the Trump administration, we were able to execute many many things, such as moving the embassy, and thanks to President Trump for his help and support. We were able to create the Abraham Accords with four Muslim Arab countries, which is a phenomenal accomplishment.”  
 The new administration, predicted Barkat, will be somewhere between Obama and Trump. “We’re going to have to reason with them and figure out how we maintain the pressure on Iran. We will strengthen the Abraham Accord. We have to see how we work vis-à-vis the Palestinian Authority and the threats from Gaza.”  
 Stressing that the United States is Israel’s best strategic partner, Barkat said that Israel will have to find common ground with the Biden administration “even if it means here and there that we’ll have to make some sacrifices to our strategy.”  
 Asked about what will happen in the Likud after Netanyahu, Barkat stated that he will not challenge Netanyahu so long as he is the leader of the Likud.  
 “The day he decides to move to the next chapter of his life, there’s naturally going to be an election [for leader of the Likud]. I will both run and believe I will win,” he said. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298130>

**State Department: Visa applicants denied due to Trump 'Muslim ban' can reapply**

***State Department announces that most visa applicants who were denied because of Trump’s travel ban on 13 mostly Muslim-majority countries can submit new applications.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 09 , 2021 4:03 AM*

Most US visa applicants who were denied because of former President Donald Trump’s travel ban on 13 mostly Muslim-majority and African countries can seek new decisions or submit new applications, the State Department announced on Monday, according to *Reuters*.

President Joe Biden overturned Trump’s so-called “Muslim ban” on January 20, when he signed [a slew of executive orders](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/295302) reversing many of Trump’s policies on his first day in office.

State Department spokesman Ned Price said on Monday that applicants who were refused visas prior to January 20, 2020, must submit new applications and pay a new application fee.

Those who were denied on or after January 20, 2020, may seek reconsideration without re-submitting their applications and do not have to pay additional fees, Price said.

Since December 2017, after a revised version of the original travel [ban was upheld by the US Supreme Court](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/235440), some 40,000 people have been barred from entering the United States under the ban, according to State Department data.

The list of countries in the ban changed several times during the Trump administration, noted *Reuters*. At the end of Trump’s presidency it comprised Myanmar, Eritrea, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Nigeria, North Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Venezuela and Yemen. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298133> [Look! Look! Look1 See the US invaded! – rdb]

**Trump's former envoy to State Department: Condemn the Houthis, unequivocally**

***Jason Greenblatt criticizes State Department spokesman's weak condemnation of Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia: This is not standing by our ally.***

*Elad Benari , Mar 09 , 2021 2:07 AM*

Jason Greenblatt, who served as the White House envoy to the Middle East during the Trump administration, on Monday criticized State Department spokesman Ned Price, after he expressed concerned over the Yemen-based Houthi rebels’ constant attacks on Saudi Arabia.

“We are and remain deeply concerned by the frequency of Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia. Attacks like these are not the actions of a group that is serious about peace,” Price told reporters.

Greenblatt fired back and wrote on Twitter, “Calling on ‘all parties to seriously commit to a ceasefire’ while Houthi terrorists attack [the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia] is not standing by our ally. Condemn the Houthis, unequivocally. Make clear KSA must defend its citizens, unequivocally. Period-full stop. Then talk about how unserious the Houthis are.”

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken recently announced the removal of the Houthi rebels from the US list of foreign terrorist organizations, reversing [a decision](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/294660) that was made by the Trump administration days before the end of his term.

The Houthis and their allies took over large parts of Yemen, including the capital Sanaa, in 2015. A Saudi-led military coalition then intervened in Yemen to try to restore the government.

It has long been believed that Iran is planning to use the Houthis to take over Yemen and seize the [**key strategic port of Aden, which controls the entrance**](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/193025) to the Red Sea and ultimately to the Israeli resort city of Eilat.

[Iran denies](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/216998) it is backing the Houthis and [has also denied](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/243713) Saudi Arabian accusations that Tehran provided the Houthi rebels in Yemen with ballistic capabilities.

Last February, the US Navy [seized an Iranian weapons shipment](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/275969) bound for Houthi rebels in Yemen. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298131>

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**03/08/2021 NEWS AM**

**עוזיה צדוק - כנס ללב**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bFByvvn-Pt8>

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| **The heart feels what the eye does not see,**  **Do not be indifferent - if a tear falls here,**  **Life is not perfect and how we all fight.**  **We're all under the same sky,**  **So be one who does not give up,**  **And know that the heart is with you.**  **If the heart speaks, you will learn to listen,**  **Everyone falls, deep inside you too it hurts.**  **The complicated life, what do they promise?**  **We're all under the same sky,**  **Then be one who is not afraid to jump into the water first.**  **You will always be my hero.** | **So give the heart a conference for the heart,**  **Do not be afraid to say what you think.**  **People you know, looking to connect,**  **Everyone is going through a crisis**  **And should get to his feet,**  **Get out of it strong, strong with your hands**  **And the heart says it's harder it's hard and certainly easier to connect ..**  **Today the heart looks straight at the camera,**  **Everyone looks happy no matter what.**  **People live on Instagram - probably ..** |

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| **"When more of the people's sustenance is exacted through the form of taxation than is necessary to meet the just obligations of government, such exaction becomes ruthless extortion and a violation of the fundamental principles of a free government." -- Grover Cleveland (1837-1908) 22nd & 24th US President** |

**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 TR – abnormal Mammogram having double biopsy – Positive for cancer**  **Pray for ZH - having trouble with PTSD**  **Pray for LAC – recurrent cancer getting treatment**  **Pray for Ella – emotionally disturbed abused child and brother with ? heart problem**  **Pray for JN – Neuro disease**  **Pray for MS – Job issues and change**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Felicia – post op problems – continuing**  **Pray for SH and family – lady’s husband passed away and she is in Nursing home. Not doing well.**  **Pray for MP – Very complex problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 21:1And Jehovah hath looked after Sarah as He hath said, and Jehovah doth to Sarah as He hath spoken; 2and Sarah conceiveth, and beareth a son to Abraham, to his old age, at the appointed time that God hath spoken of with him; 3and Abraham calleth the name of his son who is born to him, whom Sarah hath born to him--Isaac; 4and Abraham circumciseth Isaac his son, *being* a son of eight days, as God hath commanded him.**

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| **ETBPF has a new venue called Discord. It is a private web site where we are posting news and the daily news posting and you can respond with posts if you want. This ‘app’ can be used almost like facebook and twitter but without the intervention. We are just starting it and a bit slow to learn how to use it but it helps keep us off the Big Guys. It is a freebee and private. We have set levels of access to make sure only real responsible people are able to access. You can look at and join by going to:** [**https://discord.gg/4576x47ezN**](https://discord.gg/4576x47ezN) |

**Israeli jets escort American B-52s during flyby, in show of force to Iran**

***Move comes amid tensions between US, Israel, and Tehran, with Iran tied to missile strikes on US bases and an attack on an Israeli-owned ship in Gulf of Oman***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 8:24 pm*

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| [Israeli F-15 fighter jets escort an American B-52 bomber through Israeli airspace on March 7, 2021. (Israel Defense Forces)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/Ev4aNw-XEAIYEqE.jpg)  Israeli F-15 fighter jets escort an American B-52 bomber through Israeli airspace on March 7, 2021. (Israel Defense Forces) | Israeli F-15 fighter jets escort an American B-52 bomber through Israeli airspace on March 7, 2021. (Israel Defense Forces) |

Israeli F-15 fighter jets escorted two American B-52 bombers through Israeli airspace on Sunday in a new show of force by the United States against Iran — with an Israeli element — amid rising tensions in the region.

Recent weeks have seen multiple attacks on American military bases in Iraq by Iran-linked militias, including one last week that resulted in the death of an American contractor, as well an attack on an Israeli-owned ship in the Gulf of Oman that Israel has blamed on Tehran. Late last month, the US responded to the rocket attacks on its bases with an airstrike on an Iran-linked militia in Syria, killing at least one member.

Sunday’s flyby through the region by the B-52 heavy bombers was at least the seventh such maneuver in the past six months. It marked the first time that Israeli planes were photographed accompanying the US bomber, however.

Each B-52 was accompanied by four Israeli F-15 jets.

According to the US military, the patrol flight was meant to “deter aggression and reassure partners and allies of the US military’s commitment to security in the region.”

In addition to the Israeli F-15s, aircraft from Saudi Arabia and Qatar escorted the B-52 bombers as they flew through their respective airspaces.

“This flight is another testament to the strategic cooperation with American forces, which is a cornerstone in the preservation of the security of the airspace of the State of Israel and the Middle East,” the Israel Defense Forces said in a statement.

In recent months, Tehran has attempted to improve its bargaining position with the United States on the issue of its nuclear program by ratcheting up tensions in the region as the two countries attempt to negotiate a mutual return to the 2015 nuclear deal.

In addition, Iran has for months threatened retaliation against Israel over the killing of its chief military nuclear scientist, Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, in what was widely attributed to an Israeli Mossad operation. An attempted bombing near the [Israeli embassy in India](https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-may-have-been-behind-blast-at-delhi-embassy-ambassador-says/) last month, as well as last week’s [mine attack on an Israeli cargo ship](https://www.timesofisrael.com/with-gray-zone-attack-on-cargo-ship-iran-israel-tensions-enter-murky-waters/) in the Gulf of Oman, have both been attributed to Iran by Israel. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/with-gray-zone-attack-on-cargo-ship-iran-israel-tensions-enter-murky-waters/>

**Israel praises Brazil for steadfast support against ICC war-crimes probe**

***In meeting with Brazilian counterpart, FM Ashkenazi reiterates condemnation of ICC decision which 'violates international law and distances the possibility to advance negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians'***

*i24NEWS | Published: 03.07.21 , 19:43*

Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi thanked Brazil on Sunday for its support of Israel as the International Criminal Court decided to launch a war-crimes probe against the Jewish state.

“Israel is thankful for Brazil's steadfast position against the International Criminal Court’s (ICC) decision to launch a [war crimes] probe [against the Jewish state]," Ashkenazi told his Brazilian counterpart, Ernesto Araujo, during a meeting with a Brazilian diplomatic delegation in Jerusalem.



Brazilian Foreign Minister Ernesto Araujo and Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi in Jerusalem

(Photo: Foreign Ministry)

“It is a decision that violates international law and distances the possibility to advance negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians.”

Last week, ICC Chief Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda announced she had opened a formal probe into alleged war crimes in the Palestinian territories, consisting of the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip.

The decision led to a stinging backlash from the Israeli establishment, with officials urging allies around the world to exert diplomatic pressure against the ICC.

Ashkenazi and Araujo further discussed Middle East developments, with the former IDF chief stipulating landmark changes that have taken place after four Arab nations — the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan and Morocco — have signed U.S.-brokered peace agreements with Israel, dubbed the Abraham Accords.

Ashkenazi warned of increasing Iranian efforts in recent days to destabilize the region.

“We clearly identify Iran’s fingerprints in recent attempts to harm Israeli targets around the world. The international community must ensure that Iran ceases its efforts to reach the threshold of military nuclear technology and fulfills its commitments to the last detail,” Ashkenazi asserted. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/ByIR4tGXd>

**Tippecanoe and Lapid too: US pollsters import American-style campaigns to Israel**

***Their familiarity with Israel’s language and politics pales compared to local strategists, but American consultants still hot commodity given experience one can only rack up in US***

*By* [*Jacob Magid*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jacob-magid/) *Today, 3:20 pm*

American pollster John McLaughlin stood nearly stock-still next to Benjamin Netanyahu as the prime minister filmed yet another campaign ad ahead of the September 2019 election. Speaking Hebrew, Netanyahu frantically warned voters that his opponents from the Blue and White party were working with Arab lawmakers to place his continued stay in Balfour Street at risk.

Netanyahu didn’t introduce McLaughlin or even acknowledge him, and he didn’t need to. The pollster’s presence appeared designed solely to grant an extra dose of legitimacy to Netanyahu’s words: It wasn’t just the prime minister who thought right-wing voters should avoid casting their ballots for parties other than Likud. The stern-faced consultant nodding periodically alongside him thought so as well, and he’d come all the way from America to raise the alarm.

It was an uncanny, if awkward, use of a US political strategist, but it revealed the weight that Netanyahu believes they carry in Israeli elections. And he’s not the only one who thinks so: At least three other major parties in the Holy Land have purchased the services of consultants from the Land of Liberty ahead of the March 23 vote.

מסר חשוב לכל מצביעי הימין >> [pic.twitter.com/6Lfyohts4n](https://t.co/6Lfyohts4n)

— Benjamin Netanyahu (@netanyahu) [September 13, 2019](https://twitter.com/netanyahu/status/1172515040383197186?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Reliance on such outsiders, whose familiarity with Israel’s language, politics and culture can only pale to that of local strategists would appear a perplexing choice on the face of it.

But those in the business explain that only in the US can one collect the experience and expertise these consultants bring to the table. It’s true given the unique nature of the Israeli political system that there are areas of the campaign where American strategists have little to offer. However, their polling know-how, ability to recognize consequential trends, as well as what seems to be a harder-to-explain intangible quality, have turned them into hot commodities for parties in the Jewish state.

“There is a bit of a mystique” to having American consultants on an Israeli campaign, said Dahlia Scheindlin, Israeli-American political strategist and public opinion expert. “It’s exciting, it looks big, it looks serious.”

***‘Myth of the American consultant’***

Arthur Finkelstein wasn’t the first American pollster to wade into Israeli elections, but his work to get Netanyahu elected prime minister in 1996 was what set off the phenomenon, according to Scheindlin.

Finkelstein, who worked for right-wing candidates around the globe, didn’t speak Hebrew. But he was credited for the Likud leader’s election win that year, thanks to the coinage of the campaign phrase “Peres will divide Jerusalem.” Labor leader Shimon Peres had made no such commitment at the time, but the accusation appeared to have stuck, convincing enough Israelis that Netanyahu’s rival was beyond the consensus on such a key issue.

“Because Finkelstein happened to be American, Israelis thought that American consultants are part of the strategy to win elections, when really he was just really good at what he did,” said one US-born strategist advising an Israeli party who asked to remain anonymous.

“It created this sort of myth of the American consultant,” he claimed.

The trend has continued to this day, with new American consultants breaking into the Israeli scene with each election.

“Democracy is one of the things that America still exports. We have a lot of practice with it, while Israel is still catching up,” said Mark Mellman, a Democratic pollster who has worked with Yesh Atid head Yair Lapid since 2012. “There are so many consultants in the US simply because there are so many elections.”

In 1999, Scheindlin worked alongside James Carville, Robert Shrum and Stanley Greenberg, three US pollsters who had been instrumental in Bill Clinton’s 1992 presidential victory, on helping Labor head Ehud Barak oust Netanyahu.

She acknowledged that the idea of parachuting in consultants does not necessarily seem logical. “I’ve worked in 15 other countries where I had never stepped foot before, don’t speak the language, knew very little [to] nothing and sometimes arrived a couple days before,” she said.



Dahlia Scheindlin. (Oren Ziv)

The strategist added that she’s put “nose to grindstone,” learning everything she could about the countries where she was dispatched to work ahead of time. “There’s a lot that we don’t know, but the way you deal with that is through humility and research.”

“Sure there are challenges, limitations and drawbacks, but given that this is a profession we bring with us an expertise that is transferable,” she explained. “It’s not as much as trying to replicate any one political situation. It’s a matter of bringing professional tools, like a physician or a lawyer would.”

Scheindlin noted that despite the language difference, Israeli campaigns are more similar to ones in the US than other countries where she’s worked. “The real distinction between countries where it becomes very hard for us to be relevant is when the country does not have an open political system, is not sufficiently democratic, has no real freedom of press or speech.”

Mellman said that in each of the dozens of countries where he’s operated, there’s always a degree of skepticism from locals. “If I’ve consulted for a campaign in Illinois and then come to work on a Chicago campaign people will say, ‘oh but you’ve never worked in Chicago.’ And then I’ll do that and then people will say, ‘well you’ve never worked on the south side.'” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/tippecanoe-and-lapid-too-us-pollsters-import-american-style-campaigns-to-israel/> [It is ALL about the ‘IMAGE’ and how you convey it. Say anything. Promise anything. Just get elected. Then you can do whatever you want to. – rdb]

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/asdsacsaasasfasf.jpg)**Visiting Bedouin voters, Netanyahu is welcomed — and hit with sharp criticism**

***‘I vote for Likud,’ sheikh says as PM claps, before adding: ‘Many workers under your authority have made our lives miserable’; premier promises to personally handle Bedouin issues***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:59 pm*

***Prime Ministher Benjamin Netanyahu pours coffee for Bedouin leaders in southern Israel during a visit with members of the community, March 7, 2021. (video screenshot)***

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met Sunday with voters from the Bedouin community in several locations in southern Israel, and was met with some ambivalence.

In a video from an event near the town of Rahat, Sheikh Gideon Abu Sabit was seen greeting Netanyahu, saying, “Mr. Prime Minister, I vote for Likud,” to claps from the premier and others around him. But he quickly added: “Many workers under your authority have made our lives miserable.”

He added: “We know that if the state is in good condition so are we. I hope you take Bedouin matters into your own hands — we are not the enemies of the state.” He emphasized the strong connection the Bedouin community has to Israel.

During the meeting with Netanyahu, Abu Sabit bemoaned the government’s [demolition of Bedouin homes](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-razes-bedouin-campsite-in-largest-west-bank-demolition-in-a-decade/) and confiscation of lands worked on by Bedouin community members. The government’s position is that the homes torn down were illegally constructed, and that lands the state has seized were illegally taken over by some in the communities.



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (left) and Sheikh Gideon Abu Sabit (right), during Netanyahu’s visit with members of the Bedouin community, near Rahat, March 7, 2021. (screen capture: Kan)

While the IDF gives most Arab Israelis an automatic waiver from the national draft, and the majority do not voluntarily enlist, many members of the Bedouin community do serve in the military. Thus, along with the Druze community, the Bedouin community is often seen as having stronger ties to the Jewish community, as it participates in a key part of the Israeli national ethos.

Netanyahu said during his visit: “I am going to transfer the handling of all Bedouin population [issues] to the Prime Minister’s Office – and will take care of it personally.” In addition, he promised a transfer of NIS 1.5 billion to the Arab sector, for the purposes of civilians’ security.

The prime minister said the government has already earmarked NIS 150 million ($45 million) to increase law enforcement in Arab communities. He asserted that recent days have seen several criminal cases in Rahat quickly solved, and that there has been “tremendous progress in eliminating crime and violence in Israel generally, and in the Arab community in particular.”

Netanyahu also took part in a photo op with Bedouin community leaders in a tent, where he was filmed pouring coffee to the assembled dignitaries.

Netanyahu’s statement said he made a campaign stop in Rahat with Public Security Minister Amir Ohana. But Rahat Mayor Talal Alkernawi issued his own statement, claiming the premier had made no such visit and that he actually had stopped at a Bedouin village outside the town.

Recent months have seen protests criticizing the government for its supposed lack of action in regards to [violent crime among Israel’s Arab population](https://www.timesofisrael.com/thousands-protest-police-response-to-arab-crime-dissident-mk-abbas-chased-away/). Organized crime is largely seen as the engine of the spread of violence in Arab cities and towns. Many Arab Israelis blame the police, whom they say has failed to crack down on powerful criminal organizations.

Most Arab Israelis have vigorously opposed Netanyahu, saying that he has incited racism against them. They point to laws such as the 2018 nation-state law, which enshrined Israel as the nation-state of the Jewish people and demoted the status of Arabic, and the 2017 Kamenitz law, which deliberately targeted illegal Arab construction.

Netanyahu’s Likud party has also previously warned about what they have deemed to be Arab voter fraud, including seeking to install cameras in voting centers. Arab Israelis widely decried the attempt as an attempt at voter intimidation.

But Netanyahu [in this election cycle](https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-faces-protests-in-nazareth-as-he-continues-effort-to-court-arab-voters/) has sought to [embrace the Arab public](https://www.timesofisrael.com/arab-israelis-largely-unimpressed-by-netanyahus-efforts-to-woo-them-poll/), apparently believing there are potential Likud votes to be won there. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/visiting-bedouin-voters-netanyahu-is-welcomed-and-hit-with-sharp-criticism/>

**Virus czar says masks outdoors largely unnecessary, enforcement may end**

***But Nachman Ash says rules will remain in place to avoid confusion; warns a fourth lockdown is possible, as Israel emerges from its third***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 4:59 pm*

The government’s coronavirus czar Nachman Ash on Sunday said the requirement to wear masks outdoors was largely unnecessary and suggested it would not be enforced by police.

He acknowledged in an interview with the Kan public broadcaster that wearing masks outside was “far less important” and “can be given up.” But Ash said that in order to avoid confusion, health guidelines will continue to require mask-wearing, both indoors and outdoors. [Way to go! Lets muddy the water even more. They aren’t necessary (which we have all known from the onset), the police won’t arrest you if you don’t have it on, BUT we will leave it on the guideline books. So just how smart is that. – rdb]

Israelis have been required to wear face masks outdoors since last April.

However, “in terms of enforcement, our emphasis to police is not to enforce [mask-wearing] in these places [outdoors], but rather indoors,” he said.

He said the Health Ministry has asked police to focus their attention on enforcing quarantine violations among those who have arrived in Israel from abroad.

The interview came as Israel allowed large parts of the economy to reopen Sunday, prompting a warning from Ash to exercise caution.

“It is not over. We must continue to be careful, keeping social distance and wearing masks. We have a way to go until it’s over,” he told the Ynet news site, adding that a fourth national lockdown was “a possibility.” [He just countered what he said before. It is no wonder Israel has been in turmoil for a year. – rdb]

“This is clear to everyone and the prime minister knows this,” he added.

Last week, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told Fox News that while Israelis will have to wear masks for the foreseeable future, the pandemic was largely behind it.

Ash, in the Ynet interview, said 2 million more Israelis must be vaccinated before Israel reaches herd immunity.

Israel has fully vaccinated 40 percent of its population, and over half of Israelis have received at least one shot. Millions of Israelis under 16 are not eligible to receive vaccines.

[Israel on Sunday reopened much of the economy](https://www.timesofisrael.com/cabinet-gives-final-okay-to-reopening-of-restaurants-event-venues-and-more/), including restaurants, cafes, school grades 7-10 in low- to medium-infection areas, event venues, tourist attractions and hotel dining.

It also eased restrictions on air travel to the country, enabling thousands of citizens to return home and doing away with the need to quarantine in state-run hotels.

The country in February began easing restrictions following a third lockdown, and has since gradually reopened stores and shopping malls (for everyone); as well as gyms, swimming pools, hotels and some cultural facilities for those vaccinated or who recovered from the virus. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/virus-czar-says-masks-outdoors-largely-unnecessary-may-not-be-enforced/>

**Government said reluctant to finance rapid virus tests for vaccine refusers**

***Quick tests could soon be used by those without a COVID-19 Green Pass; Health Ministry official: ‘Whoever doesn’t want to get vaccinated will have to pay for the tests themselves’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 9:45 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/F210305MA13.jpg)

Israeli Green Pass holders enjoy singer Ivri Lieder at a concert organized by the Tel Aviv municipality, at Bloomfield Stadium, March 5, 2021. (Miriam Alster/FLASH90)

As Israel sees its third national coronavirus lockdown eased, most businesses and activities are now being made available to the vaccinated and the recovered under the Green Pass program, but the question of which activities will be open to those who do not fall into either category is still being debated.

There has been talk of allowing non-Green Pass holders to access some activities by presenting negative coronavirus tests from the last 48 hours. The cabinet’s latest new rules issued Saturday allow up to five percent of attendants at event venues to be people with negative tests.

According to Channel 12, the government is also looking at enabling rapid coronavirus testing at the entrance to various businesses that will provide results within minutes and allow people without Green Passes to enter.

But it is not yet clear who will pay for these tests, and a senior Health Ministry figure told Channel 12 News Sunday that “the government supplies vaccines for free to all of its citizens, and so there’s no reason to also finance [these] tests.”

The unnamed person added that financing the quick tests may give legitimacy to the anti-vaccine stance, which the government is reluctant to do, adding: “Whoever doesn’t want to get vaccinated and does want to enter cultural events will have to finance the tests themselves – in [government-backed] venues and in independent ones.

“We will examine the option of helping [pay for] tests for children and for populations that cannot get vaccinated,” he added.

 “The topic of rapid tests itself is under discussion right now, and the issue of subsidies will be discussed later on. The millions of shekels the government will have to pay for the tests are needed more for the development of culture in peripheral towns or in subsidizing shows for veteran artists who haven’t worked in a whole year.”

Israeli Green Pass holders enjoy singer Ivri Lieder at a concert organized by the Tel Aviv municipality at Bloomfield Stadium, March 5, 2021. (AP Photo/Oded Balilty)

As part of the [new COVID-19 regulations](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-reopens-all-the-new-rules-from-march-7/), restaurants can seat Green Pass holders indoors with up to 75% capacity, and up to 100 people. Outdoor seating does not require a Green Pass, with a limitation of up to 100 people.

Sporting and other cultural events can be held for Green Pass holders in auditoriums or stadiums of 10,000 seats with 1,000 people in attendance in a closed space, or 1,500 in an open space. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/government-said-reluctant-to-finance-rapid-virus-tests-for-vaccine-refusers/> [So Israel can Prosecute you AND persecute you and you get to pay for it because you didn’t want to be a guinea pig for their experimental treatment that could have horrid effects down the road which haven’t actually been tested adequately. Way to go! – rdb]

**Three Gazan fishermen killed in suspected Hamas rocket misfire**

***Group, which often fires rockets toward the Mediterranean Sea in shows of force, says it is investigating the incident; Hamas military wing calls event ‘painful’***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 11:13 amUpdated at 3:04 pm*

Three Palestinian fishermen were killed in an explosion off the coast of the Gaza Strip in what appeared to be a misfired rocket launched by the Hamas terror group.

The explosion occurred close to the coast of Khan Younis, a city in the southern Gaza Strip. The three deceased fishermen, Yahya Mustafa al-Laham, Hamdi al-Laham and Zakaria al-Laham, were two brothers and their cousin, Gaza fishermens’ union head Nizar Ayyah told local media.

“They were the martyrs of their daily bread,” the al-Laham family said in a statement on their official Facebook page. The three had died, the family said, after “a local mortar struck their boat.”

Hamas regularly fires experimental rockets toward the sea, both to test their military capacities and as a show of force.

???? مراسل صفا: وصول ثلاثة شهداء صيادين من بحر محافظة خان يونس لمستشفى ناصر جنوبي قطاع غزة [pic.twitter.com/rpCS9JRnnJ](https://t.co/rpCS9JRnnJ)

— وكالة صفا (@SafaPs) [March 7, 2021](https://twitter.com/SafaPs/status/1368474450866417666?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Hamas’s military wing said it mourned the death of the three fishermen “with great sorrow.”

In its statement, the Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades did not take responsibility for the deaths of the three fishermen.

“The resistance leadership and the security forces will form a specialized team to discover the circumstances of this painful incident, and the whole truth will be announced as soon as possible, God willing,” the terror group said.

In a statement, the Hamas Interior Ministry also said it was “investigating the incident.” The terror group, which avowedly seeks to destroy Israel, regularly condemns Israel for other incidents that have led to wounded fishermen in the Strip.

It was not the first time that technical errors with weaponry were said to harm or even kill civilians living in the Gaza Strip. In the past, blasts have sometimes been caused by accidents as operatives of terrorist organizations in the territory built bombs or otherwise handled explosives. [It would seem Hamas has more and more ‘work accidents’ or miscalculations. Why were they firing rockets anyway. – r db]

Last month, a blast ripped through a building in northern Gaza, injuring at least 36 civilians. The Israeli military charged that Palestinian terror groups had stored weapons inside civilian homes. Hamas promised to investigate the incident, but no conclusion has yet been reached.

The Israel Defense Forces on Sunday immediately denied any involvement in the death of the three fishermen, saying in a statement that there had been “no Israeli fire” toward Gaza on Sunday morning.

Israel limits the permitted fishing zone off the Gaza Strip as part of a blockade on the Hamas-controlled enclave, which it says is aimed at preventing arms from reaching Palestinian terror groups.

Israeli and Egyptian forces occasionally fire upon craft that violate the sea borders they have demarcated around the Gaza Strip. Two Gaza fishermen were killed by Egyptian soldiers in an incident last year. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/three-palestinian-fisherman-killed-in-mysterious-explosion-off-gaza-coast/>

**Swiss agree to outlaw facial coverings in 'burqa ban' vote**

**Constitutional amendment proposed by the far-right Swiss People’s Party passes with 51.2%, with MP dubbing the facial covering 'a symbol of extreme, political Islam' which he says has no place in Switzerland**

Reuters |

Published: 03.07.21 , 21:35

A far-right proposal to ban facial coverings in Switzerland won a narrow victory in a binding referendum on Sunday instigated by the same group that organized a 2009 ban on new minarets.

The measure to amend the Swiss constitution passed by a 51.2-48.8% margin, provisional official results showed.

*A torn poster of the initiative 'Yes to the burqa-ban' is seen in Lausanne, Switzerland (Photo: EPA)*

The proposal under the Swiss system of direct democracy does not mention Islam directly and also aims to stop violent street protesters from wearing masks, yet local politicians, media and campaigners have dubbed it the burqa ban.

“In Switzerland, our tradition is that you show your face. That is a sign of our basic freedoms,” Walter Wobmann, chairman of the referendum committee and a member of parliament for the Swiss People’s Party, had said before the vote.

He called facial covering “a symbol for this extreme, political Islam which has become increasingly prominent in Europe and which has no place in Switzerland”.

The Central Council of Muslims in Switzerland called the vote a dark day for the community.

 “Today’s decision opens old wounds, further expands the principle of legal inequality, and sends a clear signal of exclusion to the Muslim minority,” it said.

Walter Wobmann, National Councillor SVP and initiator of Burqa ban initiative, gives an interview, at the meeting place of the supporters of the initiative, in Bern, Switzerland

(Photo: EPA)

It promised legal challenges to laws implementing the ban and a fundraising drive to help women who are fined.

The proposal predated the COVID-19 pandemic, which has required adults to wear masks in many settings to prevent the spread of infection.

Two cantons already have local bans on face coverings.

France banned wearing a full-face veil in public in 2011 and Denmark, Austria, the Netherlands and Bulgaria have full or partial bans on wearing face coverings in public.



People from anti-racist, feminist and ecologist associations and parties demonstrate against the 'anti-burqa' initiative on the Plaine de Plainpalais in Geneva, Switzerland

(Photo: EPA)

Practically no one in Switzerland wears a burqa and only around 30 women wear the niqab, the University of Lucerne estimates. Muslims make up 5% of the Swiss population of 8.6 million people, most with roots in Turkey, Bosnia and Kosovo.

The government had urged people to vote against a ban.

“After the ban on minarets, a majority of Swiss voters has once again backed an initiative that discriminates against a single religious community and needlessly stirs up fears and division,” Amnesty International said.

“The veiling ban is not a measure for women’s liberation, but a dangerous symbolic policy that violates freedom of expression and religion.” <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/BkA8t5M7d>

**Iraqi government prevents Jews from participating in Pope’s historic visit**

***Iraqi-born Edwin Shuker: Baghdad wasted a historic opportunity to reconcile with its Jews by inviting them to attend the ceremony at Ur.***

*By* [*SETH J. FRANTZMAN*](https://www.jpost.com/author/seth-j-frantzman) *MARCH 7, 2021 20:05*

The Iraqi government ignored the history of Iraqi Jews during the visit of [Pope Francis](https://www.jpost.com/tags/vatican) last week, marring an otherwise unprecedented visit and wasting an opportunity to highlight the Jewish part of Iraq’s history. [For a very long time, actually from the first diaspora until the foundation of the modern state of Israel, there has always been a very large population of Jews in the Iraq area who were an integral part of their society. – rdb]

The Vatican hoped that Jews would be part of the events attended by Pope Francis in Iraq, with Vatican News even noting that the pope met “representatives of the three Abrahamic religions at Ur of the Chaldeans in Iraq and urges Christians, Muslims and Jews to journey along a path of peace under the stars of the promise God made to Abraham.” However, a public delegation of Jews was not able to attend the event.

Iraqi-born Edwin Shuker, who visits Baghdad regularly, expressed disappointment that the Iraqi government “wasted a historic opportunity to reconcile with its Jews by inviting them to attend the ceremony at Ur and use the occasion to recognize and correct the injustice committed against them by successive governments.”

The pope’s message was given and stood in contrast to the stance of the Iraqi government. “As the children of Abraham, Jews, Christians and Muslims, together with other believers and all persons of good will, we thank you for having given us Abraham,” the pope prayed on Saturday.

However, the Iraqi government officials ignored the history of the Iraqi Jewish community. This was the case at Ur and also during the pope’s subsequent trip to Mosul, where a Jewish community once thrived. At least half a dozen ancient synagogues have been uncovered in Mosul.

In comparison, the autonomous Kurdistan Region of Iraq has tended to embrace the diversity of the country, including the Jewish history of the area.

The Vatican sought to include Jews not only in the prayer but also physically at the interfaith meetings. It appears that the Iraqi government stymied efforts for any Jews to travel to Iraq, according to a knowledgeable source. The pope has often called for interfaith unity and has sent Hanukkah greetings. He also wrote a book with Argentinian Rabbi Abraham Skorka when he was Cardinal in Buenos Aires.

Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni said that [Jews](https://www.jpost.com/tags/pope-and-israel) would attend events in Iraq but said he didn’t know if any rabbis would take part, according to The New York Times. Omar Mohammed, the historian behind the blog Mosul Eye, also told The Algemeiner Journal that the absence of Jews harmed the image of diversity. “Where are the Jews? They are not here,” he said.

“Without recognizing the Jewish history of Iraq, without recognizing the Jewish part of Iraq, without recognizing the Jewish contributions to Iraq from thousands of years ago until now… there will be no real diversity or inclusion,” he said. The pope went to Mosul on Sunday and went to the Kurdistan region.

There are just a handful of Jews left in Iraq. In 2008, there were not enough men to form a minyan in Baghdad, where once hundreds of thousands of Jews had lived. Jewish sites in the country have fallen into disrepair or been destroyed.

Sources say that in recent years, lands that once belonged to the Jewish community have been transferred to Shi’ite religious control. This has been the case in the struggle, for example, over the Tomb of the prophet Ezekiel.

One exception is the Tomb of the Prophet Nahum in Al-Qosh. A shrine has been rehabilitated that has significance to the Jewish community, as well as Muslims and Christians in the town.

Iraqi politicians linked to Iran regularly spread conspiracies about Israel. They have worked to make promoting normalization illegal since the Abraham Accords this past summer. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iraqs-government-accused-of-preventing-jews-from-attending-popes-visit-661220>

**Austria suspends AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine batch after death**

***One 49-year-old woman died as a result of severe coagulation disorders, while a 35-year-old woman developed a pulmonary embolism and is recovering.***

*By REUTERS   MARCH 7, 2021 14:33*

Austrian authorities have suspended inoculations with [a batch of AstraZeneca's](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/eu-seeks-access-to-us-produced-astrazeneca-vaccines-ft-report-661136) COVID-19 vaccine as a precaution while investigating the death of one person and the illness of another after the shots, a health agency said on Sunday.

"The Federal Office for Safety in Health Care (BASG) has received two reports in a temporal connection with a vaccination from the same batch of the AstraZeneca vaccine in the district clinic of Zwettl" in Lower Austria province, it said.

One 49-year-old woman died as a result of severe coagulation disorders, while a 35-year-old woman developed a pulmonary embolism and is recovering, it said. A pulmonary embolism is an acute lung disease caused by a dislodged blood clot.

"Currently there is no evidence of a causal relationship with the vaccination," BASG said.

Austrian newspaper Niederoesterreichische Nachrichten as well as broadcaster ORF and the APA news agency reported that the women were both nurses who worked at the Zwettl clinic.

BASG said blood clotting was not among the known side effects of the vaccine. It was pursuing its investigation vigorously to completely rule out any possible link.

"As a precautionary measure, the remaining stocks of the affected vaccine batch are no longer being issued or vaccinated," it added. MORE - <https://www.jpost.com/health-science/austria-suspends-astrazeneca-covid-19-vaccine-batch-after-death-661211>

**Hyperinflation Pushes Venezuela to Print 1,000,000-Bolivar Bills**

(Bloomberg) -- Venezuela said it will introduce new large-denomination bolivar notes as hyperinflation renders most bills worthless, forcing citizens to turn to the U.S. dollar for everyday transactions.

The country’s central bank posted a [statement](http://www.bcv.org.ve/notas-de-prensa/bcv-amplia-cono-monetario-vigente-con-incorporacion-de-tres-nuevos-billetes) on its website Friday saying it would begin circulating the new 200,000, 500,000 and 1,000,000 bills to “fulfill the current economy’s requirements” without providing further details. The 1,000,000 note -- the largest in the nation’s history -- is worth only $0.53 cents.

As Venezuela’s economy shrank for a seventh straight year in 2020, the government turned a blind eye to a growing number of dollar transactions, kick-started by rolling power outages that prevented credit and debit card purchases and fostered the use of cash. About 66% of transactions across the country are estimated to be made in foreign currency, according to Ecoanalitica.

While the dollar has gained ground, Venezuelans continue to rely on bolivar bills for public transportation and to purchase subsidized fuel. The Caracas subway recently issued an electronic payment system after it routinely stopped charging passengers due to cash shortages.

President Nicolas Maduro has said he plans to move to a [fully digital economy](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-01-02/venezuela-s-maduro-plans-shift-to-a-fully-digitalized-economy) this year, following three years of hyperinflation that have prompted the nation’s mint to issue higher-denomination notes that are quickly rendered all but useless. Inflation soared 3,000% in the last 12 months, according to Bloomberg News’s Cafe con Leche Index.

In October, Venezuela [imported banknote paper](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-10-05/venezuela-planning-new-100-000-bolivar-bills-worth-just-0-23) with plans to issue a 100,000 bill that quickly became outdated. It last issued [new bills in 2019](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-06-12/hyperinflation-forces-venezuela-to-roll-out-three-new-bills), after chopping five zeros of the previous bills in circulation in 2018.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/markets/hyperinflation-pushes-venezuela-to-print-1000000-bolivar-bills/ar-BB1ei8Dj> [If the US continues on our current path we will get there as well. – rdb]

**500 injured, at least 15 killed after multiple explosions level military base in Equatorial Guinea’s largest city (VIDEOS)**

*7 Mar, 2021 18:19 / Updated 4 hours ago*



©  TVGE/REUTERS TV/via REUTERS

Four explosions have rocked a military base in Bata, Equatorial Guinea, killing at least 15 people. Videos show the devastation, and civilians fleeing, as local media report hospitals are overwhelmed with hundreds of injured.

The explosions shook Bata on Sunday evening, and, according to local media, all occurred within the military base located in the port city. Disturbing video footage shows smoke rising from the blast site and women crying, as some of those injured are seen being helped away from the scene. Dust and debris fills the sky and litters roads.

🇬🇶GUINEA ECUATORIAL 🚨[#ÚLTIMAHORA](https://twitter.com/hashtag/%C3%9ALTIMAHORA?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) | El origen de las explosiones en la ciudad de [#Bata](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Bata?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) fue en un almacén de explosivos de una base militar. 🎥Video: Cortesía [pic.twitter.com/b1MU8hTkMc](https://t.co/b1MU8hTkMc)

— Rochex R. Robinson Bonilla (@RochexRB27) [March 7, 2021](https://twitter.com/RochexRB27/status/1368610149921873920?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

In a statement on national television, President Teodoro Obiang blamed the explosions on the negligent use of dynamite at the base.

Guinée Équatoriale : Une série d'explosions sème le chaos à Bata.L'AFP annonce que des explosions ont frappé un camp militaire, faisant des blessés. [pic.twitter.com/Vsrp949DeG](https://t.co/Vsrp949DeG)

— Rebecca Rambar (@RebeccaRambar) [March 7, 2021](https://twitter.com/RebeccaRambar/status/1368606414772596736?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

At least 15 people were killed and some 500 injured in the blast, Obiang said. Meanwhile, local television station TVGE has reported at least 20 victims, as local hospitals are overwhelmed by the influx of injured people. MORE -<https://www.rt.com/news/517469-explosions-military-base-equatorial-guinea/>

**Government data shows masks had no impact on COVID spread**

***Cases rose and fell while mask-wearing remained constant***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published March 7, 2021 at 2:05pm*

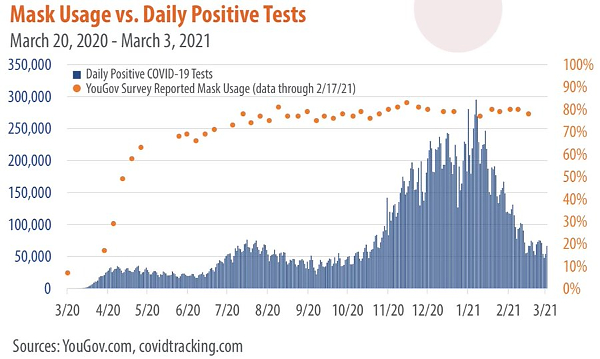
A graph that overlays data from surveys on mask usage with the number of coronavirus cases confirms studies that indicate the face coverings have no significant impact on the spread of the coronavirus.

Using data culled from YouGov.com and the [Covid Tracking Project](https://covidtracking.com/) from March 20, 2020, to March 3, 2021, economist Brian Westbury created the chart and posted it on Twitter.

Surveys showed mask usage reached about 80% by midsummer last year and has remained consistent since then. During that period, however, the number of daily positive cases rose and fell precipitously.

Many epidemiologists have noted the coronavirus, in a second major wave, is following the bell-shaped pattern of epidemics predicted by Farr's Law in 1840, regardless of mitigation efforts.

*See the chart:*

[](https://www.wnd.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/mask-graph.jpeg)

Another chart, from a Financial Times analysis of the Covid Tracking Project, shows very little difference in the number cases between North Dakota and South Dakota. That's despite the fact that North Dakota has had a mask mandate, while South Dakota has not.

North Dakota with masks

South Dakota without masks

Such a difference! Wait...

Virus does its thing, and masks — like most restrictions — are theater. [pic.twitter.com/Eoz7EMvVML](https://t.co/Eoz7EMvVML)

— Steve Cortes (@CortesSteve) [March 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/CortesSteve/status/1367949060343267329)

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On Tuesday, [Texas Gov. Greg Abbott announced his state will open "100%"](https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/texas-100-open-biden-says-wait-another-year/) next Wednesday and end the statewide mask mandate, arguing cases and hospitalizations have dropped precipitously, vaccines are being distributed and "too many Texans have been sidelined from employment opportunities" and "too many small business owners have struggled to pay their bills."

Later Tuesday, [Mississippi Republican Gov. Tate Reeves announced he is replacing all current executive orders](https://www.wmcactionnews5.com/2021/03/02/live-gov-reeves-announces-welcome-change-covid-order/) regarding coronavirus mitigation with "recommendations."

By the end of the week, at least six other states followed with significant moves.

[On Thursday, Alabama Republican Gov. Kay Ivey extended](https://www.times-news.com/coronavirus/bucking-gop-trend-alabama-governor-extends-mask-order/article_15fdfdaa-a374-57bf-9482-af69c6868c3c.html) her state’s mask order for another month but said it will end for good April 9.

[Connecticut Democratic Gov. Ned Lamont](https://www.courant.com/coronavirus/hc-news-coronavirus-daily-updates-0304-20210304-56d7cbx6k5da7auqqroznhhdfa-story.html) said Thursday he will lift on March 19 all capacity limits on restaurants, retail stores, libraries, personal services, indoor recreation, gyms, museums, offices and houses of worship.

[Arizona Republican Gov. Doug Ducey on Friday announced](https://kesq.com/news/coronavirus/2021/03/05/arizona-governor-lifts-capacity-limits-at-gyms-restaurants/) all businesses will reopen at 100% capacity.

[West Virginia Republican Gov. Jim Justice said](https://wvmetronews.com/2021/03/05/justice-says-restaurants-bars-retail-stores-other-gathering-spots-can-return-to-full-capacity/) bars, restaurants, small businesses, retail stores, gyms and museums can open to 100% capacity.

[California will allow Major League Baseball and theme parks](https://www.cnbc.com/2021/03/05/covid-rules-california-to-let-major-league-baseball-disneyland-reopen.html) such as Disneyland to host live shows at reduced capacity on April 1.

[Axios reported](https://axios.com/cdc-child-migrant-shelter-full-capacity-coronavirus-41d1ae80-1ecf-4815-a755-7b01fac5850b.html) the Centers for Disease Contdrol is allowing shelters handling child migrants to expand to 100% capacity, abandoning a COVID-19 requirement to stay at 50%.

***No statistically significant difference***

Former White House coronavirus adviser Dr. Scott Atlas explained in a recent interview why widespread use of masks is ineffective as a public policy.

*See his remarks*:

Dr.Scott Atlas: Wearing of masks is GARBAGE SCIENCE. [pic.twitter.com/yfc4lJWa8c](https://t.co/yfc4lJWa8c)

— Robin Monotti FRSA (@robinmonotti) [March 2, 2021](https://twitter.com/robinmonotti/status/1366891722429640711)

In November, as [WND reported](https://www.wnd.com/2020/11/major-peer-reviewed-study-finds-masks-dont-work/), the first large, randomized controlled trial of its kind showed no statistically significant difference in COVID-19 cases between people who wore masks and those who did not.

In October, [an analysis of a dozen graphs charting the number of COVID-19 cases in countries and U.S. states](https://www.wnd.com/2020/10/4865713/) confirmed the conclusions of recent studies that mask mandates had no effect on the spread of the disease.

A study by the Centers for Disease Control in October indicated that [Americans were adhering to mask mandates, but they didn't appear to have slowed or stopped the spread of the coronavirus](https://www.wnd.com/2020/10/4861690/). And further, it found, mask-wearing has negative effects.

In March 2020, [White House coronavirus adviser Dr. Anthony Fauci said](https://www.wnd.com/2020/05/mask-confusion-now-says-healthy-not-wear/) in a "60 Minutes" interview that in general, "people should not be walking around with masks."

"Right now in the United States, people should not be walking around with masks.

"You’re sure of it? Because people are listening really closely to this," he was asked.

“There’s no reason to be walking around with a mask. When you’re in the middle of an outbreak, wearing a mask might make people feel a little bit better and it might even block a droplet, but it’s not providing the perfect protection that people think that it is. And, often, there are unintended consequences – people keep fiddling with the mask and they keep touching their face.”

***A change in ‘the consensus’***

[The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons has compiled a page of "Mask Facts"](https://aapsonline.org/mask-facts/) that explains the basic science behind mask-wearing and summarizes a variety of studies.

It shows that the consensus prior to the coronavirus pandemic was that the effectiveness of mask-wearing by the general public in slowing the spread of a virus is unproven, and there's evidence it does more harm than good.

On April 6, 2020, the World Health Organization said the "wide use of masks by healthy people in the community setting is not supported by current evidence and carries uncertainties and critical risks." Just two months, later, however, as the pandemic surged, the WHO changed its stance without providing any evidence with randomized controlled trials.

On March 5, the Centers for Disease Control said masks "are usually not recommended in "non-health care settings."

But on Aug. 7, the CDC said it "recommends that people wear masks in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain." <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/government-data-shows-masks-no-impact-covid-spread/> [NOW they figured out the stupidity? – rdb]

**Adverse Incident Reports Show 966 Deaths Following Vaccination for COVID-19**

*By* [*Celia Farber*](https://www.theepochtimes.com/author-celia-farber)*March 6, 2021 Updated: March 7, 2021*

According to adverse incident reports collected by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 966 individuals have died after having received an mRNA vaccine for [COVID-19](https://www.theepochtimes.com/t-covid-19).

Between Dec. 14 and Feb. 19, 19,769 reports were made to the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System ([VAERS](https://vaers.hhs.gov/about.html)) following immunizations with either the Moderna or Pfizer BioNTech mRNA vaccines (the only two vaccines given during the time period assessed). At this time, VAERS data is not available after Feb. 19.

MUCH MORE - <https://www.theepochtimes.com/adverse-incident-reports-show-966-deaths-following-vaccination-for-covid-19_3723384.html>

**Wave of new Cuomo victims comes forward, governor hit with 5 new, ugly accusations**

*By* [*Jack Davis, The Western Journal*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wj/) *Published March 7, 2021 at 12:33pm*

New allegations against New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo have emerged in published reports that claim Cuomo demeaned women in his office and sexually harassed them in private.

An article published by [The Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/cuomo-toxic-workplace/2021/03/06/7f7c5b9c-7dd3-11eb-b3d1-9e5aa3d5220c_story.html) on Saturday claims Cuomo tried to lure a former media aide into a hotel room in 2000 during the time he was Housing and Urban Development secretary and married to the former Kerry Kennedy.

Meanwhile, a separate report in the [Wall Street Journal](https://www.wsj.com/articles/third-former-andrew-cuomo-aide-describes-inappropriate-workplace-treatment-11615081956) on Saturday said a former aide who worked for Cuomo between 2013 and 2015 claimed the governor was inappropriate with her several times in the office.

The two latest reports come after revelations from former aides [Lindsey Boylan](https://www.westernjournal.com/nursing-home-scandal-pummels-cuomo-ex-aide-accuses-sexual-harassment/) and [Charlotte Bennett](https://www.westernjournal.com/cuomo-accuser-gives-bombshell-tv-interview-felt-like-untouchable/) who describe being harassed at work and from [Anna Ruch](https://www.westernjournal.com/democratic-lawmaker-calls-cuomos-resignation-third-accuser-steps-forward/), who said she was subject to unwanted attention from Cuomo at a wedding reception.

The Journal report focused upon Ana Liss, now 35, who said what she initially dismissed as flirtations became a daily dose of diminishment making her feel that in Cuomo's eyes she was “just a skirt.”

She noted that Cuomo once kissed her hand when she rose from her desk.

“It’s not appropriate, really, in any setting,” she said.

Liss said that at a May 6, 2014, reception at the Executive Mansion, Cuomo’s official residence, the governor approached her

“He came right over to me and he was like, ‘Hey, Sweetheart!’” she said.

Cuomo hugged her, kissed her on both cheeks, put his arm around her lower back and grabbed her waist. They were then photographed in that position.

The report was not a complete attack on Cuomo. In it, Liss acknowledged she drank heavily at the time and, as The Journal described it, said "her experience working for the governor prompted her to begin mental-health counseling in 2014."

She has also kept the photo of the two that was taken at the reception and supports his policies.

“I just wish — I wish that he took me seriously,” she said. MORE - This article appeared originally on [The Western Journal](https://www.westernjournal.com/). <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/wave-new-cuomo-victims-comes-forward-governor-hit-5-new-ugly-accusations/> [Apparently a bad case of Russian hands and Roman fingers. HUMMM? Seems to go along with Mr. Sniffy “Bi-dumb” and his antics. – rdb]

**Officials sued for denying residents gun rights**

***State takes money, but won't issue concealed-carry permits***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published March 7, 2021 at 11:17am*

The heads of the Illinois State Police and the state's Firearms Services Bureau are being sued for allegedly denying residents their Second Amendment gun rights.

The complaint was filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois by the Second Amendment Foundation on behalf of the Illinois State Rifle Association and four individuals.

It names as defendants Brendan F. Kelly, the director of the state police, and Jarod Ingebrigtsen of the Firearms Services agency.

"Illinois was the last state in the country to establish a licensed concealed carry program because we sued them in federal court and won," said SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan M. Gottlieb.

"The legislature passed a law requiring the ISP to either approve or deny an application within 90 days if the applicant supplies fingerprints, or 120 days if fingerprints are not submitted."

However, the ISP has been "habitually leaving applicants in legal limbo for months" by not making decisions.

"Compounding matters, there has been a surge of CCL applications over the past 12 months. Our plaintiffs have been waiting for months and have received nothing," he said.

The lawsuit states plaintiffs Nicholas A. Luce, Joseph R. Stacho III, David M. Rice and Jerry J. Robinson "are concerned about being able to properly exercise their right to armed self-defense in public, especially given recent events and the current spate of car-jackings that have plagued Chicago and the collar counties."Bottom of Form

"The state police cannot justify these delays," Gottlieb said. "As it stands, the ISP is indefinitely denying Illinois residents their fundamental Second Amendment right to carry a concealed sidearm in public for personal protection. We’re saying in this lawsuit that if the state of Illinois conditions the exercise of a fundamental right on the receipt of a license, then the ISP needs to comply with state law and process those applications in a timely manner as required by law. We’re taking them to court in an effort to make that happen."

[The complaint](https://www.saf.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/1-Complaint.pdf) seeks a judgment that failing to respond to concealed carry applications within the legal time frame is a violation of the Second Amendment and the Due Process Clause.

Also, it seeks an order either immediately issuing licenses for the plaintiffs or limiting the state's restrictions.

"The consequences for delay are neither abstract nor a mere inconvenience; they are a matter of life and death. Sadly, in similar situations, where the government bureaucracy legislatively empowered to act as a Second Amendment gatekeeper has dithered in processing applications, there have been fatal results," the complaint states.

"If not permanently enjoined by this court, defendants and their agents, representatives, and employees will continue to fail to timely approve CCL applications, which deprive the individual plaintiffs and the members of plaintiffs ISRA and SAF of their constitutionally protected right to keep and bear concealed firearms in public for self-defense." <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/officials-sued-denying-residents-gun-rights/>

**Commentary:**

Very long but a great overview of the current US situation. – rdb}

**A Storm Over the American Republic**

***by*** [***Guy Millière***](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Guy+Milli%C3%A8re)***March 7, 2021 at 5:00 am***January 20, 2021. President Joe Biden is [sworn in](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAIqT_0_7p8) as the 46th president of the United States. The scene, however, is [devoid](https://fox2now.com/news/stunning-images-show-washington-dc-before-inauguration/) of any human presence. The streets of Washington DC are [empty](https://www.rappler.com/world/us-canada/empty-streets-thousands-troops-washington-biden-becomes-us-president). People had been urged to stay at home and Americans throughout the rest of the country asked not to come. The city is under the protection of [25,000 members](https://video.foxnews.com/v/6223821519001#sp=show-clips) of the National Guard, heavily armed. High [barriers](https://www.businessinsider.com/security-biden-inauguration-unprecedented-photos-2021-1) topped with razor wire surround the Capitol area. In the streets planned for the new president's "parade", barriers separate the sidewalks from the roadway. The only people visible are [men in uniform](https://www.scmp.com/video/world/3118419/unprecedented-security-washington-us-capital-prepares-joe-bidens-inauguration) carrying rifles. A day that is usually a day of celebration in the United States is, this year, strange and sad.  
 The explanation given by city officials and the FBI was that there was a [risk](https://6abc.com/fbi-armed-protest-president-donald-trump-capitol-raid/9685908/) of serious disruption. Other inaugurations had faced disruption, but had never placed the city under siege. On January 20, 2017, during President Donald J. Trump's inauguration, [hostile protesters](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hundreds-of-protesters-arrested-in-inauguration-day-clashes) had come to Washington DC, burned cars and smashed windows. The police had protected the ceremony without razor wire and soldiers. Hundreds of thousands of people had [cheered](https://www.c-span.org/video/?422124-1/donald-trump-sworn-45th-president-united-states) the new president.  
 This year, on January 6, responding to President Trump's calls for a big [rally](https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=4823124727728710&ref=watch_permalink), a huge crowd gathered at the Ellipse, near the White House. Most listened to Trump's [speech](https://www.wsj.com/video/trump-full-speech-at-dc-rally-on-jan-6/E4E7BBBF-23B1-4401-ADCE-7D4432D07030.html) and returned home.  
 However, several thousand people went to the Capitol, a 30-minute walk away from Trump's rally, and there a group of well-organized people [smashed](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jtPmi4BShNM) windows on the Capitol and entered the building. It was [not ransacked](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2021/01/going-another-video-surfaces-capitol-police-leading-protesters-washington-capitol/), but items were stolen. An unarmed woman was [shot](https://video.foxnews.com/v/6221047862001/) and killed by a Capitol police officer. Two protesters [died](https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/clarissajanlim/police-three-dead-medical-emergency-capitol-riots) of heart attacks. One person fell to the ground and was trampled. A member of the Capitol police died the next day, possible due to suffering a [stroke](https://www.theblaze.com/news/brian-sicknick-possibly-died-of-strokehttps:/www.theblaze.com/news/brian-sicknick-possibly-died-of-stroke).  
 The incident, though serious, fell far short of the scenes of looting, arson and [extreme violence](https://www.foxnews.com/us/protests-riots-nationwide-america-2020) that had taken place in many of the country's major cities over the entire summer. The difference was that a riot now licked at the heels of the political class, not just the rest of us.  
 What happened on January 6 was unanimously condemned, [including](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-condemns-heinous-attack-capitol-healing) by Trump himself. There was no equivalence between those who had come to listen to him and those who marauded. The former had exercised their constitutional rights of free assembly; the latter had committed criminal acts.  
 Police could have made arrests and justice been served. The page would have been turned. That is not what happened.  
 Protesters had "stormed" the Capitol several times before: on March 1, 1954, by [Puerto Rican](https://history.house.gov/Oral-History/Events/1954-Shooting/) Americans who fired guns and injured five congressmen; on March 1, 1971, by members of the radical Weather Underground who [placed](https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/bomb-explodes-in-capitol-building) a bomb in the building; on November 7, 1983, by a [group](https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2020/05/03/us-history-first-women-terrorist-group-191037) calling itself the Armed Resistance Unit, who also placed a bomb in the building; and on October 6, 2018, by people [protesting](https://www.c-span.org/video/?452638-1/protests-judge-kavanaugh-sights-sounds) the confirmation vote of Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh. Overlooking that, however, on January 7, President Joe Biden [described](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jbopmTNo5XM) the incident of the day before as a major and unprecedented "attack":  
 "What we witnessed yesterday was not dissent. It was not disorder. It was not protest. It was chaos. They weren't protesters. Don't dare call them protesters. They were a riotous mob. Insurrectionists. Domestic terrorists. It's that basic, it's that simple."  
 The mainstream media spoke of an assault on the "[citadel of democracy](https://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Politics/2021/0107/Citadel-of-democracy-under-siege-A-reporter-s-view-inside-the-Capitol)" and a [sign](https://www.pittsburghcurrent.com/donald-trumps-attempt-to-overthrow-the-republic-failed-but-the-danger-to-our-democracy-still-exists/) that a "will to overthrow the republic" had taken shape. Trump's supporters -- as a whole -- were described as dangerous people. Trump's constitutional challenge to the result of the November 3 election had already been presented for weeks as an attempt to "[overturn](https://www.usatoday.com/in-depth/news/politics/elections/2021/01/06/trumps-failed-efforts-overturn-election-numbers/4130307001/)" the result of a perfectly irrefutable election and as a "[Big Lie](https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2021/02/23/donald-trump-big-lie-election-reruns-incite-violence-column/4546074001/)". The mayhem, though vicious, was now being [presented](https://www.nationalmemo.com/capitol-riot-veterans) "as if the U.S. has become a war zone."  
 On January 8, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi, after [asking](https://www.timesofisrael.com/pelosi-tells-trump-to-step-down-immediately-and-willingly-or-be-impeached/) President Trump to "immediately and willingly" leave office before President-elect Biden's inauguration, launched what would be a second impeachment procedure against him. Insinuating that Trump was mentally unfit, she [announced](https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/pelosi-calling-trump-unstable-president-seeks-prevent-access/story?id=75134810) that she had spoken to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Mark Milley, "to discuss available precautions for preventing an unstable president from initiating military hostilities or accessing the launch codes". Her request, which breached the chain of command, was reported as [sedition.](https://www.independentsentinel.com/nancy-pelosi-tried-to-arrange-a-military-coup-and-thats-sedition/) Nevertheless, on January 13, [discarding all due process](https://visiontimes.com/2021/01/19/legal-scholar-alan-dershowitz-has-critiqued-members-of-the-house-of-representatives-for-president-trumps-second-impeachment.html), the House of Representatives hastily voted on an [article of impeachment](https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hres24/BILLS-117hres24ih.pdf) accusing President Trump of "incitement to insurrection."  
 President Biden, at his inauguration on January 20, while speaking of "unity", all the same [echoed the words](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/01/20/inaugural-address-by-president-joseph-r-biden-jr/) he had used on January 7: "a rise in political extremism, white supremacy, domestic terrorism that we must confront and we will defeat".  
 Since then, the Biden Administration has led a fight against those Biden has designated as such. "President Biden," read a [statement](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2021/02/04/press-briefing-by-press-secretary-jen-psaki-and-national-security-advisor-jake-sullivan-february-4-2021/) from the White House, "will use the National Security Council to track down and combat political extremism and domestic terrorism".  
 Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin [issued](https://www.npr.org/2021/02/06/964828770/defense-secretary-lloyd-austin-signs-military-stand-down-memo-to-address-extremi) a "stand down" order to the entire US military for commanders to address "extremism" in the ranks. "White supremacism," John Kirby, the Pentagon's chief spokesman, [announced](https://ohionewstime.com/pentagon-orders-suspend-across-the-military-to-deal-with-that-rank-of-extremism/48583/), "poses a particular problem" for the US army.  
 In the Senate, impeachment proceedings against former President Trump commenced. The official impeachment managers [described](https://www.kdrv.com/content/news/573778392.html) the events of January 6 as an "armed insurgency" that had threatened the lives of representatives of the people. They presented these alleged "high crimes and misdemeanors" -- [minus](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E0hlfCKFZVY) evidence and witnesses -- as the direct result of Trump's speech on January 6, as well as his having contested the election's result -- which they [presented](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-55640437) as "incitement to violence". The impeachment managers ignored that the results of presidential elections have been contested for [decades](https://www.history.com/news/most-contentious-u-s-presidential-elections) with no objection.  
 They also claimed that the events of January 6 left five dead, but failed to note that only [one fatality](https://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20210216112021AAyyApd) -- Ashli Babbitt, a protestor shot by a policeman -- could be directly linked to the event.  
 Trump's attorneys had no trouble [refuting](https://apnews.com/article/trump-impeachment-trial-update-2-12-2021-f831653160706c49987c9d33228ccbbb) the allegations. They [recalled](https://www.newsmax.com/politics/NORTHAM-POL-TOP-US/2021/02/10/id/1009545/) that Trump had asked the demonstrators on January 6 to assemble "peacefully and patriotically" and that his a speech was fully [protected](https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4945622/alan-dershowitz-president-trumps-counsel-focus-jurisdiction-question-amendment-rights) by the First Amendment. They presented evidence showing that those who initiated the break-in on the Capitol had [prepared](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/capitol-rioters-planned-for-weeks-in-plain-sight-the-police-werent-ready/) it for weeks; that they had acted while Trump was still speaking, and that a causal relationship between Trump's January 6 speech and the break-in on Capitol Hill simply did not exist.  
 They emphasized that the impeachment proceedings were conducted in [violation](https://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2021/02/members_of_congress_who_voted_in_favor_of_impeachment_or_conviction_broke_their_oaths_of_office.html) of the Constitution and that Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts had [declined](https://www.abajournal.com/news/article/chief-justice-roberts-wont-preside-in-impeachment-trial-what-does-the-constitution-say) to oversee the proceeding. Trump, after all, now out of office, was [no longer](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/16935/senate-trial-trump) President Trump, just citizen Trump; did the US really want to start "impeaching" its citizens? They also pointed out that the evidence presented had once again (referring to the fraudulent , three year "Russia hoax") been [falsified](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2021/02/busted-eric-swalwell-caught-using-photoshopped-tweet-impeachment-trial-fakenews/).  
 Trump's lawyers asserted that what happened was [not an insurrection](https://www.politico.com/news/2021/02/12/trump-impeachment-trial-day-4-468829) -- a violent and organized action aimed at overthrowing the established power: [no one](file:///\\Users\guy\Downloads\that%20Supreme%20Court%20Chief%20Justice%20John%20Roberts%20had%20declined%20to%20oversee%20the%20proceeding.) entering the Capitol had been carrying a weapon.  
 Unsurprisingly, Trump was once again [acquitted](https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/president-donald-trump-acquitted/story?id=75853994).  
 The atmosphere in the United States remains poisonous. Critics claim that stoking in the public is being done on purpose -- to create a false narrative that not only is Trump supposedly a "threat to democracy," but that his more than 74 million supporters are, too. Others, however, claim that the real threat to democracy is actually these serial [liars](https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/russia-hoax-lie-hillary-clinton-gregg-jarrett), [violators](https://www.citizensvoice.com/opinion/letters/nov-3-vote-was-unconstitutional/article_17720bca-dc3a-50ea-8a1c-7843c4008c91.html) of the Constitution and falsifiers of information ([here,](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2021/01/29/fbi-lawyer-kevin-clinesmith-gets-probation-altering-russia-email/4072865001/) [here](https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/russia-hoax-lie-hillary-clinton-gregg-jarrett) and [here)](https://www.wsj.com/articles/what-are-the-consequences-for-adam-schiffs-lies-11590174358).  
 Actions against supposed "domestic extremism" and "domestic terrorism" -- meaning, supposedly, the 74 million Trump [supporters](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2021/01/biden-fans-flames-labels-trump-supporters-domestic-terrorists-video/) -- continue. Those labeled "extremists" and "terrorists" face continued [threats](https://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2021/01/corporations_continue_to_purge_conservative_employees_and_affiliates.html). Trump's defense lawyers received threats as well. Michael van der Veen, for instance, has [said](https://meaww.com/trump-michael-van-der-veen-send-location-armed-guards-protection-threats) he had to hire armed bodyguards and send his family to an undisclosed location. His house was [vandalized](https://abcnews.go.com/US/trump-impeachment-lawyer-michael-van-der-veens-home/story?id=75893232).  
 The right to challenge and criticize, which is an integral part of the freedom of speech guaranteed by the First Amendment, [appears](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2021/02/american_police_state_no_questions_allowed.html) seriously threatened. The right to defend oneself against charges also appears threatened, and the legal profession dangerous to practice.  
 Calls for political purges continue. The leftist organization MoveOn.org has [launched](https://front.moveon.org/new-ad-campaign-moveon-targets-members-of-the-gop-treason-caucus-for-their-role-in-deadly-insurrection/) a campaign against what it calls the "Treason Caucus" and the expulsion from Congress of Senators described as "complicit in Trump's deadly insurrection." House Speaker Nancy Pelosi -- apparently trying to create an equivalence between the worst terrorist attack suffered by the United States on 9/11/2001 and the events of January 6, and seemingly trying to position the government to suppress free speech -- has [announced](https://www.cnn.com/2021/02/15/politics/pelosi-capitol-attack-commission/index.html) that Congress will move to establish a 9/11-type commission.  
 A member of the Democratic National Committee, David. O. Atkins, [suggested](https://twitter.com/DavidOAtkins/status/1328898661569363969) , "how \*do\* you deprogram 75 million people? Where do you start?" and "We have to start thinking in terms of post-WWII Germany or Japan."  
 "White supremacists," President Biden [announced](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/biden-white-supremacy-us-capitol-b1803288.html), "are the greatest domestic terror threat in the US. It's complex, it's wide-ranging and it's real."  
 Journalist Kyle Daly, in an article called, "How to deprogram America's extremists", [describes](https://www.axios.com/fighting-online-radicals-extremism-90b8dcb6-31a7-4321-a53a-c8be5643f7d6.html) a measure "that could make a difference: Keeping extremists out of the institutions where they could do the greatest damage - like the military, police departments and legislatures... The U.S. needs a Marshall Plan against domestic extremism."  
 At *The New York Times*, the journalist Kevin Roose, in "How the Biden Administration Can Help Solve Our Reality Crisis", [offered](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/02/technology/biden-reality-crisis-misinformation.html) what looks like the creation of the "[Ministry of Truth](https://www.wired.com/story/america-needs-a-ministry-of-truth/)" in George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four*:  
 "Several experts I spoke with recommended that the Biden administration put together a cross-agency task force to tackle disinformation and domestic extremism, which would be led by something like a 'reality czar.'"  
 Expressing [doubts](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/12/yes-it-was-stolen-election-john-perazzo/) about the November 3 election is now a liability. Substantiated reports show that it was far from perfect. The American economist and former Director of Trade and Manufacturing Policy, Peter Navarro, in his private capacity, drew up three meticulous analyses: "[The Immaculate Deception](https://theronnewspress.org/2021/01/the-immaculate-deception-voter-fraud-2020-navarro-report/)," "[The Art of the Steal](https://www.priestsforlife.org/elections/pdf/navarro-art-of-the-Steal.pdf)" and "[The Navarro Report](https://navarroreport.com/)". They have been zealously disparaged as "[nonsensical](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/12/18/this-might-be-most-embarrassing-document-created-by-white-house-staffer/)," "[riddled with dubious claims](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/peter-navarro-election-fraud-report-dubious-claims)," and "[largely debunked allegations](https://www.forbes.com/sites/joewalsh/2020/12/17/white-house-advisor-peter-navarro-releases-dubious-voter-fraud-report/?sh=15818f971205)" -- many think unjustly (for instance [here](https://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2020/12/peter_navarros_report_is_mustreading_to_understand_the_election_.html), [here](https://www.thelibertybeacon.com/why-democrats-should-read-the-navarro-report/) and [here)](https://www.newsmax.com/us/peter-navarro-white-house-trade-adviser-irregularities/2020/12/17/id/1002106/).  
 In another [article](https://time.com/5936036/secret-2020-election-campaign/), "The Secret History of the Shadow Campaign That Saved the 2020 Election," in *Time Magazine,* Molly Ball, the publication's national political correspondent, shows in detail that a "well-funded cabal of powerful people, ranging across industries and ideologies, working together behind the scenes to influence perceptions, change rules and laws, steer media coverage and control the flow of information", and that the action of this cabal "touched every aspect of the election," including election laws, and engaged in a unified legal front to change voting systems and laws ".  
 Ball, also the author of an extremely laudatory [biography](https://us.macmillan.com/books/9781250252852) of Nancy Pelosi -- whom she describes as an "icon of the Resistance" to Trump -- claimed that the purpose of the cabal was not was not to rig the election, but to "fortify" it.  
 Organizations that ravaged major American cities during the summer, she adds, were used by the cabal: "the left actually did control the activities of groups such as Antifa, Black Lives Matter." In another article, she [wrote](https://newdailycompass.com/en/time-reveals-the-plot-to-save-democracy-from-trump) that what was done was to "save democracy", and manages to conclude that using undemocratic means to distort a democratic election somehow "saves" democracy.  
 A worrying drift seems to be dragging the United States away from the institutions of the American Republic and far from what can be expected of a democracy worthy of the name. Some authors [describe](https://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2021/01/the_american_lefts_predilection_for_sovietstyle_authoritarianism.html) what is happening as a [slide](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2021/01/fascism-comes-us-robert-spencer/) towards authoritarianism. They note that many Americans and corporations, while [behaving](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2021/02/anti-trump-election-conspiracy-goes-public-matthew-vadum/) in an increasingly authoritarian manner, accuse their opponents of being authoritarian -- in other words, blaming their opponents for what they themselves are doing.  
 The legitimacy of Trump as a president was being thwarted and denied, for example by "[Crossfire Hurricane](https://thefederalist.com/2020/04/20/7-devastating-revelations-about-crossfire-hurricane-in-new-releases/)" and serial [FISA abuse](https://thefederalist.com/2020/04/20/7-devastating-revelations-about-crossfire-hurricane-in-new-releases/) [Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act] even before he was elected. Nineteen minutes after his inauguration, the *Washington Post* released the [headline](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2017/01/20/the-campaign-to-impeach-president-trump-has-begun/), "The campaign to Impeach President Trump has begun".  
 For more than three years Trump was accused, without any evidence apart from a [fake "dossier"](https://www.hoover.org/research/why-was-steele-dossier-not-dismissed-fake), of being a Russian agent. The accusations eventually proved [baseless](https://archives.frontpagemag.com/fpm/mueller-comes-empty-against-trump-joseph-klein/), but not before [$32 million](https://www.cnbc.com/2019/08/02/robert-muellers-russia-probe-cost-nearly-32-million-in-total-doj.html) of taxpayers' money were spent in what the prosecutors [knew](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/robert-mueller-russia-collusion-hoax-dan-bongino) from the start was a fraud. They also tried to [frame, incriminate and send innocent people to prison](https://thehill.com/opinion/white-house/434054-the-damning-proof-of-innocence-that-fbi-likely-withheld-in-russian-probe). The exercise was, at bottom, nothing more than an attempted coup d'état.  
 Later, Trump was [accused](https://qz.com/1716182/trumps-ukraine-gambit-threatened-us-national-security/) of "endangering the security of the country" on the basis of an innocuous telephone conversation with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. For the accusation to appear plausible, one of his accusers had to [reinvent](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2019/11/white-house-blasts-liar-adam-schiff-for-making-up-fake-quotes-from-president-trump-again-video/) the conversation. The first attempted impeachment that followed has been rightly [described](https://www.alreporter.com/2019/11/15/barry-moore-condemns-impeachment-of-trump-as-travesty-of-justice/) as a "travesty of justice" and "the equivalent of the [Stalin's show trials](https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2020/2/5/show-trials-from-stalins-moscow-trials-to-trumps-impeachment)". Throughout his entire term, Trump was faced with [threats](https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2019/jul/31/how-menacing-invective-against-trump-creates-dange/), [abuse of power](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/turley-lawmakers-impeach-trump-abuse-of-power) and unremitting [attacks](https://nypost.com/2019/10/13/inside-the-medias-relentless-crusade-to-destroy-president-trump/). Even though Trump is no longer president, the war against him continues.  
 Much of the mainstream media have ceased being news organizations and have become anti-Trump activists. For publishing all that fake news, *The New York Times* and the *Washington Post* were even [awarded](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2019/03/29/president-trump-pulitzer-new-york-times-washington-post/3316086002/) Pulitzer Prizes.  
 When, in 2020, the summer riots became destructive and Trump [talked](https://www.nytimes.com/article/insurrection-act.html) about using the military to restore order and protect property and lives, his political opponents compared him to [Hitler](https://theberkshireedge.com/trump-americas-hitler/) and [Goebbels](https://www.politico.com/news/2020/09/26/joe-biden-trump-joseph-goebbels-422047), and indignantly defended the rioters as essentially "[peaceful protesters](https://www.speaker.gov/newsroom/6220-0)", acting in the name of legitimate grievances. They apparently overlooked that the Insurrection Act was invoked by several Presidents, such as [President George H.W. Bush](https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/insurrection-act-invoked/story?id=71020988) in 1992, after California Governor Pete Wilson requested help to quell riots in Los Angeles.  
 Several months before the 2020 election, Trump's political opponents strangely anticipated his defeat and accused him -- in advance, again without any evidence -- of *preparing* to break the law. Pelosi, suggesting that Trump would not leave the White House, intimated that he might have to be "[fumigated out](https://www.usnews.com/news/top-news/articles/2020-07-20/pelosi-says-trump-will-be-fumigated-out-if-he-refuses-to-leave-after-white-house-loss)". Biden predicted that the military would [intervene](https://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/502213-biden-says-trump-will-have-an-escort-from-the-white-house-if-he-refuses-to). "I am absolutely convinced they will escort him from the White House with great dispatch", he said.  
 The roots of what is happening are actually older.  
 The Communist Party of America never succeeded in obtaining broad political influence. The movement seemed to gain ground after World War II but was [crushed](https://www.britannica.com/topic/House-Un-American-Activities-Committee) in the 1950s after it was discovered that some of its members had [spied](https://www.jstor.org/stable/24913823?seq=1) on the country on behalf of the Soviet Union.  
 A new trend took shape in the 1960s. Its strategy seems to have been defined by a German activist, [Rudi Dutschke](http://crisiscritique.org/nov2018/boris.pdf) -- a follower of the Italian Marxist [Antonio Gramsci](https://www.acton.org/religion-liberty/volume-29-number-3/antonio-gramscis-long-march-through-history) -- as "the long march through the institutions". As the author Roger Kimball [describes](https://www.encounterbooks.com/books/the-long-march/), it gradually took hold of the humanities sector in universities, then spread throughout the education system, the cultural sector, the mainstream media, and finally the political sphere.  
 It drew on the writings of the philosopher Herbert Marcuse, who spoke of the need for a "[great refusal](https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctvrdf2df)", "a protest against that which is". Marcuse suggested practicing what he [called](https://la.utexas.edu/users/hcleaver/330T/350kPEEMarcuseToleranceTable.pdf) "repressive tolerance" -- consisting of "intolerance to right-wing movements" until they would be rendered non-existent. He [added](https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/marcuse/works/1969/essay-liberation.htm) that the "non-integrated forces of minorities" should be used.  
 These developments were also inspired by the leading thinkers of what is called the "[French theory](https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/french-theory)": Jacques Derrida and Michel Foucault. Derrida spoke of the need for "[deconstruction](https://criticallegalthinking.com/2016/05/27/jacques-derrida-deconstruction/)" especially of the idea of ​​truth. Foucault defined existing [power structures](https://www.powercube.net/other-forms-of-power/foucault-power-is-everywhere/) as oppressions to be abolished.  
 The methods used were those of the radical political theorist Saul Alinsky, who recommended that radicals [become](https://www.dissentmagazine.org/article/alinsky-for-the-left-the-politics-of-community-organizing) "community organizers". "The job of the organizer," he added, "is to maneuver and bait the establishment". In 1971, Alinsky published [*Rules for Radicals*](https://chisineu.files.wordpress.com/2014/02/saul-alinsky-rules-for-radicals-1989.pdf), outlining how radicals can take power using thirteen rules. He noted that the tactic of accusing one's enemies of what one is guilty of can be extremely effective.  
 This movement seems to have decided to spread the "great refusal" defined by Marcuse, adopt the ideas of French Theory, and use the methods of Saul Alinsky -- sharpening "repressive tolerance" to erode institutions from within while [eradicating](https://www.rand.org/research/projects/truth-decay.html) the concept of ​​truth. Some followers who became "community organizers" acted to abolish power structures and accused their enemies of doing what they themselves were doing.  
 President Barack Obama, as an example, prior to entering politics, worked as a "[community organizer](https://www.nationalreview.com/2008/09/what-did-obama-do-community-organizer-byron-york/)" in Chicago. Shortly before being elected president in 2008, he [said](https://www.ncregister.com/news/how-barack-obama-fundamentally-transformed-the-united-states), "We are five days away from [fundamentally transforming](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KrefKCaV8m4) the United States of America." He did not say into what.  
 President Trump, prior to his election, [promised](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjYu02Xn04w) to "drain the swamp" -- which remains woefully in need of draining. The swamp's inhabitants undoubtedly saw him as a [threat](https://www.rrstar.com/opinion/20191120/letter-trump-is-threat-to-swamp) to their plans. Making Trump fall at any cost and regaining their lost power evidently became [imperatives](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2017/08/why_the_swamp_hates_trump.html) for the swamp's inhabitants. They appeared ready to use any means necessary -- and they [achieved](https://www.realclearpolitics.com/2021/02/16/trump_fought_the_swamp_and_the_swamp_won_536139.html) their goal.  
 Biden, in the first weeks of his presidency, has issued a battery of [executive orders](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2021/02/08/joe-biden-executive-orders-and-actions-thus-far/), some of which [violate](https://www.foxnews.com/media/levin-declares-biden-executive-orders-unconstitutional-like-benito-mussolini) the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and in addition will throw thousands out of work for the benefit of Russia and China. The House and Senate were not consulted.  
 When 74 million law-abiding Americans are described as terrorists and racists who need to be "reeducated", tolerance for ideas differing from one's own is clearly [vanishing](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2021/01/conservative-purge-wont-stop-big-tech-tod-starnes/). Calls are also out for [closing down](https://www.politico.com/news/2021/02/22/democrats-conservative-media-misinformation-470863) television stations that offer a differing version of "the truth."  
 H.R.1, also called the "[For the People Act](https://www.heritage.org/election-integrity/report/the-facts-about-hr-1-the-the-people-act-2021)", the first legislative proposal by the House for 2021, passed the House of Representatives on March 5. The noted attorney J. Christian Adams, President and General Counsel of the Public Interest Legal Foundation and founder of the Election Law Center, [noted](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/17031/hr1-chaotic-elections):  
 "H.R.1 packs into one 791-page bill every bad idea about how to run elections and mandates that the states must adopt -- the very things that made the election of 2020 such a mess. It includes all of the greatest hits of 2020: Mandatory mail ballots, ballots without postmarks, late ballots and voting in precincts where you don't live."  
 If H.R.1 becomes the law of the land, the results will be the flooding of states with millions of unsolicited mail-in ballots, failure to verify signatures, no chain of custody of ballots, same-day voter registration, and ballot-harvesting -- many of which are invitations to commit fraud. As a bipartisan report in 2005 from the Commission on Federal Election Reform, chaired by former President Jimmy Carter and former Secretary of State James Baker III, [concluded](https://www.stanforddaily.com/2020/04/24/the-case-against-a-vote-by-mail-election/): mail-in ballots "remain the largest source of potential voter fraud." If H.R.1 is passed in the Senate, countless ways of demolishing election integrity will be set in cement.  
 President Biden has also introduced an [immigration reform bill](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2021/03/bidens-immigration-bill-would-be-act-national-michael-cutler/). It has been described as a way to import, legalize and naturalize non-Americans crossing the US border illegally, and clearly has the intent of trying to create a permanent [single-party majority](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2019/04/lefts-march-one-party-state-frontpagemagcom/). If passed, it could, as former senior advisor to President Trump Stephen Miller [said](https://www.theepochtimes.com/former-trump-adviser-says-bidens-immigration-bill-could-erase-the-very-essence-of-americas-nationhood_3706654.html), "fundamentally erase the very essence of American nationhood".  
 Economic proposals such as raising the minimum wage to $15, will, if implemented, [cost](https://www.heritage.org/jobs-and-labor/commentary/6-bleak-consequences-cbos-report-the-15-minimum-wage) hundreds of thousands of jobs and create immense hardship for small businesses already hit hard by pandemic lockdowns as well as for disadvantaged people at the entry level competing for work. There would be fewer jobs and more people looking for them -- before one even starts including a prospective flood of "undocumented" newcomers. Perhaps that is the intent: to reward big corporate campaign donors while squeezing out their small competitors, and at the same time creating more [desperate](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2020/05/minimum_wage_laws_create_unemployment.html) people who will keep reaching out to a Big Government to depend on it for help.  
 One of Biden's first decisions was to [disband](https://www.heritage.org/american-founders/commentary/bidens-disbanding-1776-commission-shows-lefts-war-us-history) the 1776 Commission, which was created to "return to the unifying ideas stated in the Declaration of Independence". The alternative narrative, the [1619 Project](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2019/08/the_lies_of_the_1619_project.html), which describes the United States as founded on slavery, "structurally racist", and therefore illegitimate from the start, has been [criticized](https://web.archive.org/web/20210106082657/https:/www.wsj.com/articles/the-1619-project-gets-schooled-11576540494) by prominent historians for its total disrespect of basic facts. This distortion of history, which contains nothing about what makes America good, is apparently now [teaching](https://www.newsweek.com/u-s-schools-have-openly-taught-1619-project-months-1530138) children to hate America in public schools.  
 The author Dennis Prager [said](https://www.theepochtimes.com/dennis-prager-on-the-undoing-of-american-liberty_3402660.html) last year:  
 "Civilization can be crushed in one generation. Germany was the most advanced artistic cultured country in Europe. People say how could the country that gave us Beethoven and Bach and Schiller and Heine give us Auschwitz? It's a common question. Of course, it's not asked at colleges today because they never heard of Beethoven, Bach, Schiller, Heine, or Auschwitz. Nevertheless, those who heard of them ask that question, and the answer is, it can happen anywhere. We are watching the undoing of American liberty in one generation, in our case, by those who call themselves progressives."  
 After the Constitutional Convention of 1787, a Mrs. Powel of Philadelphia asked [Benjamin Franklin](https://www.ourrepubliconline.com/Author/21), "Well, Doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?" Franklin responded, "A republic, if you can keep it."  
 Part of America has "declared war" and "is intent on destroying the most tolerant, inclusive, egalitarian society ever created," [wrote](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/12/where-we-are-david-horowitz/) the American author David Horowitz recently. "The good news," he added, "is that a patriotic movement has risen, rededicated to the propositions that all men are created equal and endowed with God-given rights to life and liberty, and is prepared to defend them".  
 A storm is currently hanging over the United States. The coming months will reveal if this patriotic movement will dispel it.  
 *Dr. Guy Millière, a professor at the University of Paris, is the author of 27 books on France and Europe.* <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/17147/storm-over-american-republic>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Israel will 'definitely' impose restrictions on Passover night**

***Senior Health Ministry officials say restrictions on public activity during Passover night are a certainty, question is only which limits.***

*David Rosenberg , Mar 07 , 2021 9:42 PM*

Israel will impose some form of restrictions on public activity during the night of the Passover Seder, senior health officials said Sunday night.  
 According to a report by *Channel 13*, senior Health Ministry officials said Israel would ‘definitely’ impose at least some limits on public activity during the first night of the Passover festival, which begins later this month, but said it remains unclear precisely what kinds of restrictions will be imposed.  
 Ministry officials on Sunday held the first meeting to address the issue, discussing which restrictions to impose.  
 The sources cited by the report said that the chances of a full lockdown being imposed are low.  
 Instead, the officials on Sunday suggested lowering the number of people allowed to gather together.  
 Sunday’s meeting also focused on the issue of unvaccinated children during mass gatherings on the holiday. Currently, children under the age of 16 are unable to receive the COVID vaccination, except in special cases approved by a medical committee.  
 The deliberations on Passover night restrictions will continue through this week and next week, the report said.  
 [Earlier on Sunday](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298052), Tomer Lotan, chief of the Magen Yisrael team, said in an interview with *Arutz Sheva* that there are currently no plans to impose a lockdown during Passover, while emphasizing that the final decision would depend on the trends in the infection rate and numbers of seriously ill patients in the next week to 10 days.  
 “I’m asked quite often about that and I must say that one of the things I took from last year is the need to be cautious about making promises. I think that as long as the present trend of stability in the number of seriously ill patients and daily infections remains, then we’ll be able to celebrate Passover in a much better way that during last year.”  
 “On the other hand, you could say that the next two weeks will be very critical in determining how we answer that question. We will see in the next few days the effect of Purim, and in ten days we will see the effect of the third stage of the reopening of the economy. So the closer we get to Passover, the better we’ll be able to see where we stand.” <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298056> [no one should be surprised. This is just more ‘terror porn’ from the gestapo government. It is truly impossible to understand these people’s reasoning. – rdb]

**Police capture two Arabs who stole IDF soldier's weapon**

***Police arrest two Arabs who attacked a fighter from the IDF’s Egoz Unit near Shfar'am and stole his weapon last Wednesday.***

*Ido Ben Porat , Mar 07 , 2021 11:44 PM*



***Weapons found in possession of the two suspects Israel Police spokesperson***

At the conclusion of a complex investigation, the Israel Police on Sunday evening arrested two Arabs [who attacked a fighter](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/297891) from the IDF’s Egoz Unit near Shfar'am and stole his weapon.

The two suspects, aged 25, residents of the village of Ibtin, were arrested inside an apartment in which they were hiding near the village of Zubaydat with ammunition in their possession.

They will be brought before the Magistrates Court in Nazareth on Monday morning for a hearing on the police's request to extend their detention.

The incident occurred on Wednesday night during navigation near Shfar'am in northern Israel.

The soldier left for "lone navigation" and at approximately 3:00a.m. noticed a suspicious vehicle with two figures in it. The vehicle approached from behind him, following as he walked on the dirt path.

Coming to a halt near the soldier, the driver asked if he needed a ride, but the soldier continued to advance, and the vehicle stopped again, this time lengthwise. After the soldier had walked another 300 meters, he saw that two Arab suspects were approaching him from behind on foot. MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298063>

**Terrorist breaks into home in Samaria**

***Female terrorist captured after bursting into farmer's home in western Samaria.***

*David Rosenberg , Mar 08 , 2021 11:36 AM*



***Scene of the attempted attackצילום: דוברות בנימין***

A terrorist attack was foiled in the Binyamin district of western Samaria Monday morning, in the community of Havat Sadeh Efraim.

During the abortive stabbing attack, a female terrorist brandishing a knife broke into a home in Havat Sadeh Efraim and attempted to stab members of the family living there.

Residents managed to overpower the terrorist and detained her until security forces arrived on the scene to take her into custody.

No injuries were reported in the attack.

Monday's failed attack is the second terror-related incident in Havat Sadeh Efraim in just over a month.

[In early February](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/296284), tried to break into a house in Havat Sadeh Efraim, but was spotted by local guards, who managed to foil the planned attack. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298085>

**Shul surrounded by ambulances after rabbi dies during prayers**

***The rabbi was in the middle of davening in shul when he collapsed and never recovered***

*Sponsored Content , Mar 08 , 2021 2:19 PM*

The Telzstone community, and especially those who were the parents of young boys, were shocked this week by the passing of long-time teacher and father of five, Rabbi Yehoshua Lubar.

Lubar was a healthy man, who had recovered from coronavirus over five months ago. Unbeknownst to Lubar, the virus had given him a blood clot, which ultimately caused him to have a stroke. The rabbi was in the middle of praying in synagogue when he collapsed and never recovered.

The story continues the disturbing trend of blood clots and heart issues in healthy men after recovery from COVID.

MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298092>

**Iranian Defense Minister threatens to raze Tel Aviv and Haifa**

***Iran's Defense Minister: If Israel launches a preemptive attack on Iran, we will raze Tel Aviv and Haifa to the ground.***

*Elad Benari , Mar 08 , 2021 3:11 AM*

Iran's Defense Minister Amir Hatami on Sunday threatened on Sunday to "raze" the cities of Tel Aviv and Haifa "to the ground" if Israel launches a preemptive attack against the Islamic Republic, i24NEW*S* reports. At the same time, Hatami also played down the chances of direct hostilities breaking out between the two countries, saying Israel is well aware of the potential consequences of such actions.

“Sometimes, the Zionist regime [Israel] out of desperation makes big claims against the Islamic Republic of Iran to allegedly threaten it,” said the Iranian Defense Minister. “It must know that if it does a damn thing, we will raze Tel Aviv and Haifa to the ground,” he warned.

Hatami added that Iran has enough resources to “maintain the stability of the country” and boasted of its regional power via “resistance groups.”

His comments came three days after Defense Minister Benny Gantz [told Fox News](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/297936) that Israel may be forced to take unilateral action against Iran's nuclear program if the world fails to address it.

Gantz said that Israel has identified numerous targets inside Iran that would hurt its ability to develop a nuclear bomb.

"If the world stops them before, it's very much good. But if not, we must stand independently and we must defend ourselves by ourselves," he added.

Hatami’s comments also follow the recent incident in which a cargo ship owned by an Israeli firm [was attacked with a missile](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjV4_GLvp_vAhViRjABHYTKCYcQFjAAegQIARAD&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.israelnationalnews.com%2FNews%2FNews.aspx%2F297583&usg=AOvVaw3VxD9xDnHHqdzDieaTRqjZ) while sailing through the Gulf of Oman, an attack that has been blamed by Israeli officials on Iran. MORE -<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298066>

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**03/07/2021 NEWS AM -PLEASE NOTE:**

**Attached is a file I was able to pull of the web. It is a research report from J. Bart Classen, MD, who deals in immunotherapies. He reports the potential of a very disconcerting reaction to the Covid vaccine called Prion Disease, a dreadful protein mediated problem causing brain dysfunction that MAY occur later after having the injection or when the experimental treatment ‘vaccine’ is challenged by a virus or chemical later on. It is a very technical report from a journal but you should look at the abstract or other parts of it. You need to be fully informed before thinking about taking this JAB. – rdb]**

**מידד טסה - כל יכול | Meydad Tasa - Kol Yachol**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hTpwhUqTOQ**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hTpwhUqTOQ)

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| **Sometimes I do not know what to choose**  **Sometimes I feel like falling into an abyss**  **Sometimes you look at me**  **And sometimes it seems to me that I am**  **In reality as in a dream**  **Sometimes I do not know what to feel**  **This world is so exhausting**  **Give me just one more sign to understand the world**  **This one will not fall I will not give up I will not give up** | **refrain**  **Or ... Almighty Father and ...**  **Or ... get me out of everything**  **Or ... you're such a great dad**  **And only you can understand me**  **And now I understand that it all depends only on me**  **And between the tears you tell me**  **If I am not for myself, who**  **But Dad just give me a hand**  **Give me light and I will return too**  **Let me feel your hand inside my hand**  **Refrain…**  **Dad can understand ...**  **I believe in you ...** |

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| **"Education is a private matter between the person and the world of knowledge and experience, and has little to do with school or college." -- Lillian Smith (1897-1966) American writer and social critic** |

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

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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 TR – abnormal Mammogram having double biopsy – Positive for cancer**  **Pray for ZH - having trouble with PTSD**  **Pray for LAC – recurrent cancer getting treatment**  **Pray for Ella – emotionally disturbed abused child and brother with ? heart problem**  **Pray for JN – Neuro disease**  **Pray for MS – Job issues and change**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Felicia – post op problems – continuing**  **Pray for SH and family – lady’s husband passed away and she is in Nursing home. Not doing well.**  **Pray for MP – Very complex problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 20:14And Abimelech taketh sheep and oxen, and servants and handmaids, and giveth to Abraham, and sendeth back to him Sarah his wife; 15and Abimelech saith, `Lo, my land *is* before thee, where it is good in thine eyes, dwell;' 16and to Sarah he hath said, `Lo, I have given a thousand silverlings to thy brother; lo, it is to thee a covering of eyes, to all who are with thee;' and by all this she is reasoned with. 17And Abraham prayeth unto God, and God healeth Abimelech and his wife, and his handmaids, and they bear: 18for Jehovah restraining had restrained every womb of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.**

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| **ETBPF has a new venue called Discord. It is a private web site where we are posting news and the daily news posting and you can respond with posts if you want. This ‘app’ can be used almost like facebook and twitter but without the intervention. We are just starting it and a bit slow to learn how to use it but it helps keep us off the Big Guys. It is a freebee and private. We have set levels of access to make sure only real responsible people are able to access. You can look at and join by going to:** [**https://discord.gg/4576x47ezN**](https://discord.gg/4576x47ezN) |

**Amid latest protests, anti-PM groups say violence against them now ‘routine’**

***Demonstrators gather in dozens of locations around country for Saturday rallies; woman assaulted and lightly hurt in north***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:55 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/sfdsfdsf.jpg)

***Protests against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Herzliya on March 6, 2021 (video screenshot)***

Demonstrators demanding Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s resignation held protests in dozens of locations around the country Saturday, the 37th week of Saturday evening rallies against the premier over his indictment on graft charges and handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

Protests were to take place outside the Prime Minister’s Residence in Jerusalem and Netanyahu’s private home in the coastal city of Caesaria. A rally was also expected in Hadera, near where Netanyahu was set to hold a campaign event.

In Yavne’el, near the Sea of Galilee, a female protester was assaulted by a young man and lightly injured. Other young men scuffled with demonstrators. Police were investigating.

The Black Flags protest movement said violence against demonstrators had become “routine.”

עשרות מפגינים הערב בכיכר הראלי בקיסריה לקראת הצעדה השבועית זה השבוע ה-37 למחאה נגד ראש הממשלה הנאשם בעבירות חמורות. "יאללה ביבי לך מכאן". קרדיט: מגזין לתוך הלילה [pic.twitter.com/DOcQX0u7Q6](https://t.co/DOcQX0u7Q6)

— Alon Weis אלון ויס (@WeisAlon) [March 6, 2021](https://twitter.com/WeisAlon/status/1368252300771418112?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

“The accused and his supporters will stop at nothing to harm the protest,” the organization, one of several leading the regular rallies, said in a statement. “Cyber activity, physical violence and incitement from within Likud’s campaign cars have all become routine.”

Demonstrators have been holding regular protests for months against Netanyahu, demanding he resign over his trial on charges of bribery, fraud, and breach of trust.

״אין מה לעשות, שמאלנים בוגדים״ הקמפיין הגיע גם להרצליה. כאן עם שלט ביתי לא כמו בנס ציונה וירושלים. מול תומכי נתניהו עשרות רבות של מפגינים מארגוני המחאה כנגדו שהגיעו למקום לאחר ששבוע שעבר הותקף כאן פעיל בגז מדמיע בפניו. הפעם המשטרה במקום [pic.twitter.com/lfk6baRiHm](https://t.co/lfk6baRiHm)

— Bar Peleg (@bar\_peleg) [March 6, 2021](https://twitter.com/bar_peleg/status/1368238033506623492?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

They have also criticized his government’s handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

Netanyahu denies wrongdoing and claims the indictments are part of an effort by political rivals, the media, police, and prosecutors to remove him from office.

Israel is preparing to hold new elections on March 23. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/amid-latest-protests-anti-pm-groups-say-violence-against-them-now-routine/>

**Labor chief calls on Gantz to quit race: ‘Doesn’t really represent anything’**

***Responding to Blue and White chief comparing himself to Rabin, Merav Michaeli says late PM ‘wouldn’t have sat with Netanyahu under 3 indictments’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 11:09 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/ssdsadsadsa.jpg)

***Labor party leader Merav Michaeli speaks to Channel 12 News, March 6, 2021 (video screenshot)***

Labor leader Merav Michaeli on Saturday called on Blue and White party chief Benny Gantz to quit the Knesset race, saying his party “doesn’t really represent anything.”

After Gantz this week said he was the successor to the storied Labor party leader late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, Michaeli told Channel 12 News: “Yitzhak Rabin wouldn’t have sat with Netanyahu [in a coalition] with three indictments [against the premier].”

Asked whether her party should have joined forces with the Meretz party ahead of the March 23 election, in light of the fact that Meretz in recent polls has been projected to fail to pass the Knesset threshold, Michaeli said Meretz had ruled out that possibility.

Meretz chief Nitzan Horowitz “announced in advance…that Meretz will run alone. We never even held discussions… Meretz is an important party, I believe it will pass the electoral threshold.”

But, she added, “The ones from the [center-left] bloc who need to quit are Blue and White. They can’t be trusted, they don’t really represent anything. They sit within [Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu’s government while again promising not to sit with him.”

While Labor has been polling at some 6-7 seats in most polls, Blue and White and Meretz have both fallen below the 4-seat threshold in some polls. However, the latest surveys have shown Gantz passing it with 4-5 seats, while Meretz falls short.

A poll by Channel 12 Saturday showed that two-and-a-half weeks before the election, some 10 percent of Israelis haven’t yet decided who to vote for.

Despite repeated calls to quit from others in the center-left, as well as mass desertions of Blue and White, Gantz has insisted he will plow ahead.

He has also warned that if he fails to enter the next Knesset, Netanyahu may fire him and his ministers before a new government is established and take far-reaching steps to cripple the justice system and hinder his trial on criminal charges.

In a February interview with Channel 12, Gantz said: “If I do not cross the electoral threshold needed to enter the Knesset, and there’s a transitional government headed by Netanyahu, the very next day Netanyahu will fire all the Blue and White ministers, appoint [Likud’s Amir] Ohana as justice minister, fire Mandelblit, not extend the appointment of [new] state prosecutor Amit Aisman, and turn this place into a monarchy.

“There will be a fundamental change of the structure of the [governing] regime in Israel right in front of our eyes.”

Gantz currently serves as alternate prime minister, an unprecedented post created as part of the power-sharing agreement between himself and Netanyahu in May 2020. In that role, he has the power to veto cabinet votes and holds control over key ministries that Netanyahu cannot pry away from him so long as the government holds.

He is also slated to take the reins as premier in November of this year, if that government is still in office — an unlikely scenario but one that could potentially come to pass should political deadlock continue and no new government be formed following the March 23 election.

However, it is not clear whether Gantz would retain these powers should his party be ejected from the Knesset. Legal experts [recently told The Times of Israel](https://www.timesofisrael.com/benny-gantz-wont-quit-the-election-race-is-that-for-israels-sake-or-his-own/) they believe Gantz’s position is secure, as the laws governing the current coalition, now in an interim capacity, must remain in effect until a new permanent government is formed.

When Gantz signed the coalition deal with Netanyahu, critics warned Netanyahu could not be trusted to hand over the premiership in November 2021, as was required by the Likud-Blue and White agreement. MORE -<https://www.timesofisrael.com/labor-chief-calls-on-gantz-to-quit-race-doesnt-really-represent-anything/> [The Israeli politic gets ever more confused and contentious as the days roll by. It is most interesting that there are at least two very old ‘prophecies’ by Jewish sages (hundreds of years ago) stating that in the time before the Messianic Age Israel will have repeated times of elections and still not have a functional government. One also claims that there will be two leaders (kings) simultaneously named Benyamin (Benjamin) which is very much in accord with what is happening now. – rdb]

**Meretz head sparks uproar by saying ICC probe against Israel legitimate**

***Nitzan Horowitz says that while he’s saddened by war crimes investigation, Jerusalem shouldn’t be surprised after it kept building in settlements ‘like there was no tomorrow’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:48 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2020/01/F200114MA26-e1579365509164.jpg)

***Meretz leader Nitzan Horowitz attends a party conference in Tel Aviv on January 14, 2020. (Miriam Alster/Flash90)***

The chairman of the left-wing Meretz party said Saturday that while he was pained by the International Criminal Court’s opening of a war crimes probe against Israel, “there were grounds for the decision,” sparking immediate uproar from other lawmakers, mostly on the right.

“People tell us, ‘You want Israel to be brought before the Hague.’ I don’t want Israel to be brought before the Hague… But Israel also has responsibility,” Nitzan Horowitz said in a Channel 13 interview. [This fellow just spit in the face of a whole lot of Israelis – rdb]

“I say this with great sadness, there were grounds for the decision. I don’t want Israel to face these situations… but Israel needs to ask itself what it needs to do to prevent that,” he added, urging the government to cooperate with the Hague-based international court — something it has not done thus far.

Bensouda announced on Wednesday that she was opening an investigation into actions committed by Israel and the Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem since 2014.

Bensouda indicated in 2019 that a criminal investigation would likely focus on the 2014 war between Israel and Hamas, Israeli settlement policy, and the 2018 Great March of Return protests, a series of violent demonstrations along Gaza’s border with Israel that left dozens of Palestinians dead.

Horowitz argued that Israel had brought the decision upon itself by refusing to enter negotiations with the Palestinians and “continuing to build in the settlements as if there is no tomorrow.” [Who is it that refused to negotiate? As I recall it was Abbas and his cadre of criminals. Obviously this fellow is the typical godless leftist critter who has no concept of Scripture and that the Land of Israel is God’s gift to the Jewish people. Sometimes you have to wonder if these types are actually Jews. – rdb]

Pressed if he also thought the IDF had acted inappropriately in Gaza, the Meretz chairman said: “Even in Operation Protective Edge (the 2014 war), there were things that should not have been done. There was massive damage done to the civilian population that the court wants to check.

“The solution for us is not to say that The Hague is anti-Semitic, but rather to advance negotiations with the Palestinians that bring about a solution. Then there will be no reason for the Hague,” he added.

Prime Minister Netanyahu’s Likud reacted to the remarks by saying Horowitz “is abandoning IDF soldiers who guard him and all of us” and added that the premier will fight the “anti-Semitic” decision.

Gideon Sa’ar’s New Hope party called the remark “miserable” and urged Horowitz to apologize for “supporting an anti-Semitic decision.”

Yamina MK Ayelet Shaked said her party won’t sit with Meretz in the same coalition, claiming Horowitz had justified the ICC’s “political and anti-Semitic activity persecuting IDF soldiers” and calling him an “embarrassment for the Knesset.”

Blue and White leader Benny Gantz, speaking to Channel 13, also criticized Horowitz for his “unacceptable” remark.

Itamar Ben-Gvir, an extreme-right candidate who leads the Otzma Yehudit faction under the Religious Zionism party slate, said he had urged Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit to open an investigation against Horowitz on suspicion of “treason.” MORE -<https://www.timesofisrael.com/meretz-head-sparks-uproar-by-saying-icc-probe-against-israel-legitimate/>

**Cabinet gives final okay to reopening of restaurants, event venues and more**

***After delays, ministers approve return of much of economy under restrictions; studies to resume for grades 7-10 and in universities, colleges***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:17 pm*

The cabinet on Saturday night gave a final stamp of approval to the reopening of much of the economy, including restaurants, cafes, school grades 7-10 in low-to-medium infection areas, event venues, attractions and hotels.

It also approved new regulations at Ben Gurion Airport that sideline a highly controversial committee that has been deciding who can enter the country while the airport remains largely shuttered. There will no longer be an approval process for returning Israelis. In the coming days, 1,000 people a day will be able to enter the country from four locations — New York, Frankfurt, London and Paris — with the number expected to go up to 3,000 later this week.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/F210303AVS06-e1615008685767.jpg)

Worker puts up a poster advertising for staff at a restaurant in Tel Aviv, on March 3, 2021 (Avshalom Sassoni/Flash90)

Eateries will be allowed to host up to 100 people with Green Passes — indicating vaccination or recovery from the virus — indoors at up to 75 percent capacity, while seating up to 100 people outside, even without passes. Tables must be two meters apart.

Additionally, higher education institutions and religious seminaries will be opened to vaccinated or recovered people.

Event halls will be allowed to open at 50 percent capacity and with up to 300 people with Green Passes. Up to 5% of attendants can be individuals without passes but with recent negative virus tests.

Gatherings of 20 people will be allowed indoors, and 50 outdoors.



People wear protective face masks as they walk through the Carmel market in Tel Aviv, on March 4, 2021 (Miriam Alster/FLASH90)

Places of worship will be allowed to operate at partial capacity, and higher attendance will be allowed at sporting and culture events for Green Pass holders.

Grades 7-10 will be allowed to attend classes in person for the first time in about a year in towns with low-to-medium infection rates — though the need to break classes up into smaller groups will mean each student will be in class only twice a week.

The cabinet had initially been set to vote on the regulations on Friday, but the vote was delayed, reportedly due to a delay in writing the regulations by legal advisers.

The delay, as well as last-minute plans to alter some regulations, enraged restaurant owners who said the constant uncertainty was making it impossible to prepare properly for reopening.

Channel 12 reported on Friday that only around 6,000 restaurants were set to reopen on Sunday, out of over 14,000 that operated before the pandemic. Around 4,000 restaurants have closed for good, the report said.

Israel in February began easing restrictions following a third lockdown, and has since gradually reopened stores and shopping malls (for everyone); as well as gyms, swimming pools, hotels and some cultural facilities for those with Green Passes.

New coronavirus deaths and infections in Israel have continued to decline from highs in January, and the number of seriously ill COVID-19 patients has dropped to its lowest point since last year.

Vaccinations are lagging in the ultra-Orthodox and Arab populations, however, and infections have been higher in those groups.

Channel 13 reported on Friday that infections in the ultra-Orthodox community have declined recently, while cases in some Arab communities have spiked.

According to Prof. Eran Segal of the Weizmann Institute, some 87% of all Israelis aged 16 and up who aren’t ultra-Orthodox or Arab have either recovered from COVID-19 or received at least one vaccine dose.

The equivalent figure for the ultra-Orthodox community was 72%, while the lowest immunization rate, 64%, has been observed among Arab Israelis.

Most Arab-majority cities are designated as “red” areas with high infection rates. In the Arab city of Umm al Fahm, the weekly infection rate has climbed by 45% and the test positivity rate is 18%, the report said.

The majority of ultra-Orthodox communities are now deemed “orange” zones with a lower infection rate than red areas, Channel 13 reported. In the city of Beitar Illit, weekly infections dropped 33%, in Modiin Illit, 15%, and in Elad, 28%.

Despite the overall decline in severity of Israel’s third-wave outbreak, coronavirus czar Nachman Ash said Friday that Israel could yet be forced to enter a fourth lockdown to combat the spread of the virus as the infection rate inched back up. [Just look for a hysterical response just before Passover so the control freaks can once again close things down to instill more fear and dread in this browbeaten population. Unconscionable is hardly the word for what Israel has done and is doing. – rdb]

Health Ministry figures showed the virus’s basic reproduction number, or R-number, was at 1.01 Friday morning, indicating the overall number of cases was growing slowly. The R-number had been below 1 since late January.

However, coronavirus testing also showed its lowest positivity rate in months, with some 3,716 tests coming back positive Thursday out of 105,000 tests — or some 3.6%.

Serious cases stood at 710 on Saturday evening.

Netanyahu claimed Thursday that Israel was largely done with the coronavirus, saying that it was the first country in the world to put the pandemic behind it, thanks to its quick and efficient vaccination campaign.

However, unnamed health officials told the Maariv newspaper that there were concerns the reopening plan was being influenced by Netanyahu’s political considerations ahead of the March 23 elections.

According to ministry figures, the case tally since the start of the pandemic was at 799,727 including 40,565 active cases.

The death toll was at 5,856.

Additionally, 4,925,155 Israelis have received a first vaccine dose, and 3,705,330 have also received a second. Several million Israelis are currently ineligible for the vaccine, most of them under the age of 16.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/cabinet-gives-final-okay-to-reopening-of-restaurants-event-venues-and-more/>

**Restaurateurs vow to ignore ‘shameful, disrespectful’ changes to reopening plan**

***Final vote on Sunday’s reopening of restaurants and other businesses is delayed until Saturday night; business owners say they’re struggling to hire workers back from furlough***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 2:11 pm*

Restaurateurs expressed outrage on Saturday over a delay of the vote finalizing regulations for their planned reopening the next day, and slammed the reported “shameful and disrespectful” changes to the proposed framework in a letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The authors of the letter criticized the frequent adjustments made to the proposal for the country’s next step in emerging from a nationwide lockdown on Sunday, saying they would open in accordance with the initial plan.

“In recent weeks, the restaurateurs have begun preparations to open their businesses and for this purpose have invested a lot of resources,” wrote the restaurant and bar owners in an open letter to Netanyahu.

“The preparations were accelerated against the background of an agreement we reached with the Health Ministry and the ministries of economy and finance for an outline for reopening that will allow us to work according to a reasonable economic model,” the letter read. MORE -<https://www.timesofisrael.com/restaurateurs-vow-to-ignore-shameful-disrespectful-changes-to-reopening-plan/>

**Politicians regularly meddled with arrivals committee to help associates — TV**

***Letter from legal adviser claims panel that ruled on entrance to country was often instructed on who to let in, including by Deri aide***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:31 pm*

A legal adviser to the Population, Immigration and Border Authority has accused political figures, including an aide to Interior Minister Aryeh Deri, of illicitly intervening in the work of the government’s Exceptions Committee on numerous occasions in order to allow their associates into the country, as well as absolve them from mandated stays in quarantine hotels.

In a letter to Ariel Yaakobi, chairman of the National Union of State Employees, published Friday by Channel 12, Meir Asraf requested assistance in clarifying to politicians that such behavior is unacceptable and possibly illegal.

The committee has already been subject to intense public scrutiny in recent days after a Channel 12 report last week suggested that the vast majority of passengers being allowed into the country have been ultra-Orthodox, while many non-Haredi requests were being rejected (though politicians and some in the media called the report into question).

Earlier this week the cabinet voted to largely close the Exceptions Committee, and starting Sunday, all Israelis abroad will be allowed to return home (though there will be a limit of 3,000 people a day). Only unvaccinated travelers seeking to leave the country will be required to receive approval from the panel.

In the letter published Friday, Asraf shared that he has received many complaints from members of the Exceptions Committee, who said that the panel is operating improperly.

“Employees have described political elements interfering in the professional considerations,” he said.

“While the general public is presented with a picture of a committee that sits and seriously discusses every request for entree and exit, in practice, the committee… does not discuss every single case of citizens seeking to return to Israel,” the legal adviser revealed.

Asraf claimed no clear criteria had been set for adjudicating requests and that employees of the border authority were often required to make judgment calls on their own, with management and unnamed individuals sometimes instructing them on the phone to give approvals, in a process that is not documented.

“Political elements with power and influence have not been satisfied with telephone contact with the Exceptions Committee members, but often visited Ben Gurion Airport to ‘rescue’ some of the passengers slated to enter the government-mandated quarantine hotels,” Asraf wrote.

These political figures ordered members to simply approve certain requests without any justification, the legal adviser said.

Among them, it emerged that Minister Deri’s aide intervened multiple times and visited the airport to remove associates from the quarantine hotel list. Asraf did not identify the aide involved.

Channel 12 cited senior workers at the border authority saying they were often given names to approve via text messages, though they did not elaborate on who was giving those instructions.

Deri’s office flatly denied the report, telling Channel 12, “This is a completely false claim. No assistant to the minister has guided [Exception Committee members] through decisions regarding entry and exit from Israel and the sending of Israelis to quarantine hotels.” <https://www.timesofisrael.com/politicians-regularly-meddled-with-arrivals-committee-to-help-associates-tv/> [it would seem that ‘back scratching’ and pay for play favors is a universal issue. – rdb]

**If Israel attacks, we’ll raze Tel Aviv and Haifa, warns Iranian defense minister**

***Amir Hatami says ‘Zionist regime out of desperation’ threatens Islamic Republic but knows the consequences; Rouhani urges Europe not to exert pressure over 2015 nuclear deal***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *and* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *Today, 2:10 pm*

Iranian Defense Minister Amir Hatami on Sunday threatened that his country will give a devastating response to any Israeli attack, and that the Jewish state is aware of the peril, according to Iranian media reports.

“Sometimes, the Zionist regime [Israel] out of desperation makes big claims against the Islamic Republic of Iran to allegedly threaten it,” Hatami said at a ceremony for soldiers, according to English-language reports of his remarks. “It must know that if it does a damn thing, we will raze Tel Aviv and Haifa to the ground.”

He went on to say that Iran has all the power it needs to “maintain the stability of the country” and boasted of its regional power via “resistance groups.”

His remarks came after last week Israel’s Defense Minister Benny Gantz [said during an interview with Fox News](https://www.timesofisrael.com/gantz-idf-updating-military-plans-for-potential-strike-on-iran-nuclear-sites/) that if the world doesn’t do something about Iran’s nuclear program then Israel may go it alone. He said that Israel is updating its plans for a prospective military strike.

“If the world stops them [Iran] before, it’s much the better. But if not, we must stand independently and we must defend ourselves by ourselves,” said the defense minister.

Israel has twice conducted military strikes against the nuclear programs of its enemies — Iraq in 1981 and Syria in 2007 — under what’s become known as the Begin Doctrine, which maintains that Jerusalem will not allow an enemy country to obtain an atomic weapon.

Gantz has previously warned Israel would carry out a military strike against Iran, if necessary.

His remarks came after Israel accused Iran of targeting an Israeli-owned cargo ship that was sailing in the Persian Gulf at the end of last month. The explosion reportedly [punched two holes in the MV Helios Ray](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-owned-cargo-ship-damaged-by-explosions-blamed-on-iran-back-at-sea/) on its port side and two on its starboard side, just above the waterline.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accused Israel’s regional foe Iran of attacking the ship. Iran swiftly denied the charge.

***Rouhani: ‘No threats or pressure’***

Also Sunday, Iran’s President Hassan Rouhani Sunday urged Europe to avoid “threats or pressure” in any negotiations with Tehran.

The deal, known formally as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), has been hanging by a thread since former US President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew from it in 2018 and reimposed punishing sanctions on Tehran. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/if-israel-attacks-well-raze-tel-aviv-and-haifa-warns-iranian-defense-minister/>

**In ancient Ur, birthplace of Abraham, pope urges peace among monotheistic faiths**

***Sacred city in cradle of civilization served region’s peoples for thousands of years, but has gone largely unexplored; some experts believe its treasures could rival Egypt’s Giza***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *and* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *Today, 5:12 pm*

Standing in the traditional birthplace of the biblical Abraham, the father of the Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths, Pope Francis on Saturday urged Iraq’s Muslim and Christian religious leaders to put aside animosities and work together for peace and unity.

He told those gathered at the interfaith meeting: “This is true religiosity: to worship God and to love our neighbor.”

Francis traveled to the ruins of Ur in southern Iraq to reinforce his message of interreligious tolerance and fraternity during the first-ever papal visit to Iraq, a country riven by religious and ethnic divisions.

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| An aerial photo shows archeological site of the 6,000-year-old archaeological site of Ur during the preparations for Pope Francis' visit near Nasiriyah, Iraq, Saturday, March 6, 2021 (AP Photo/Nabil al-Jourani)  An aerial photo shows archeological site of the 6,000-year-old archaeological site of Ur during the preparations for Pope Francis' visit near Nasiriyah, Iraq, Saturday, March 6, 2021 (AP Photo/Nabil al-Jourani) | Pope Francis , left, arrives at an interreligious meeting near the archaeological area of the Sumerian city-state of Ur, 20 kilometers south-west of Nasiriyah, Iraq, Saturday, March 6, 2021 (AP Photo/Andrew Medichini)  Pope Francis , left, arrives at an interreligious meeting near the archaeological area of the Sumerian city-state of Ur, 20 kilometers south-west of Nasiriyah, Iraq, Saturday, March 6, 2021 (AP Photo/Andrew Medichini) |
| This picture taken late on February 25, 2021 shows a long-exposure moonlit view of the site where Abraham, the father of three religions -- Judaism, Christianity and Islam -- is thought to have been born in the ancient city of Ur (Asaad NIAZI / AFP)  This picture taken late on February 25, 2021 shows a long-exposure moonlit view of the site where Abraham, the father of three religions -- Judaism, Christianity and Islam -- is thought to have been born in the ancient city of Ur (Asaad NIAZI / AFP | The Great Ziggurat temple in the ancient city of Ur is illuminated, ahead of the visit of Pope Francis to Iraq, in the southern province of Dhi Qar, around 375 kilometres southeast of the capital Baghdad, on March 3, 2021 (Asaad NIAZI / AFP)  The Great Ziggurat temple in the ancient city of Ur is illuminated, ahead of the visit of Pope Francis to Iraq, in the southern province of Dhi Qar, around 375 kilometres southeast of the capital Baghdad, on March 3, 2021 (Asaad NIAZI / AFP) |
| Security officers stand atop a wall of the House of Abraham, in the ancient city of Ur, in southern Iraq's Dhi Qar province, on March 6, 2021, amid preparations for Pope Francis's visit to the archaeological site (Ahmad AL-RUBAYE / AFP)  Security officers stand atop a wall of the House of Abraham, in the ancient city of Ur, in southern Iraq's Dhi Qar province, on March 6, 2021, amid preparations for Pope Francis's visit to the archaeological site (Ahmad AL-RUBAYE / AFP) | In this photo taken Feb. 4, 2010, cuneiform script writing is seen at the ancient city of Ur, near Nasiriyah, southeast of Baghdad, Iraq (AP Photo/Maya Alleruzzo)  In this photo taken Feb. 4, 2010, cuneiform script writing is seen at the ancient city of Ur, near Nasiriyah, southeast of Baghdad, Iraq (AP Photo/Maya Alleruzzo) |

With a magnificent ziggurat nearby, Francis told the faith leaders that it was fitting that they come together in Ur, “back to our origins, to the sources of God’s work, to the birth of our religions” to pray together for peace as children of Abraham.

At the 6,000-year-old archaeological complex near Nasiriyah, the pope said: “From this place, where faith was born, from the land of our father Abraham, let us affirm that God is merciful and that the greatest blasphemy is to profane his name by hating our brothers and sisters. Hostility, extremism and violence are not born of a religious heart: They are betrayals of religion.”

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| Iraqi security forces stand guard near the ancient city of Ur, during preparations for Pope Francis' visit near Nasiriyah, Iraq, Friday, March 5, 2021 (AP Photo/Nabil al-Jourani)  Iraqi security forces stand guard near the ancient city of Ur, during preparations for Pope Francis' visit near Nasiriyah, Iraq, Friday, March 5, 2021 (AP Photo/Nabil al-Jourani) | Pope Francis, center, speaks during an interreligious meeting near the archaeological site of Ur near Nasiriyah, Iraq, Saturday, March 6, 2021 (AP Photo/Nabil al-Jourani) |

Earlier Francis held a historic encounter in nearby Najaf with Iraq’s top Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, spiritual leader of most of the world’s Shiite Muslims.

The meeting, on the second day of the first-ever papal visit to Iraq, marked a landmark moment in modern religious history and a milestone in Francis’s efforts to deepen dialogue with other religions.

Sistani, 90, “affirmed his concern that Christian citizens should live like all Iraqis in peace and security, and with their full constitutional rights.” Sistani is extremely reclusive and rarely grants meetings but made an exception to host Francis, an outspoken proponent of interreligious dialogue.

Francis then headed straight to the desert site of the ancient city of Ur, where Abraham is believed to have been born in the second millennium BCE.

“It all started from here,” Francis said, after hearing from representatives of Iraq’s diverse religious communities.

“This blessed place brings us back to our origins,” he said. “We seem to have returned home.”

Ur, known in Hebrew as Ur Kasdim and in English as Ur of the Chaldeans, is mentioned three times in Genesis. Though it is not explicitly stated, it is implied that Abraham originates from there before traveling to the land of Canaan.

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| ***József Molnár’s ‘Abraham’s Journey from Ur to Canaan,’ from 1850 (Public Domain)*** | ***An aerial photo shows the 6,000-year-old archaeological site of Ur amid preparations for Pope Francis’s visit near Nasiriyah, Iraq, Saturday, March 6, 2021 (AP Photo/Nabil al-Jourani)*** |

The city is located in ancient Mesopotamia, one of the cradles of civilization. It was the last capital of the Sumerian royal dynasties whose civilization flourished 4,000-5,000 years ago, and was considered to be a sacred city of the moon god Sin in the Sumerian religion.

Chaldeans, Sumerians, Akkadians and Babylonians all lived in Ur. The site was the capital of the Sumerian kingdom in the fourth and third millennia BCE. At its height, archaeologists estimate half a million people lived there.

It is thought to have reached its apogee under King Ur-Nammu, who is believed to have ruled between 2112 and 2095 BCE, and his successors.

Ur was abandoned around 500 BC, in part because the river Euphrates shifted some three kilometers eastward.

In the early 1900s, US archeologist Charles Leonard Woolley made some stunning finds when he unearthed 16 tombs of Ur’s elite. Inside, he found some of the greatest treasures of antiquity: a golden dagger encrusted with lapis lazuli, an intricately carved golden statue of a ram caught in a thicket, a lyre decorated with a bull’s head and the gold headdress of a Sumerian queen.

Those treasures have been compared to the riches from the tomb of the Egyptian boy-king, Tutankhamun, but they excite archeologists even more because the graves at Ur are more than 1000 years older.

Archeologically, the most astonishing find of Ur has been a remarkably well-preserved stepped platform, or ziggurat, which dates back to the third millennium BCE, when it was part of a temple complex serving the administrative center of the Sumerian capital. The ziggurat, which towers over the flat desert floor, is the best-preserved one in the region.

 But there have been few major excavations at Ur, which lies about 300 kilometers (185 miles) south of Baghdad, since digs funded by the British Museum and the University of Pennsylvania in the 1920s and 1930s.

To date, less than 30 percent of the site has been excavated. Decades of war and violence have kept international archaeologists away from Iraq, where significant archaeological sites as yet unexplored are located.

Meanwhile, for the past half-century little has been done to preserve the sites that yielded those finds.

A carved stone Vessel found in the Ur area from the early 3rd millennium BCE is displayed at the Iraqi National Museum in Baghdad, Iraq, April 2, 2013 (AP Photo/Hadi Mizban)

The ziggurat was partially restored in the 1960s, but all of the finds have suffered a slow process of erosion. The site is plagued by wind, extreme summer heat and excessive salinity of the soil. The climate is not solely responsible for the degradation of the site, which also suffered from the presence of an Iraqi military base that was bombed during the 1990-1991 Gulf War.

Some archaeologists believe the site’s treasures could rival Egypt’s Giza pyramid complex once properly explored.

The Sumerian capital boasted paved roads, tree-lined avenues, schools, poets, scribes, and stunning works of art and architecture of the kind discovered by Woolley and his team.

A musical instrument found in a royal cemetery in the ancient city of Ur belong to the Dawn of the third dynasties (2370-2600 BCE) is displayed at the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday, July 31, 2019. (AP Photo/Hadi Mizban)

The ziggurat is believed to have been about 26 meters (85 feet) high during its heyday. But the top of the structure was knocked down, and today it stands at 17 meters, with a base 62 meters by 43 meters. The walls gradually slope inward, with a top level measuring 20 by 11 meters.

 After the ousting of former president Saddam Hussein, the eight-square-kilometer site fell within a restricted area near a United States military airport for a few years. It was eventually returned to Iraqi authorities in 2009.

Pope Francis’s visit fulfilled a desire once held by late pope John Paul II to visit the site. A planned trip in 2000 was eventually canceled due to security reasons.

An aerial photo shows participants in an interreligious meeting with Pope Francis at the so-called Abraham’s house, in the archaeological area of the Sumerian city-state of Ur, 20 kilometers southwest of Nasiriyah, Iraq, Saturday, March 6, 2021 (AP Photo/Nabil al-Jourani)

One site visited by Francis on Saturday is a sprawling complex composed of 27 rooms and five courtyards known as Abraham’s house, though it is likely to have actually been an administrative complex. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-ancient-ur-birthplace-of-abraham-pope-calls-for-peace-among-faiths-he-begat/>

**20 AGs warn Congress election power-grab unconstitutional**

***'We will seek legal remedies to protect the Constitution'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published March 6, 2021 at 7:46pm*

Attorneys general from 20 states are warning Congress members that their bill to federalize decision-making about elections violates the Constitution.

The letter to Senate and House leaders warns they may have to take Congress to court, [reports Conservative Firing Line](https://conservativefiringline.com/20-attorneys-general-say-hr-1-is-unconstitutional-democrats-dont-care/).

The House already has approved the plan, and the Senate now is considering it.

The chief legal officers said the For the People Act of 2021 "betrays several Constitutional deficiencies and alarming mandates that, if passed, would federalize state elections and impose burdensome costs and regulations on state and local officials."

"Under both the Elections Clause of Article I of the Constitution and the Electors Clause of Article II, States have principal — and with presidential elections, exclusive — responsibility to safeguard the manner of holding elections," they argue.

"The Act would invert that constitutional structure, commandeer state resources, confuse and muddle elections procedures, and erode faith in our elections and systems of governance. Accordingly, Members of Congress may wish to consider the Act’s constitutional vulnerabilities as well as the policy critiques of state officials," they write.

"First, the Act regulates 'election for Federal office,' defined to include 'election for the office of President or Vice President.'… The Act therefore implicates the Electors Clause, which expressly affords 'Each State' the power to 'appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct,' the state’s allotment of presidential electors, and separately affords Congress only the more limited power to 'determine the Time of chusing the Electors.'… That exclusive division of power for setting the 'manner' and 'time' of choosing presidential electors differs markedly from the collocated powers of the Article I Elections Clause, which says that both States and Congress have the power to regulate the 'time, place, and manner' of congressional elections."

The AGs said the wording isn't an "accident."Bottom of Form

"After extensive debate, the Constitution’s Framers deliberately excluded Congress from deciding how presidential electors would be chosen in order to avoid presidential dependence on Congress for position and authority… Accordingly, the Supreme Court, in upholding a Michigan statute apportioning presidential electors by district, observed that the Electors Clause 'convey[s] the broadest power of determination' and 'leaves it to the [state] legislature exclusively to define the method' of appointment of electors. McPherson v. Blacker, 146 U.S. 1, 27 (1892) (emphasis added). The exclusivity of state power to 'define the method' of choosing presidential electors means that Congress may not force states to permit presidential voting by mail or curbside voting, for example…"

But possibly the worst offense is the act's "limitations on voter ID laws."

"Fairly considered, requiring government-issued photo identification at the polls represents nothing more than a best practice for election administration. Government-issued photo identification has been the global standard for documentary identification for decades. Nearly twenty years ago, in the Help America Vote Act, Congress required first-time voters who register by mail without proof of identification to present identification either to the county voter-registration office or at the polls. 42 U.S.C. § 15483(b). It thereby acknowledged the existence of voter fraud and the capacity of documentary identification to prevent it. 148 Cong. Rec. S10489 (Oct. 16, 2002) (statement of Sen. Bond) ('By passage of this legislation, Congress has made a statement that vote fraud exists in this country.')"

And they charge that the Democrats supporting the plan are taking a "one-sided approach to governing" that "usurps states' authority."

If Congress approves it and Joe Biden signs it?

"We will seek legal remedies to protect the Constitution, the sovereignty of all states, our elections, and the rights of our citizens." <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/20-ags-warn-congress-election-power-grab-unconstitutional/> They need to redo elections again and throw these critters out and under the bus for good. – rdb]

**Doctors' conscience protections low priority for Becerra, record shows**

***Medical heroes 'should not be punished for their religious beliefs'***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published March 6, 2021 at 1:10pm* ***By Grazie Pozo Christie****Real Clear Politics*

Medical professionals on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic desperately need reinforcements. That’s why President Biden, in his “[American Rescue Plan](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/legislation/2021/01/20/president-biden-announces-american-rescue-plan/),” proposes enough funding to triple the number of community health care workers.

But if the administration doesn’t have a clear policy of enforcing longstanding conscience protections for health care providers, it will jeopardize their ability to recruit the talent we need to defeat the coronavirus.

Religious health care providers have a robust and lengthy history of providing quality care to people from all walks of life. Here at home, they have been on the front lines of the COVID pandemic, serving vulnerable populations such as the homeless and prisoners suffering from HIV, and they care for victims of sex trafficking, opioid addiction, and gang violence. Abroad, they serve in war zones and refugee clinics, with some even contracting Ebola while treating patients during the Liberia outbreak. But President Biden’s pick of California Attorney General Xavier Becerra to lead his administration’s Health & Human Services Department is a polarizing choice for a president who promised unity.

Becerra has a long [history](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/xavier-becerra-what-to-know-about-bidens-hhs-secretary-pick) of hostility towards doctors and nurses whose deeply held religious beliefs compel them to abstain from things like [referring](https://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-trump-abortion-religious-moral-healthcare-transgender-conscience-20190521-story.html) patients for abortion or [filling](https://oag.ca.gov/news/press-releases/attorney-general-becerra-challenge-trump-administration-over-contraceptive) scripts for abortion-inducing drugs.

Becerra has also led the attack on crucial federal [regulations](https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/final-conscience-rule.pdf) protecting medical professionals from choosing between their career and their conscience. These regulations do nothing more than ensure that longstanding, bipartisan conscience protections in federal law are actually *enforced* by HHS.

Decreasing access to health care by kicking qualified, compassionate providers out of the practice of medicine is bad policy for two reasons. First, it is not who we are as a country. We have always honored religious freedom — from protecting conscientious objectors at the time of our founding and allowing doctors to opt out of participation in the death penalty to respecting medical providers who must avoid involvement in abortion. And second, it directly undermines our ability to effectively respond to the current health crisis. America requires fully staffed hospitals, clinics, and doctor’s offices fulfilling the medical needs of households and communities harmed by the pandemic.

Becerra’s efforts to overturn time-tested, common-sense conscience protections foreshadow what a world without conscience protections might look like — doctors would either have to perform abortions or risk losing their medical license. Take Dr. Regina Frost, an OB-GYN serving patients in Detroit, for example. As a devout Christian, she would be forced out of her profession if Planned Parenthood had its way — every OB-GYN would be required to perform abortions or leave the job. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/doctors-conscience-protections-low-priority-becerra-record-shows/> [So if this group continues your ‘choice of healthcare providers’ may be significantly limited because there are a lot of people who vehemently object on some of these issues and their alternative is to simply quit. I am aware of a number of physicians who say they are just biding their time until they can get out of the business of healthcare. “It is no longer a profession that is patient oriented. – rdb]

**Henry Kissinger urges Biden to uphold Trump's 'brilliant' Middle East success**

***But new admin already has ditched Israel-Indonesia deal bolstering U.S. against China***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published March 6, 2021 at 7:55pm*

President Biden's unraveling of the Trump administration's Middle East policy already is well underway, but a prominent elder statesmen is advising him to uphold his predecessor's "brilliant" realignment of the region's politics.

Henry Kissinger, who was secretary of state under the Nixon and Ford administrations, praised Trump administration's strategy of pitting major Sunni Muslim countries against Iran's Shiite mullah-led regime, [the Washington Free Beacon reported](https://freebeacon.com/national-security/kissinger-biden-must-uphold-trump-admins-brilliant-success-in-the-middle-east/).

"I think that one of the great successes of the previous administration was that they had lined up, that they had achieved two things in the Middle East," Kissinger said Tuesday during the first seminar of a new monthly series from the Richard Nixon Foundation focused on national security and foreign policy.

"One, to separate the Palestinian problem from all of the other problems so that it did not become a veto over everything else — and secondly, of lining up the Sunni states in actual or potential combination against the Shiite states, which is Iran, that was developing a capacity to threaten them," he said. "I think that this was a brilliant concept. We were just at the beginning of it."

Kissinger, 97, was joined by former secretary of state Mike Pompeo, former national security advisers Robert O’Brien and Matt Pottinger, and Rep. Mike Gallagher, R-Wis.

Last year, the Trump administration brokered the Abraham Accords between Israel and Muslim-majority countries, including the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain. Trump also sanctioned Iran in a "maximum pressure" campaign aimed at halting the Iranian nuclear program.

And the Trump administration was on the verge of securing a peace agreement between Israel and Indonesia in its final weeks in office, according to a former senior Trump administration official, [Caroline Glick reported in a column Friday](https://www.israelhayom.com/2021/03/05/biden-abandons-middle-east-peace/) MORE -<https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/henry-kissinger-urges-biden-uphold-trumps-brilliant-middle-east-success/>

**San Francisco Pays $16.1 Million to Shelter 300 Homeless in Tents**

By [Rick Moran](https://pjmedia.com/columnist/rick-moran) Mar 05, 2021 10:08 AM ET

*(AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez, File)*

California is in the midst of a self-induced homelessness crisis that shows no sign of abating anytime soon. The crisis is especially acute in San Francisco, where Mayor London Breed has erected three tent cities to house about 300 homeless people.

The cost? About $61,000 a year per tent. All told, the cost of the program is $16.1 million. I guess in San Francisco, even the tents are first class.

The city is running a $650 million deficit and the tent city isn’t eligible for reimbursement by the government, so that money comes out of city coffers. If the homeless were housed in a first-class hotel, the federal government would gladly reimburse the city for that, but not for a few measely tents?

[SFist:](https://sfist.com/2021/03/04/insanely-it-is-costing-san-francisco/)

In the six “Safe Sleeping Villages” set up by the city of San Francisco during the pandemic, the cost of maintaining a single tent-camping spot is $5,000 per month, or $61,000 per year — more than it would cost to put each of these people in a market-rate apartment.

The insane costs of running these sleeping “villages,” which only have space for a total of 262 tents spread across the six sites, makes one immediately think of the criticisms that are leveled against the Homeless Industrial Complex, as conservative commentators are eager to call it. The revelation of the pricetag for the tent program — $16.1 million for the year — came at a budget committee meeting on Wednesday, as the Chronicle reports, via Abigail Stewart-Kahn, the interim director of the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing.

In addition to the tents, the city supplies meals, sanitation services, and police protection.

The cost boils down to $190 per tent per night, which includes 24-hour security, bathrooms, maintenance, and three meals per day. This is cheaper than the per-day cost for the hotel program, but the hotel program is getting [100% federal reimbursement](https://sfist.com/2021/03/03/with-fema-funding-assured-sf-supervisors-approve-400-more-hotel-rooms-for-homeless/). (Thanks, Biden.)

Also, the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing has committed to rehousing everyone as the [sic] come out of the hotel rooms — an enormous task, given that there are upwards of 2,000 people currently in the program.

San Francisco counts about 6,400 people as homeless, although that doesn’t include people living out of their cars, or the thousands who flit from temporary shelters to relative’s residences to friends and neighbors — anywhere they can find a place to lay their body down. Many of these people have jobs that don’t pay them enough to live within 50 miles of San Francisco.

The city was basically forced to adopt the tent idea because most homeless shelters closed down due to COVID restrictions. But $5,000 a tent? Certainly, allowances should be made but that is a ludicrous amount of money to spend on any group, regardless of their hard-luck circumstances.

Even city council members are critical. “I understand the motivation to create sleeping space during this COVID-19 crisis,” says Supervisor Ahsha Safaí, speaking to [the *Chronicle*](https://www.sfchronicle.com/local/article/S-F-pays-61-000-a-year-for-one-tent-to-house-16001074.php). “But we really need to dive deep to see if this a sustainable model… without any federal reimbursement.”

Perhaps if they had “dove deep” before they wasted this money, they wouldn’t be regretting it now.

<https://pjmedia.com/news-and-politics/rick-moran/2021/03/05/san-francisco-pays-16-1-million-to-shelter-300-homeless-in-tents-n1430271> [Folks keep in mind that this is Nancy Pancy Peeelosi territory. She is from this district with her expensive ice cream and refrigerator. This very likely very soon could be the second in line to the Whitehouse when they finally declare Sleepy Joe incompetent. Ruminate on that for just and while and it should send big shivers up your spine. – rdb]

**Trump presses GOP to stop using name for fundraising**

By [Tal Axelrod](https://thehill.com/author/tal-axelrod) - 03/06/21 12:37 PM EST

Former [President Trump](https://thehill.com/people/donald-trump) is pressing Republican Party organs to stop using his name and likeness for fundraising and merchandise sales.

Two sources familiar with the matter confirmed to The Hill that lawyers for Trump sent cease-and-desist letters Friday to the Republican National Committee (RNC), the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC) and the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC).

The three groups are the largest fundraising bodies for the Republican Party.

Trump has long been known to tout his marketing expertise from his long career in real estate and was protective even while in office of how lawmakers and party organs used his name to benefit themselves and other candidates.

“President Trump remains committed to the Republican Party and electing America First conservatives, but that doesn’t give anyone - friend or foe - permission to use his likeness without explicit approval,” a Trump adviser told [Politico](https://www.politico.com/playbook), which was the first to report on the letters.

The move came the same day the RNC sent two emails to supporters looking for donations in the form of a thank-you card to Trump.

“President Trump will ALWAYS stand up for the American People, and I just thought of the perfect way for you to show that you support him!” one email reads. “As one of President Trump’s MOST LOYAL supporters, I think that YOU, deserve the great honor of adding your name to the Official Trump ‘Thank You’ Card.”

None of the three groups hit with the cease-and-desist letters immediately provided statements on the record to The Hill when reached for comment. MORE - <https://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/541950-trump-presses-republicans-to-stop-using-name-and-likeness-for-fundraising>

**DOJ dismisses more than one-third of Portland riot cases—including felony assault on federal officers**

*Mar 5, 2021 2:17 PM EST*

The Department of Justice has dismissed more than one-third of riot cases stemming from last summer's violent protests in downtown Portland, including felony assault of federal officers. Many more dismissals are expected.

The Department of Justice has dismissed more than one-third of riot cases stemming from last summer's violent protests in downtown Portland, including felony assault of federal officers. Many more dismissals are expected.

KGW reviewed federal court records and [found](https://www.kgw.com/article/news/investigations/portland-protest-cases-dismissed-feds/283-002f01d2-3217-4b12-8725-3fda2cad119f) that 31 of the 90 riot cases have been dismissed by federal prosecutors. More than half of the dropped charges were "dismissed with prejudice," which means that the case is over and done with, once and for all, and can't be brought back to court. Several former federal prosecutors described the decision as rare to KGW.

ADs

At least 11 of the dismissed federal protest cases were dropped on or after the inauguration of President Joe Biden under new Justice Department leadership, the Portland-based news outlet cited. Four defendants escaped prosecution who were charged with assaulting federal officers. Several anonymous sources informed KGW that numerous more federal charges are expected to be dismissed soon.

The dismissal of riot cases run counter to the tough-on-crime talk uttered by the Justice Department last year. Billy J. Williams, then-US Attorney for the District of Oregon, vowed at the time there would be consequences for the arson, vandalism, and assaults on law enforcement outside the federal Mark O. Hatfield Courthouse where far-left militants often clashed federal agents in the months-long terror.

"Make no mistake: those who commit violence in the name of protest, will be investigated, arrested, prosecuted, and face prison time," declared Williams in the Sept. 25 [press release](https://www.justice.gov/usao-or/pr/united-states-attorney-statement-regarding-ongoing-violence-portland) regarding ongoing violence in the Rose City. For over 100 consecutive nights in mid-2020, Portland had been the center of civil unrest. MORE - <https://thepostmillennial.com/bidens-doj-drops-more-than-half-the-charges-in-portland-riot-cases-including-felony-assault-on-federal-officers> [The NEW DOJ in action. What a total farce. Obviously this was a Soros backed nomination like most of the other AG’s that he has financed. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**Created Reality, Part 1***By* [*Al Duncan*](https://newswithviews.com/author/al/)*|March 6th, 2021* For decades they’ve been “creating” our “reality”.  They create a world that operates alongside and yet in contradiction to the real world.  It’s a *created reality* that is in many ways converse ***reality***.  
 ***Reality***: Actual being or existence, as opposed to an imaginary, idealized, or false nature, independent of people’s knowledge or perception of them.  
 There are six major media outlets owned by the same cabal of elite billionaires who possess 40 percent of the world’s wealth.  In meetings such as those held at Davos, Bilderberg, and the World Economic Forum, these billionaires, in collusion with technocrats and the media, have created an adverse form of reality to establish policies and situations to augment only them.  
 Because the same information appears to come from six independent sources, it’s accepted as factual.  And yet, one major outlet distributes the same *created* *reality* to all six media sources to be pall-parroted by the most convincing talking-heads money can buy.  This *created reality* of fabricated, deceptive information, void of actual facts, is instilled within peoples’ minds to create a world of fabrication.  
 Information is addictive, whether it is current events, politics, sports, weather, or entertainment.  Using seduction, with a strong play on emotions, they twist and taint ***reality*** into a precision realm of *created reality*.  Through the intake of controlled information transmitted by multiple visual and audio means, from when we are toddlers, we are indoctrinated on what to think, how to feel, how to act, and what you dare say.  
 There are also built-in penalties against those who may decide to venture outside the boundaries of *created reality*.  The punishment is severe; it starts with character assassination and concludes with being ostracized.  
 Those of notoriety are swiftly debased, belittled and ridiculed—being factually accurate is irrelevant—they are negatively bantered on all media platforms until they’re apologetically running for cover with their tale between their legs.  
 The perfect example was the Donald Trump narrative, he’s also the perfect exception to this rule.  Trump’s situation clearly demonstrated that prominence and riches are immaterial; it is maintaining the solid institution of *created* *reality* that is essential.  The message is clear, when you publicly contest the fundamentals of *created* *reality* you will have hell to pay.  
 In 2013, the CIA that introduced the term “conspiracy theory” as anything that contradicts or opposes *created reality*.  This gave media a weapon to demolish anything that opposed the *created reality* narrative, regardless of how factual it may be.  The term “conspiracy theory” is designed to trigger responses such as ridiculous or deceitful fabrication, and thereafter, whatever is preceded by the term conspiracy theory is immediately discarded without a second given to examine the facts.  
 There are also the super-addicting social media platforms like Facebook, YouTube and Twitter that beguiles its users with an instant adrenalin-rush for a moment of fame from every positive remark.  Social media, in collusion with the 6 major media sources, are rigidly monitored by security algorithms and paid fact-checkers to make sure you dare not step outside the restrictions of the *created reality* boundaries.  
 More importantly, through these social media platforms and listening devices such as cell phones, Alexa, they’re able to extract extremely valuable metadata from billions of unsuspecting participants within every sector of the world while active in their most natural, uninhibited environment.  This vital information is then sold to the highest bidder within a number of different specialized fields i.e. psychological think tanks, corporations, governments, and the medical and pharmaceutical fields.  
 The information is then analyzed by quantum computers with advanced AI programs capable of computing at such high speeds its capable of breaking every computer code and password simultaneously throughout the world in less than a second.  This information is evaluated and classified under a variety of categories that encompasses every human trait and every facet of life.  
 With the high-speed computer capacity and the AI capability of analyzing conversations, actions, travel itinerary and previous decisions made by every individual and culture from each district throughout the world, they can then determine the way people think, feel, act and react within each sector.  This provides adequate metadata to deduce what people are going to do even before they know what they’re going to do.   With this type of information in the hands of the *created* *reality* architects, provides an opportunity to not only detect the future, but actually direct the future as they desire.  
 Another example of *created* *reality* vs. ***reality*** is Joe Biden, declared the President of the United States, although the majority of the world knows the results of the 2020 election was based on voter fraud.  
 Another *created reality* is the coronavirus pandemic, or Covid 19.  Based upon positive test results and numerous deaths, Covid is characterized as a deadly pandemic.  However, in ***reality***, the tests are false-positives, by the test designer’s own admission, the deaths are proven to be fabricated by many doctors and coroners, and hundreds of licensed medical professionals have documentation that they have cured thousands of patients from Covid with Hydroxychloroquine.  
 C*reated reality* is an inversion of ***reality***.  It’s either the exact opposite, or it’s a direct assault upon tradition, logic, and the established common sense order of things.  *Created Reality* is an all out war against what is real; it’s a war against sanity, and its basis is always founded in some order of fraud.  It’s an information War to conquer the collective human mind.  
 In actuality, *created reality* is a social media cult that plays on basic human emotions through a psychological reverse thought process that invalidates established ***reality*** and tricks the mind’s normal function with opposite meanings and forever-changing terms.  It’s a devious, ingeniously constructed technocratic control system with strict constraints to confine you inside its fabricated world.  
 In order for *created reality* to flourish and ultimately consume ***reality*** it has to banish all existence thereof.  
 *Created reality* claims that there are no absolutes, which is an absolute in itself.  But that deception provides a convenient opening for fantasy and continuous change when convenient.  *Created* *reality* rejects the *reality* of two specific genders in exchange for multiple genders, or transgenders, which are categorized by anything imaginable.  One of these stretches of the imagination is that a woman can transition into a man.  Or a man can transition into woman, get pregnant and give birth.  This personal gender identity crisis demands others to accept any degree of this insanity without question.  Any interjection of *reality* into their *created reality* instigates an abrupt end to the argument. *Reality* has to be blockaded at all cost because *created* *reality* cannot endure under the light of *reality*, facts and truth.  
 Their premise is that everyone’s equal.  Everyone’s a winner.  Even loser are considered winners.  Right is wrong and wrong is right.  Good is bad and bad is good.  This is the reason for the stringent censorship of words, ideals, writings, and sayings, along with the recent removal of statues, monuments, street signs and history.  For anything that provides a positive connection to *reality* must be abolished. <https://newswithviews.com/created-reality-part-1/>

And ….  
**A Pandemic Police State for You While Illegal Aliens Go Free**[Katie Pavlich](https://townhall.com/columnists/katiepavlich/) Posted: Mar 05, 2021 10:20 PM  
 Last summer, I flew to Montana ahead of a week-long road trip through Yellowstone and Teton National Park. When I landed at the airport in Bozeman, I was greeted by National Guard troops. After scanning my driver’s license, taking my temperature and answering a few questions, they allowed me to move along to baggage claim and my rental car.  
 In Washington, D.C., that same summer, I received text messages from a friend walking along the river. There, she saw National Guard troops ensuring people didn’t sit on benches and giving orders to pedestrians who weren't "properly" socially distanced outside.  
 A few months later, when I traveled to New York City for work, police officers met the passengers of our train at the top of the escalator at Penn Station and directed us to a table. We were forced to fill out paperwork about where we were staying, where we were from and contact information. We were reminded of the mandatory 14-day quarantine period after traveling from out of state, threatened with hefty fines or jail for violations and told a law enforcement official could show up at the address provided in order to ensure compliance. Essential workers were given an exemption but still encouraged to quarantine.  
 All of this was unsettling. The implementation of a police state for American citizens was done in the name of preventing the spread of Wuhan coronavirus.  
 Now, one year into the pandemic and under a new president, we’re learning the Biden administration is allowing hundreds of illegal aliens who have tested positive for the disease to travel freely around the United States.  
 "More than 100 illegal immigrants released by the Border Patrol into Texas since late January have tested positive for the coronavirus following their arrival," Fox News reported. "Felipe Romero, a spokesperson for Brownsville, said Wednesday that the 108 positives represent 6.3% of the number of total migrants who have been rapid-tested at the city’s main bus station, where they are being released by the Border Patrol. Rapid testing of the individuals began there on Jan. 25."  
 "Miriam Izaguirre, a 35-year-old from Honduras who also tested positive, told Noticias Telemundo Investiga that she planned to travel by bus to Houston," the report continues.  
 None of these people are being tracked, asked for their addresses, or required to quarantine under threat of punishment despite testing *positive*for the disease and knowingly traveling while infected. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) could be directed to prevent them from traveling, and yet, that directive hasn't come.  
 When asked about the issue, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki offered a word salad of bureaucratic guidance and refused to directly tell illegal aliens not to get on buses if they test positive for the disease. She also reiterated those who cross would be released and not deported.  
 "Our guidance to anyone, regardless of status, is testing positive for COVID-19 or experiencing COVID-like symptoms is to social distance, to wear a mask and seek medical attention as needed. But in general, our approach and our policy is to work with local governments, work with local NGOs to make sure to have testing, to ensure these migrants are tested," Psaki said.   
 Meanwhile, the Biden administration is waiting on "further guidance" from "experts" about when President Biden will lift official travel bans from foreign countries.  
 Americans haven’t been able to visit family members for a year. Government travel restrictions have prevented family members overseas from visiting. Grandparents have been placed in solitary confinement without the comfort of loved ones. Americans have been threatened with fines and jail time for leaving their homes. And yet, illegal aliens who cross the southern border are allowed to do what they please. Worse, government officials who have been proponents of lockdowns, like those working in the Biden administration, have no interest in applying the health standards they expect Americans to follow to illegal aliens traveling to different parts of the country. Dr. Fauci, who has been readily available for interviews and cover-shoots for InStyle magazine, has nothing to say about this inevitable superspreader event. <https://townhall.com/columnists/katiepavlich/2021/03/05/a-pandemic-police-state-for-you-while-illegal-aliens-go-free-n2585791>

And… - I am not thrilled with the way this person writes but his information is valid and good. - rdb

**Power by Insurrection has No Constitutional Authority**

*By* [*Andrew Wallace*](https://newswithviews.com/author/andrew/)*|March 6th, 2021* Don’t read this article if you can’t tolerate the plain spoken truth and anguish of a Patriot.  
 **Patriots know we have a faux government put into power by an insurrection, which means it has no Constitutional authority to govern**. The Constitutional requirements for voting were not followed, and every conceivable method of cheating was employed, resulting in an insurrection and a faux government.  
 **These evil traitors have total and absolute power without Constitutional Authority**. They are ruling against the needs and desires of the American people while implementing a ruthless Chinese Communist style dictatorship in conjunction with the cabal of the super wealthy Democrats and Communists.  
 But circumstances are much, much more dire and catastrophic than just stated. MORE -  
. <https://newswithviews.com/power-by-insurrection-has-no-constitutional-authority/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Brazilian FM Ernesto Araujo to land in Israel on Sunday**

**Brazil, Israel, to examine ways to cooperate on coronavirus pandemic management.**

Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 06 , 2021 8:14 PM



***Ernesto Araujo ADRIANO MACHADO/REUTERS***

Brazilian Foreign Minister Ernesto Araujo will arrive on Sunday in Israel for a diplomatic visit.

Participating in the official delegation will be two Brazilian Congress members, including Eduardo Bolsonaro, who is chairman of the Congress' Foreign Committee and the son of the country's President.

Minister Araujo will meet on Sunday with Israeli Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkeanzi (Blue and White) The two are expected to sign a cooperation agreement and give statements to the media.

Later during his visit, Min. Araujo will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and sources in the Israeli health system, to examine ways to cooperate on the issue of the coronavirus pandemic.

The entire visit will be conducted according to the Purple Badge rules and in accordance with Health Ministry guidelines. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/297991>

**'Poll of Polls': PM Netanyahu can form narrow coalition of 61 MKs**

***New 'Poll of Polls' points to PM Netanyahu being able to form narrow coalition, with Likud winning 30 seats.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 06 , 2021 8:59 PM*

A new poll by *The Madad* and *Kan News* showed both top parties gaining strength.

The "Poll of Polls" showed that the average number of Knesset seats won by the right-haredi bloc is 61.

Likud would receive 30 seats, Yesh Atid 20, New Hope 13, and Yamina 12.

The Joint Arab List would receive nine Knesset seats, Yisrael Beytenu and Sephardic-haredi Shas eight apiece, and Ashkenazic-haredi United Torah Judaism would receive seven seats.

Labor would win five seats, and Religious Zionism and Blue and White would each win four.

*Kan News* analyst Shmuel Rosner noted that the numbers show an "anxious average," and that the more recent polls are very inconsistent, but show that Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu would be able to form a coalition.

Last week, [another "Poll of Polls"](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/297605) showed a narrow win for the anti-Netanyahu bloc, which would win 62 seats. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/297994>

**Dallas Jewish Conservatives plan 'mask-burning' party to celebrate end of Texas mandate**

***Group is celebrating Republican Texas Gov. Greg Abbott’s lifting of his statewide mask mandate by holding a mask-burning party.***

*Andrew Lapin-JTA, Arutz Sheva , Mar 07 , 2021 11:27 AM*

The political advocacy group Dallas Jewish Conservatives is celebrating Republican Texas Gov. Greg Abbott’s lifting of his statewide mask mandate by holding a mask-burning party.

The outdoor event, advertised online as “The Official Texas is Now Open Party! #BurnThatMask,” is scheduled to be held March 10, the day that Abbott’s decision goes into effect. The event description promises that attendees will be able to burn their masks in a communal bonfire while enjoying entertainment, refreshments and conservative speakers at a private home in the northern Dallas suburb of Parker.

Dallas Jewish Conservatives is hosting the party alongside other local conservative groups in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, including Hispanics Against Socialism, DFW Deplorables and Ladies of Liberty.

“I pounced on the opportunity” to host the event, DJC founder and president Benji Gershon told the *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, adding that he threw it together only a day after Abbott’s announcement that he would be lifting the mandate. “We can all get together and celebrate the fact that businesses can now be 100% open… It’s a liberating experience.”

Around 150 people have thus far indicated they will be attending, Gershon said.

It’s not the first time that Jewish leaders have called for masks to be burned en masse. In October, a group of Orthodox Jews in Brooklyn burned masks in the street as part of a public protest against new restrictions that would close schools and limit synagogue attendance in areas with rising infection rates. That protest was followed by several others against the rules that were explicitly political, with participants expressing support for President Donald Trump.

But despite the title of the event in Texas, Gershon – who also works in early-stage private equity for tech startups — said his group isn’t trying to take a firm stand against the idea of mask-wearing.

“I’m not personally anti-mask. There are reasons for people to wear a mask,” Gershon said. “Masks have benefits as far as reducing the spread in certain situations.” His objection, he said, was to the government mandating mask wearing. “Enough’s enough with the forcing of the masks.” [They are totally ineffective with viruses – rdb]

Gershon said his group would still enforce mask-wearing and other COVID-19 safety protocols at its upcoming in-person events, including a panel on gun rights to be held the day after the mask-burning.

Gershon said the group plans to follow the requirements of the private business owners who host their events, and that for now, Studio Movie Grill, the Dallas-based movie theater chain hosting their upcoming events, is continuing to require mask-wearing. The CEO of Studio Movie Grill, Brian Schultz, is also a Jewish conservative whom Gershon said is a friend of the group.

The mask-burning party won’t be a specifically Jewish event, although kosher food will be served, Gershon said. A conservative Jewish comedian, Evan Sayet, is also a featured speaker. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298017>

**Teacher diagnosed with Covid-19 despite two injections**

***J'lem teacher who received both doses, the second over a month ago, diagnosed with Covid-19 over the weekend. His class enters isolation.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Mar 07 , 2021 8:02 AM*

A teacher from Jerusalem who received the two doses of the Covid-19 injection was diagnosed with Covid-19 in a test he performed over the weekend.

Once the test result was obtained the school immediately announced that all students in the class where the teacher taught would have to go into isolation for the next week and return to school following week, subject to two Covid-19 tests and negative responses.

The parents of the students in the class where the teacher taught received the following message, "Tonight we were informed that one of the staff members who taught the class, a staff member who was vaccinated with two doses (the second dose he received over a month ago) and did a test was found to be positive for Corona."

"As a result, the class is to enter isolation." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/298009>

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**אנא בכח [Please with your strength]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X7UqipfGbC0>

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| **"Ever since I was a child, I have had this instinctive urge for expansion and growth.  To me, the function and duty of a quality human being is the sincere and honest development of one's potential." -- Bruce Lee [Lee Jun-fan] (1940-1973) Hong Kong American martial artist, actor, martial arts instructor, filmmaker, and the founder of Jeet Kune Do** |

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

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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 TR – abnormal Mammogram having double biopsy – Positive for cancer**  **Pray for ZH - having trouble with PTSD**  **Pray for LAC – recurrent cancer getting treatment**  **Pray for Ella – emotionally disturbed abused child and brother with ? heart problem**  **Pray for JN – Neuro disease**  **Pray for MS – Job issues and change**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Felicia – post op problems – continuing**  **Pray for SH and family – lady’s husband passed away and she is in Nursing home. Not doing well.**  **Pray for MP – Very complex problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 20:11And Abraham saith, `Because I said, `Surely the fear of God is not in this place, and they have slain me for the sake of my wife; 12and also, truly she is my sister, daughter of my father, only not daughter of my mother, and she becometh my wife; 13and it cometh to pass, when God hath caused me to wander from my father's house, that I say to her, This *is* thy kindness which thou dost with me: at every place whither we come, say of me, He *is* my brother.'**

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| **ETBPF has a new venue called Discord. It is a private web site where we are posting news and the daily news posting and you can respond with posts if you want. This ‘app’ can be used almost like facebook and twitter but without the intervention. We are just starting it and a bit slow to learn how to use it but it helps keep us off the Big Guys. It is a freebee and private. We have set levels of access to make sure only real responsible people are able to access. You can look at and join by going to:** [**https://discord.gg/4576x47ezN**](https://discord.gg/4576x47ezN) |

**US: Our Middle East allies don't get blank check to oppose US interests**

***"We will maintain our ironclad commitment to Israel’s security, while seeking to further its integration with its neighbors and resuming our role as promoter of a viable two-state solution."***

*By* [*TOVAH LAZAROFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/tovah-lazaroff) *MARCH 5, 2021 18:41*

 The Biden administration issued a warning this week to its allies in the Middle East not to oppose US policies and not to seek military solutions to the region's problems.

"We do not believe that military force is the answer to the region’s challenges, and we will not give our partners in the Middle East a blank check to pursue policies at odds with American interests and values," it said in a document posted on the White House website that outlined its global strategic interests.

The document, titled, "Interim National Security Guidelines," was published as Israel has increasingly spoken of the possibility that it might have to use force to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

On Thursday, Israeli [Defense Minister Benny Gantz](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/gantz-reveals-classified-hezbollah-target-map-during-fox-news-interview-661029) said that the IDF was updating a military plan to strike Iranian nuclear sites if necessary.

Israel and the Biden administration are at odds on how best to prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear power and to halt its regional and global support of terror activities.

While the two allies agree on the end goal, the Biden administration believes the best way forward is to rejoin the 2015 Iran deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, designed to curb Iran's nuclear ambitions. Israel believes the deal only emboldens Iran and leaves it with the ability to become a nuclear power. [I don’t really think that Israel and the “Bi-dumb” group agree on the end goal. I think the “Bi-dumb” group could care less if Iran were to have a nuclear weapon because that is exactly what happens with the so called Iran deal. – rdb]

Israel and the US are also at odds over West Bank settlement activity, with Israel believing it has the right to build on territory that will one day become part of sovereign Israel.

[The Biden administration](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/biden-calls-off-strike-in-syria-after-being-told-woman-children-at-site-report-661080) believes that much of that territory should be part of the permanent boundaries of a Palestinian state and holds that settlement activity prevents the resumption of negotiations for a two-state resolution to the conflict.

But the US has not put forward a peace plan to achieve a two-state solution nor did it even mention the Palestinians in its strategic goals document.

It did, however, refer to its strong ties with the Jewish state.

"In the Middle East, we will maintain our ironclad commitment to Israel’s security, while seeking to further its integration with its neighbors and resuming our role as promoter of a viable two-state solution." [That is a bunch of political Horse Hockey because if you look under the covers you will see that the Obamanation is the one actually calling most of the shots and he is a certified Islamist. - rdb

It also swore to halt Iranian aggression and prevent Tehran's acquisition of nuclear weapons.

"We will work with our regional partners to deter Iranian aggression and threats to sovereignty and territorial integrity, disrupt al-Qaeda and related terrorist networks and prevent an ISIS resurgence," the Biden administration stated in the document.

The US, it said, would also "address humanitarian crises, and redouble our efforts to resolve the complex armed conflicts that threaten regional stability."

The Biden administration also pledged not to engage in endless wars, including the one in Afghanistan.

"In the Middle East, we will right-size our military presence to the level required to disrupt international terrorist networks, deter Iranian aggression, and protect other vital US interests," it added. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/us-our-middle-east-allies-dont-get-blank-check-to-oppose-us-interests-661092> [It seems that Israel and the UAE and Saudi are going to have to simply snub the pretender in the Whitehouse and do what they need to do to preserve their countries and sovereignty. The ME could well blow up over these issues because “Bi-dumb” and friends don’t care about anything besides hiding their own fraud ladened past in the ME and covering their criminal trail. – rdb]

**Gantz says no evidence found so far that oil spill was deliberate**

***Defense minister not yet ruling out environment minister’s charges that disaster was an Iranian act of eco-terrorism, but so far no proof found***

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

Defense Minister Benny Gantz on Friday said that there was currently no evidence to conclude that the oil spill off Israel’s coast that polluted most of the country’s beaches was a deliberate act of “environmental terrorism.”

Speaking to supporters of his Blue and White party, Gantz was asked about Environmental Protection Minister Gila Gamliel’s assertion that Iran deliberately caused the spill of Israel’s coast.

“I can’t completely rule out that it was deliberate, but at this stage, we can’t determine that it was done on purpose,” Gantz said.

Israeli TV reported Thursday that Israel’s security establishment is investigating the alleged Iranian link to the oil spill.

The network said the Environmental Protection Ministry had handed over its report on the matter to security bodies, which were reviewing its findings. Sources in the defense establishment, however, were quoted as saying there was no indication the spill was deliberate.

The report added that Israel’s intelligence apparatus has now also been recruited to look further into the claim of Iranian sabotage.

A Libyan-owned ship, the Emerald, was smuggling crude oil from Iran to Syria at the time of the spill, the Environmental Protection Ministry said in a statement Thursday, citing satellite images by the TankerTrackers monitoring group. The ship has since returned to Iran and is currently anchored there.

In an interview with Channel 12 on Thursday evening, Gamliel again insisted, without providing proof, that the spill constituted an Iranian terror attack on Israel.

“There are people who do not look at the risks properly,” she said when challenged on her claim, pointing the finger at Opposition Leader Yair Lapid and saying that “only Netanyahu knows how to deal with the Iranian threat properly.”

The environmental group Greenpeace blasted Gamliel for her claims, saying the assertion of a terror attack “is outrageous and factually baseless at this stage.”

The group said that in making the claim, the minister “is minimizing the well-known and widespread phenomenon of marine pollution by ship oil spills. The minister’s conduct on the matter smells of electioneering and an attempt to score political points over an ecological disaster.”

On Wednesday, Gamliel initially said she did not believe the spill was deliberate. But at a press conference later that evening she pinned responsibility on Iran.

“We have discovered that this wasn’t merely environmental criminality, but rather environmental terror,” she said. “Now we have found that Iran doesn’t only carry out terror via nuclear weapons or via attempts to establish a presence on our borders. Iran carries out terrorism by damaging the environment.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/gantz-says-no-evidence-found-so-far-that-oil-spill-was-deliberate/>

**ICC probe expected to advance in coming weeks; Israel to decide if cooperating**

***Jerusalem will have 30 days to respond to formal letter from Hague detailing scope of investigation; while it leans toward doing so, PM still hoping for delay until new prosecutor***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:29 pm*

The International Criminal Court is reportedly moving forward with its war crimes probe against Israel and the Palestinians, and will send Jerusalem a letter next week detailing the scope of the investigation, Channel 13 reported Friday.

Israel will then have 30 days to respond, the report said, adding that Jerusalem is leaning toward doing so after largely refusing to cooperate with The Hague-based international court until now. However, Israel is expected to use its response as an opportunity to once again voice the argument that the ICC has no jurisdiction to hear the case.

The hope in Israel is that its argument over jurisdiction will succeed in delaying the case until outgoing ICC chief prosecutor Fatou Bensouda is replaced in June by British lawmaker Karim Khan, on whom Jerusalem is hedging its bets on being more lenient.

A number of officials told Channel 13 that they’re concerned the ICC may already start issuing arrest warrants against former IDF officers in the coming months.

Consequently, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Benny Gantz have begun reaching out to counterparts throughout Europe to galvanize support against the case, the Kan public broadcaster reported. Netanyahu and Gantz have been stressing in those calls that the investigation is biased against Israel, which has an independent legal system capable of prosecuting any alleged crimes.

Bensouda announced on Wednesday that she would open an investigation into actions committed by Israel and the Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem since 2014.

Bensouda indicated in 2019 that a criminal investigation would likely focus on the 2014 war between Israel and Hamas, Israeli settlement policy, and the 2018 Great March of Return protests, a series of violent demonstrations along Gaza’s border with Israel that left dozens of Palestinians dead.

However, it is unclear to what degree Israel’s argument would stick, particularly with regard to settlement policy, as in recent years Israeli courts have been used to regulate settlements and legalize wildcat outposts in the West Bank, which most of the international community deems as illegal.

Meanwhile, Israel has sent warnings to the Palestinian Authority, which had submitted the requests to the ICC in 2014 that led to these probes, warning Ramallah that the war crime investigation will make it difficult for Jerusalem to advance confidence-building measures for the Palestinians, Kan reported Thursday. PA officials responded, saying that just as Israel has engaged in peace talks while building in the settlements, the Palestinians can continue their contacts with Israel while the ICC probe moves forward.

The announcement of the investigation came less than a month after the court ruled it had the jurisdiction to open a probe. A preliminary investigation to settle the justiciability question took more than five years.

“The investigation will cover crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court that are alleged to have been committed in the situation since 13 June 2014, the date to which reference is made in the referral of the situation to my office,” Bensouda said in a statement on Wednesday. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/icc-probe-expected-to-advance-in-coming-weeks-israel-to-decide-if-cooperating/>

**Israel's experts fear ‘fake news’ harming vaccine drive**

***Bogus information on the internet about the inoculations is making some Israelis reluctant to get inoculated, leading to potentially disastrous impact on public health as those who refused to get vaccinated fall ill***

*Tara Kavaler / The Media Line | Published: 03.05.21 , 19:34*

While the rest of the world scrambles to obtain coronavirus vaccines, Israel is busy trying to figure out what to do about the people who are reluctant to get the jab.  
 This hesitation is being fueled by misinformation online, for example, a popular post on Facebook from earlier this month, since debunked, claiming that two Israelis died after taking the vaccine. [As I recall it was a physician who reported that. We know that in the USA there have been 1000 deaths post the ‘vaccine’ I am reasonably certain that Israel is not doing much better. In fact, in the report I linked yesterday there were a number who had died post JAB. – rdb]

People claiming the vaccines do more harm than good fill social media with untrue posts, fueling some people’s aversion to inoculation.

“I’m not against all vaccines,” says Itai, a 36-year-old from Tel Aviv. “I just wonder about the safety of the coronavirus vaccine because it was approved so quickly.

“I’ve seen posts about Israelis getting very sick or even dying after it, so I’d rather wait to get it,” he says, even though there is no proof of anyone dying as a direct result of the vaccine in Israel.

But young people are not the only ones hesitating.

Prof. Arnon Afek, associate director of Sheba Medical Center and a member of the national advisory board for the pandemic, says that while over 4.5 million Israelis, over half the population, have received at least the first dose of the vaccine, there are 500,000 Israelis over the age of 50 who have not yet gone to get inoculated.

All Israelis aged 16 and up have been eligible for vaccination against COVID-19 since February 4. About 28% of the population is under age 16; only a few dozen youngsters with chronic medical conditions have been inoculated. MORE -

<https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/SybloB0zd> [What is FAKE NEWS? Anything that doesn’t agree with the globalist, deep state, one world government agenda. When you have your one world takeover planned you don’t want anything possibly interfering with the lies you are spreading. Truth might wake someone up. Just in case you missed it yesterday, you may want to watch this video – short 7 minutes. <https://www.bitchute.com/video/CwvKgnXNsnAi/>

Another article you probably didn’t see but you need to look at:

<https://healthimpactnews.com/2021/death-rates-skyrocket-in-israel-following-pfizer-experimental-covid-vaccines/>

– rdb]

**Tel Aviv hosts its first ‘Green Pass’ concert for the vaccinated**

***500 people allowed into 30,000-seat capacity Bloomfield Stadium to attend a performance by Israeli pop star Ivri Lider***

*By* [*AFP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/afp/) *Today, 11:14 pm*

Hundreds of people vaccinated against Covid-19 packed a Tel Aviv football stadium Friday for the first of four concerts organized by the municipality, as Israel eases virus restrictions. The 500 fans wore masks and sat in the central section of the 30,000-seat capacity Bloomfield Stadium to attend a performance by Israeli pop star Ivri Lider. [If they have a ‘green pass’ and have been vaccinated WHY DO THEY NEED MASKS and to SOCIAL DISTANCE? This is stupidity to the nth degree. The world is being bamboozled by the globalist deep state and you need to wake up. Their process makes no sense at all medically or scientifically it is all fraud. There are deaths just like there are every year from the flu, which by the way there have not really been any ‘reported’ flu cases this year. HUMMMM? Seem a little strange to you? It should! It should scream at you that this is not valid. – rdb]

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| [People vaccinated against COVID-19 coronavirus disease and holding a "green pass" (proof of being fully vaccinated) attend a "green pass concert" organised by the Tel Aviv municipality at Bloomfield Stadium in the Israeli Mediterranean coastal city on March 5, 2021. (Photo by JACK GUEZ / AFP)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/000_94C8HM.jpg)  People vaccinated against COVID-19 coronavirus disease and holding a "green pass" (proof of being fully vaccinated) attend a "green pass concert" organised by the Tel Aviv municipality at Bloomfield Stadium in the Israeli Mediterranean coastal city on March 5, 2021. (Photo by JACK GUEZ / AFP) | People vaccinated against COVID-19 coronavirus disease and holding a “green pass” (proof of being fully vaccinated) attend a “green pass concert” organised by the Tel Aviv municipality at Bloomfield Stadium in the Israeli Mediterranean coastal city on March 5, 2021.(Photo by JACK GUEZ / AFP) |

 “This is really cool. I am so happy,” said Reut Gofer, as she arrived at the venue.   
 “I hope this is the beginning of a period when we will return to our normal life,” she added.   
 Israel in February began easing restrictions following a third lockdown, and has since gradually re-opened shopping malls, gyms, swimming pools, hotels and some cultural facilities.   
 But in most cases, the return to normality has been reserved for people who have been fully vaccinated, under a so-called “green pass” scheme.   
 Israel is among the world leaders in Covid-19 vaccinations per capita.   
 More than half of the country’s nine million-strong population have already received the two recommended doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech coronavirus vaccine since the inoculation drive began in December.   
   
 ***An attendee shows off a “green pass” (proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 coronavirus disease) upon arrival at Bloomfield Stadium in the Israeli Mediterranean coastal city of Tel Aviv on March 5, 2021, before attending a “green pass concert” for the vaccinated, organized by the Tel Aviv municipality. (Photo by JACK GUEZ / AFP)***

“Since a majority of the population has already been vaccinated… we can finally open up our cultural and leisure activities,” said Eytan Shwartz, a spokesman for the Tel Aviv municipality.   
 “I hope that soon we will be able to fill up the (Bloomfield) stadium,” he added.   
 Israel has registered more than 796,000 cases of Covid-19, including over 5,800 deaths. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/tel-aviv-hosts-its-first-concert-for-the-vaccinated/> [Israel has registered 796000 positive PCR tests NOT cases. The PCR test is not specific for anything and should not be used as a diagnostic test. The fact that it is positive doesn’t make the patient a “CASE” of anything. Most of those individuals were probably not ill at all or if they were it was like a regular flu. Those with co-morbidities did get sick with the cytokine response – which may well have been because of their weakened immune system and the fact that they were more sensitized from previous flu shots. – rdb]

**Pfizer CEO's Israel visit cancelled because he is unvaccinated - report**

***Bourla said in December that he has not yet received the vaccine yet because he does not want to "cut in line."***

*By* [*JERUSALEM POST STAFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/jerusalem-post-staff) *MARCH 5, 2021 22:40*

[Pfizer](https://www.jpost.com/tags/pfizer) CEO [Albert Bourla](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/pfizer-ceo-albert-bourla-joins-israeli-embassy-in-dc-in-hanukkah-lighting-652561) has cancelled his expected visit to Israel, after it turned out he was not vaccinated against coronavirus, N12 reported Friday.

The report noted that Bourla, as well as members of the delegation that was meant to accompany him during his visit, have not received the second dose of the vaccine. [The second OR THE FIRST??? – rdb]

As a result, it was decided to delay the visit by several days, which also posed a logistic challenge because of the upcoming Israeli elections. MORE - <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/pfizer-ceos-israel-visit-cancelled-because-he-is-unvaccinated-report-661100> [HUMMMM? Does this seem a bit strange to you???- rdb]

**COVID-19 vaccination: 73 cases of facial paralysis, 7 anaphylactic shock**

***Serious symptoms of the vaccine include blurred vision, inflammation of the pulmonary pleura, inflammation of the heart, heart attack, or even liver damage.***

*By* [*MAAYAN JAFFE-HOFFMAN*](https://www.jpost.com/author/maayan-jaffe-hoffman) *MARCH 5, 2021 15:02*

Only 153 people (.0.0032%) out of more than 4.7 million who received a first shot of the Pfizer [coronavirus](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/coronavirus-in-israel-4143-new-cases-severe-cases-drop-below-700-660924) vaccine had any kind of serious side effects, according to a new report published by the Health Ministry.

Only 162 had serious side effects from the second dose out of 3.4 million.

The types of serious issues that people experienced ranged from blurred vision, inflammation of the pulmonary pleura (that allow optimal expansion and contraction of the lung during breathing), inflammation of the heart, heart attack or even liver damage.

Some 62 people were hospitalized after receiving their first dose; 75% of them had underlying medical conditions before getting the jab.

Forty-two people were hospitalized after the second shot.

Some 487 (first) and 250 (second) had [neurological](https://www.jpost.com/health-science/this-is-not-science-fiction-say-scientists-pushing-for-neuro-rights-651131) issues after getting inoculated: 474 people who experienced paresthesia (tingling, pricking, chilling, burning, numbness of the skin), 73 who had bell’s palsy (facial paralysis), 23 convulsions, 28 metal taste in the mouth, 14 loss of consciousness, five transient cerebral ischemia (temporary stroke) and 59 others who had unidentified neurological issues.

In total, there were 9,595 people who reported side effects of the vaccines out of 4,755,585 people who received the first dose, and another 8,743 out of 3,408,825 who received the second dose. MORE - <https://www.jpost.com/health-science/covid-19-vaccination-73-cases-facial-paralysis-7-anaphylactic-shock-661073> {sounds pretty good unless you are one of the unfortunate ones with he problem. Remember folks this is from the official government approved ministry. Keep in mind that they have pulled the license on physicians who dissent, they have closed down web sites on those who present other information. I would take some of this with a grain of salt. – rdb]

**Thousands protest police response to Arab crime; dissident MK Abbas chased away**

***Police say some protesters in Umm al-Fahm launch fireworks, throw stones at officers; 22 Arabs have died of violent crime within the community so far this year***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 3:16 pm*

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| [Demonstrators take to the streets of Umm al-Fahm on Friday, March 5, 2021, to protest alleged police failure to root out organized crime and violence from Arab communities (Joint List)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/03/WhatsApp-Image-2021-03-05-at-1.21.32-PM.jpeg)  ***Demonstrators take to the streets of Umm al-Fahm on Friday, March 5, 2021, to protest alleged police failure to root out organized crime and violence from Arab communities (Joint List)*** | ***Thousands are seen protesting by the entrance of Umm al-Fahm on March 5, 2021. (Israel Police)*** |

Thousands of demonstrators marched Friday in the northern city of Umm al-Fahm to protest against what they called the police’s failure to stem a rising tide of violence in Arab communities.

The latest weekly protest came after a particularly violent demonstration last week, when police fired rubber-coated bullets, tear gas, stun grenades and water cannons as they dispersed hundreds of demonstrators. At least 35 protesters were injured, including Joint List parliamentarian Yousef Jabareen and the city’s mayor. Arab Israeli officials accused police of racist behavior and using excessive force and have demanded an investigation.

As the demonstration went on, police said some protesters began to launch fireworks and throw stones at officers on the scene. In videos, some demonstrators could be seen shooting firecrackers in the air.

Protesters charged on Friday morning that police had deliberately closed off main roads leading to Umm al-Fahm in order to prevent the demonstration from taking place.

“Police are preventing people from coming to Umm al-Fahm because they are scared by both the protestors and the criminal organizations,” said Joint List head Ayman Odeh, who was at the protest.

In a sign of the widening cracks in Arab Israeli politics, dissident Arab MK Mansour Abbas sought to join the demonstration — only to be rebuffed by dozens of demonstrators calling for him to “get out.” After some scuffles, Abbas’s aides removed him from the scene.

Abbas, who leads the conservative Islamist Ra’am party, has long made passing a plan to fight violence and organized crime among Arab Israelis a central legislative priority. But he has sparked controversy among Arab Israelis due to his stated willingness to cross previously unthinkable red lines, such as voting to grant Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu immunity from prosecution and perhaps even to prop up his future coalition.

מפגינים קוראים לגרש את יו"ר רע"מ מנסור עבאס שהגיע להפגנה. כמה מתומכיו הבריחו אותו לחנות קרובה. ראש העיר סמיר מחאמיד ואנשי ציבור התערבו כדי למנוע חיכוך. [pic.twitter.com/78HAiF4fMB](https://t.co/78HAiF4fMB)

— Jack khoury.جاك خوري (@KhJacki) [March 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/KhJacki/status/1367811916635271168?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Organized crime is largely seen as the engine of the spread of violence in Arab cities and towns. Arab Israelis blame the police, who they say have failed to crack down on powerful criminal organizations. Since the beginning of 2021, 22 Arabs have died violently inside Israel, according to the Abraham Initiatives nonprofit.

Eyewitnesses estimated that around 10,000 demonstrators participated in Friday’s protest, making it one of the largest protests so far this year.

“We will continue to fight in order to live with dignity, and defeat the violence and crime,” Odeh said.

Netanyahu announced last week that his government will funnel NIS 150 million ($45 million) to combating violence in Arab communities. Arab politicians and civil society organizations — who had hoped for billions more — harshly criticized the plan as too little, too late.

“We demand a real plan to eradicate crime instead of Netanyahu’s fake plan, that does not even talk about defeating criminal organizations, and that lacks proper solutions in education, housing and welfare,” Joint List MK Jabareen said at Friday’s protest.

Umm al-Fahm residents have been holding weekly demonstrations against violence and organized crime for nearly a month and a half. But this week’s turnout was notably higher, likely due to the accusations of police brutality following last week’s demonstration.

Investigators at the Justice Ministry on Sunday launched an inquiry into police officers’ conduct during last week’s protest.

The number of homicides among Jewish Israelis since 2016 has remained relatively constant: 38 in 2016, 44 in 2017, 35 in 2018, and 36 in 2019, according to the Israel Police.

Among Arabs, however, it has skyrocketed over that same period: 64 in 2016, 67 in 2017, 71 in 2018, 89 in 2019, and 96 in 2020. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/thousands-protest-police-response-to-arab-crime-dissident-mk-abbas-chased-away/> [Crime in the arab communities is really bad. Their ethic is pitiful to say the least and they really don’t care who they steal from. – rdb]

**Vaccination drive for Palestinian workers delayed amid reported budget dispute**

***After 700 inoculated as part of widely publicized pilot, program to vaccinate some 120,000 employees in Israel in limbo as Treasury looks for funding source***

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

The coronavirus vaccination drive for some 120,000 Palestinians working in Israel and the settlements has been put on hold, the military liaison to the Palestinians announced Friday.

The initiative was supposed to officially begin on Sunday after a successful [pilot program](https://www.timesofisrael.com/health-ministry-700-palestinian-workers-get-first-vaccines-from-israel-in-pilot/) on Thursday saw 700 Palestinians vaccinated at the Sha’ar Efraim checkpoint between the West Bank and Israel, according to the Health Ministry.

However, on Friday, the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories said the plan was being put on hold  “due to administrative delays, which are supposed to be solved in the near future.”

But the Haaretz daily reported that the freeze was due to a budgetary dispute. Organizers of the initiative had been ready to move forward on Sunday, understanding that they would receive the necessary funds from an external budget designated for pandemic-related issues, which was slated to be approved by the cabinet in the coming days.

But Finance Minister Israel Katz decided unilaterally on Friday that the funds would have to come from a different source, Haaretz said, saying organizers of the vaccination drive were not given a reason.

Finance Ministry officials told The Times of Israel that a decision would be taken next week on the source of the budgeting for the project.

The full vaccination program for some 120,000 Palestinians who are legally employed in Israel and in West Bank settlements was supposed to start Sunday, at Sha’ar Efraim and seven other checkpoints, as well as four settlement industrial zones.

The government [approved the plan](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-authorizes-plan-to-vaccinate-over-120000-palestinian-workers/) last Sunday.

Around 87,000 Palestinians hold work permits in Israel, and an additional 35,000 work in Israeli settlements, according to Defense Ministry figures.

Palestinian workers will be eligible to receive the shots by appointment and with the presentation of a valid employment permit.

Under the original plan, the administration of the first doses of the two-shot vaccine would be done within two weeks, COGAT said, with the centers later opening for an additional two weeks to give the second dose.

While Israel has surged ahead in vaccinating its population — over half of all Israelis have received at least one dose of a coronavirus shot — only scattered shipments of vaccines have reached the Palestinians so far. The Palestinian Authority expects to begin its public vaccination campaign in early March with the arrival of a major shipment of AstraZeneca vaccines.

Israel has come under criticism for not vaccinating Palestinians, many of whom live under Israeli military rule. Human rights groups charge that international law requires Israel as an occupying power to provide vaccines for Palestinians. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/vaccination-drive-for-palestinian-workers-delayed-amid-reported-budget-dispute/>

**Ballistic missiles target north Syria oil facilities in rare attack**

***Many alleged Russia and the Syrian regime were behind the attack which appears aimed at denying Turkish-backed Syrian groups from trading oil.***

*By* [*SETH J. FRANTZMAN*](https://www.jpost.com/author/seth-j-frantzman) *MARCH 6, 2021 12:05*

An unusual attack on oil facilities in Turkish-occupied northern Syria occurred on Friday evening. Locals reported large explosions near Al-Bab and Jarablus. [Turkey](https://www.jpost.com/tags/turkey) invaded this area in the fall of 2016 in Operation Euphrates Shield. The use of ballistic missiles points to a sophisticated state-backed operation against the oil facilities. Many alleged Russia and the Syrian regime were behind the attack which appears aimed at denying Turkish-backed Syrian groups from trading oil.

Turkish media and other major reports did not speculate on who fired the missiles. Anadolu, a state-backed channel in Turkey, said that three people were. Killed and dozens wounded. It said that “ballistic missiles were fired. On Tarhin region of al-Bab district and Al-Hamran region of Jarablus district on the border with Turkey. “There are oil refining facilities operated by primitive methods in the regions where the attacks took place. Violent explosions occurred after many tankers in the area caught fire.”

In the past Russia has targeted oil facilities in [Syria](https://www.jpost.com/tags/syria) used by ISIS. In 2015 Russia accused Turkey of shooting down a Russian plane out of a desire to protect “oil supply lines to Turkish territory” that come from ISIS-held areas. In December 2015 Russia carried out airstrikes on areas where ISIS was conducting oil trade.

The missile strikes on March 5 were large and included video after that showed explosions. Those videos appeared online on the evening of Friday. Ballistic missiles have been used increasingly in the region. Iranian-backed Houthis in Yemen often fire ballistic missiles at Saudi Arabia. Iran has also been testing better and more precise missiles.  Russia, like Iran, is a ballistic missile powerhouse. However the use of these kind of missiles has been rare in recent years in Syria. Russia has hosted talks on Syria with Iran and Turkey in what is called the Astana process. Russia and Turkey have worked on various deals in Syria, in September 2018 of Idlib, in October 2019 over areas of northern Syria that the US withdrew from and in the spring of 2020 after clashes between Turkey and the Syrian regime. Russia and Turkey have done joint patrols.

However, the Syrian regime and Russia both argue that ISIS, Al-Qaeda and other extremists operate in Turkish-occupied areas of northern Syria. Turkey says it backs the Syrian National Army, however the SNA is made up of a plethora of armed militias, some of which are extremists.

On February 28 the White Helmets asserted that the Syrian regime and Russia used Tochka missiles to target an area east of Aleppo. Video posted online on March 6 show the wreckage of a Tochka missile allegedly used in the March 5 attack on the oil facilities. Video from March 5 showed the strikes and the aftermath as well as missile fragments that were found.  Online social media open source intelligence Twitter accounts asserted that the Tochka missile fragments found near Tarhine in Syria indicate Russia was behind the attack. Others said it was the Syrian regime. Likely such a large attack would not happen without both being aware of it, regardless of which forces fired the missiles. Some said the missile likely were fired from the Kuweireis air base which is 30km east of Aleppo.  MORE -<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/in-rare-attack-ballistic-missiles-target-oil-facilities-in-n-syria-661130>

**Software guru John McAfee and his top cryptocurrency adviser charged with fraud and money laundering by US federal prosecutors**

*5 Mar, 2021 17:08 / Updated 1 hour ago*

Antivirus pioneer John McAfee has been charged with fraud and money laundering by prosecutors in New York. The businessman and one-time presidential candidate is accused of fraudulently promoting cryptocurrency on social media.

An indictment against McAfee was unsealed on Friday, and names both him and Jimmy Gale Watson – an adviser to McAfee – as defendants in a fraud and money laundering case. The pair are accused of using McAfee’s social media accounts to publicize various cryptocurrencies, inflating their value and allegedly netting McAfee more than $13 million. Another member of the McAfee team was allegedly tasked with laundering this money in a series of banking transactions.

*“As alleged, McAfee and Watson used social media to perpetrate an age-old pump-and-dump scheme,”* FBI Assistant Director William F. Sweeney Jr. said in a Justice Department press release, referring to the practice of buying assets cheaply, before hyping up their value and selling them at this new, artificial price.

McAfee has long considered himself an outlaw, and spent much of the last several years living on a yacht in the Caribbean, admittedly on the run from US tax authorities. He turned up in Spain last September and was arrested there the following month, awaiting extradition to the US to face tax evasion charges, as well as the latest fraud and money laundering accusations.

McAfee has continued to tweet his musings and observations from behind bars, while his wife, Janice McAfee, last month put out a message looking for American lawyers, preferably with a *“sound understanding of cryptocurrency.”*

John's extradition case is at the point that he needs an American lawyer to work with his Spanish lawyers. Preferably someone from Tennessee & has a sound understanding of cryptocurrency. Respond to jemcafee2020@gmail.com, include your hourly rate & a link to your office website.

— Janice McAfee (@theemrsmcafee) [February 26, 2021](https://twitter.com/theemrsmcafee/status/1365362478113312776?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

If convicted on all of the latest counts, McAfee could face up to 60 years in prison, on top of whatever sentence he could also receive for tax evasion.

I'm in my 76th year. In prison. Awaiting trial for extradition.Maybe not in the best position to be giving advice.But anyway...Believe nothing you hear. And be suspect even of your own eyes.A world ruled by the powerful, the clever and the corrupt is never what it seems.

— John McAfee (@officialmcafee) [February 6, 2021](https://twitter.com/officialmcafee/status/1358068124336152577?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

<https://www.rt.com/business/517354-mcafee-crypto-indicted-doj/> [As they say, don’t do the crime if you can’t do the time. – rdb]

**Court rejects claim Christian baker engaged in 'deceptive' trade**

***Man who presents himself as woman wanted product promoting transgenderism***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published March 5, 2021 at 1:47pm*

A federal court in Colorado has tossed one of the two claims in a discrimination lawsuit against Jack Phillips, the baker who was punished for refusing to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple.

The complaint by Denver attorney Autumn Scardina, a man identifying as a woman, was filed in 2019, one year after Phillips won a 7-2 decision in the U.S. Supreme Court in the case by the same-sex couple.  The high court issued a narrow ruling that determined Colorado's Civil Rights Commission expressed unconstitutional "hostility" toward religion in response to Phillip's conscience-based defense for his actions.

Scardina demanded that the owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop produce a cake "depicting satanic themes and images." After Phillips refused the request, Scardina asked for a blue and pink cake to represent his "sex change."

Kristen Waggoner of the Alliance Defending Freedom, which is representing Phillips, called judge's decision Thursday "the first step towards final justice."

"Jack has been threatened with financial ruin simply because he makes decisions about which messages to create and celebrate — decisions that every other artist in Colorado is free to make," he said. "Tolerance for different opinions is essential. We look forward to defending Jack — and ultimately prevailing — on the remaining claim."

Previously, ADF called the case "nothing more than an activist's attempt to harass and ruin Jack because he won't create custom cakes that express messages or celebrate events in conflict with his conscience."

Scardina's suit alleges Phillips violated the state's law protecting consumers from deceptive advertising as well as the Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act.

District Judge A. Bruce Jones dismissed the deceptive advertising claim on Thursday. He pointed out that the "statements" cited by Scardina were not advertisements. Instead, they were "news articles or op-eds predominantly concerning Phillips' refusal to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple, which resulted in the case that ultimately went to the Supreme Court." MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/court-rejects-claim-christian-baker-engaged-deceptive-trade/> [Every one of these perverse people that make these frivolous suits should have to pay all court fees and reimburse those who they accuse with “lost time wages and pain and suffering”. That might put a stop to the stupidity. – rdb]

**Report: No chain-of-custody proof for 400,000 Georgia ballots**

***Biden won state by fewer than 12,000 votes***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published March 5, 2021 at 2:16pm*

In Georgia, a state Joe Biden won by fewer than 12,000 votes, county election officials still have not complied with a law requiring them to provide documents certifying the chain of custody of more than 400,000 mail-in ballots.

The request for the drop-box transfer forms was made by The Georgia Star News under the Georgia Open Records Law. Last July, the Georgia State Election Board passed an emergency rule requiring election officials to maintain the transfer forms.

But officials for the state's largest county, Fulton, and another major county, DeKalb, said they didn't know if they had the documents and promised to reply later, [Georgia Star News reported](https://georgiastarnews.com/2021/03/04/four-months-after-2020-presidential-election-in-georgia-no-chain-of-custody-documents-produced-for-404000-absentee-ballots-deposited-in-drop-boxes-fulton-county-one-of-35-scofflaw-counties/).

But four months after the Nov. 3 election, those counties and 33 others have failed to comply with the law.

Overall, no chain of custody has been provided for an estimated 404,691 of the estimated 600,000 votes by mail-in ballot deposited in drop boxes, delivered to county registrars and counted in Georgia’s 2020 presidential election, Star News said.

The report pointed out the emergency rule passed by the election board last year "required that every county election office maintain a ballot transfer form that documented the movement of every absentee by mail ballot placed in a drop box and delivered to the county registrar prior to the election, with the number of absentee ballots picked up from each drop box, the signature of the two person team who picked up the ballots, the time of the pickup, and the time of the delivery of those ballot to the registrar, and the name of registrar who received those ballots."

In Congress, a bill sponsored by Democrats would nationalize election procedures, eliminating many of the security measures established by states, such as chain-of-custody and signature standards.

The Star News report noted Georgia's estimated 300 drop boxes were funded by the Center for Tech and Civic Life, which was sponsored by a $350 million payment from Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/report-no-chain-custody-proof-400000-georgia-ballots/>

**Ted Cruz spotlights Biden administration ties to Chinese communists**

***Becerra excused Beijing human-rights abuses as 'different perspective'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published March 5, 2021 at 5:37pm*

Joe Biden's reputation as a cheerleader for China has been reinforced by the revelations of his son's influence-peddling business deals with figures tied to the communist regime.

Now, in a series of tweets, Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas., is highlighting several Biden actions that benefit China as well as administration officials who have China links.

One Biden move is the rejoining of the Paris Climate Agreement, which imposes restrictions on the United States but not China. Biden also is rejoining the World Health Organization, which Cruz said "has done the bidding" of the Chinese Communist Party and "covered up COVID."

The tweets [were compiled by the RedState blog.](https://redstate.com/bonchie/2021/03/05/ted-cruz-releases-blistering-thread-exposes-biden-administration-ties-to-china-n337955)

Cruz pointed to Biden HHS nominee Xavier Becerra, who "defended the CCP against allegations of human rights abuses claiming that China has a 'different perspective' on the issue."

He also spotlighted the nominee for CIA director, William Burns, who led a think tank that accepted a $2 million donation from people linked to the Chinese Community Party.

Commerce nominee Gina Raimonda, Cruz said, "refused to commit that she would keep Chinese companies like Huawei (a spy agency impersonating a tech company)" on a banned list. And DHS pick Alejandro Mayorkas "allegedly abused his power to provide special government favors to benefit well-connected Democrats, which resulted in a high-level official at Huawei obtaining an EB-5 visa."

Biden’s pick to run HHS, Xavier Becerra defended the CCP against allegations of human rights abuses claiming that China has a “different perspective” on the issue.<https://t.co/xbQFQ5U9vd>

— Senator Ted Cruz (@SenTedCruz) [March 4, 2021](https://twitter.com/SenTedCruz/status/1367589026186727429)Bottom of Form

During her confirmation hearing, Biden’s pick for Commerce, Gina Raimondo refused to commit that she would keep Chinese companies like Huawei (a spy agency impersonating a tech company) on the Entity List.

— Senator Ted Cruz (@SenTedCruz) [March 4, 2021](https://twitter.com/SenTedCruz/status/1367589258794389516)

Biden’s pick for DHS, Alejandro Mayorkas allegedly abused his power to provide special government favors to benefit well-connected Democrats, which resulted in a high-level official at Huawei obtaining an EB-5 visa.

— Senator Ted Cruz (@SenTedCruz) [March 4, 2021](https://twitter.com/SenTedCruz/status/1367589365627510794)

[The RedState report said](https://redstate.com/bonchie/2021/03/05/ted-cruz-releases-blistering-thread-exposes-biden-administration-ties-to-china-n337955) the links between Biden and his nominees and China "go far and wide."

"As you can see, the ties and corruption run deep. Someone like Gina Raimondo, who can’t commit to keeping Huawei, a Chinese controlled company that has spied on American citizens, on the Entity List, has no business being anywhere near the power levers of this country. The EB-5 scandal with Alejandro Mayorkas was previously reported. He has faced no punishment or real investigation. Others like Linda Thomas-Greenfield have simply acted as mouthpieces for the CCP, white washing their human rights abuses at every turn," the report said.

"That Joe Biden would even bother to offer up any of these people is a testament to how little respect he has for voters and the press, the latter of which he knows will defend him no matter what. All of these ties to China, a nation that is clearly our top geopolitical and military foe, should have been immediately disqualifying." <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/ted-cruz-spotlights-biden-administration-ties-chinese-communists/> [There should be no question in anyone’s mind which side of the fence “Bi-dumb” and friends are on. PLEASE keep looking and reading about these relationships because they have tremendous import for the USA and our future. Please BE INFORMED and BE PREPARED. – rdb]

**Congress moves again to limit Biden's power**

***Follows effort by Democrats to curb nuclear-strike authority***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published March 5, 2021 at 4:42pm*

Congress, only weeks into Joe Biden's presidency, has taken its second action to limit his authority. The second move, to limit presidential war powers, follows on the heels of Biden's unilateral decision last week to strike Iran-backed militants in Syria. The first effort to limit his authority came from House Democrats who want to ensure that the president consults with aides before launching a nuclear strike.

The moves highlight the concern that Biden is experiencing cognitive decline. During the campaign, two major polling companies, Zogby and Rasmussen, found high concern among voters. [Zogby found](https://zogbyanalytics.com/news/943-the-zogby-poll-a-majority-of-voters-believe-biden-is-in-the-early-stages-of-dementia-60-of-younger-voters-think-so-swing-voters-less-likely-to-think-biden-has-dementia) six in 10 voters believed Biden was in the early stages of dementia. [Rasmussen found](https://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/elections/election_2020/38_of_voters_think_biden_has_dementia) 38% though he already had it.

The White House said Friday it is "committed" to working with Congress to repeal the presidential war powers that were granted in 1991 and 2002.

[Fox News reported](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/biden-powers-vote-congress-psaki) Congress members, including Democratic Sen. Tim Kaine, introduced the bill in response to their frustration concerning Biden's unilateral call for an airstrike in Syria.

Kaine said the airstrikes "show that the Executive Branch, regardless of party, will continue to stretch its war powers."

"Congress has a responsibility to not only vote to authorize new military action, but to repeal old authorizations that are no longer necessary," the Virginia senator said.

Meanwhile, Democratic Congress members are seeking to remove the president's sole authority to launch a nuclear attack.

The premise, according to a letter by 31 Democrats, is that the president should be required to seek advice on such a serious decision. And then, the lawmakers say, there's the conduct of "past presidents," referring to Donald Trump, "who have threatened to attack other countries with nuclear weapons or exhibited behavior that caused other officials to express concern about the president’s judgment."

But Joe Biden is now the president, and former Secret Service agent Dan Bongino said there may be a simple reason that many are afraid to talk about.

Citing his own sources, he described it as an open secret that Biden is suffering from dementia.

"It gives me absolutely no joy in saying this. And I mean that. He is in real significant trouble, Joe Biden," said Bongino in an interview with Fox News' Sean Hannity.

Bongino was a member of the Secret Service presidential detail for George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

"And listen to me, everyone around him, everyone knows it," he said of Biden. "Everyone knows it. This is the scandal that they’re not telling you – how bad his condition really is."

During one recent interview, Biden explained he wakes up in the morning and asks Jill where they are. More recently, he claimed during a similar online discussion that Indian-Americans are "taking over the country."

This week, after a Zoom call in which Biden offered to take questions before being shut down by his handlers, former Trump chief of staff Steve Bannon said the issue of the president's cognitive decline is "not funny."

"This is serious," [he said on his "War Room" program.](https://pandemic.warroom.org/2021/03/04/bannon-biden-not-mentally-competent-to-take-questions/)

Recently, after stumbling over the names of members of Congress, Biden interrupted himself with, "What am I doing here? I'm gonna lose track here."

During the 2020 campaign, a super PAC supporting Trump ran an ad asking:  
 "Does Joe Biden have the mental capacity to keep America safe?"

The ad featured several of Biden's gaffes, including his stumbling in an interview with CNN about the coronavirus pandemic.

"You know, there's — during World War II, you know, where Roosevelt came up with a thing that, you know, was totally different than a — than — he called it the — you know, World War II, he had the War Production Board," he said while looking down at his notes. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/03/congress-moves-limit-bidens-power/> [This was planned long ago by the DNC in order to get their more radical segment a more firm hold on government. They will probably be declaring sleepy Joe incompetent to serve in the very near future and let Harris be the primary front person for the deep state Obamanation segment of the leftist communist oriented party. – rdb]

**Texas Gov. Abbott joins anti-censorship push against social media giants**

*OAN Newsroom UPDATED 4:36 PM PT – Friday, March 5, 2021*

Gov. Greg Abbott (R-Texas) is joining a GOP-led charge in his state against Big Tech censorship. At a press conference on Friday, Abbott said Republicans are “taking a stand” with legislation that would prohibit political censorship online.

Abbott met with State Sen. Bryan Hughes (R-Texas) to discuss the bill, which would help prevent social media companies from censoring Texans based on their viewpoints. It would also enable Texans whose accounts have been restricted to file lawsuits against the platforms.

Friday, March 5, Tyler, TX, Gov. Greg Abbott and Senator Bryan Hughes will hold a press conference to discuss SB-12, prohibiting social media companies from censoring [#Texans](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Texans?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) based on their viewpoints. [@SenBryanHughes](https://twitter.com/SenBryanHughes?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [@GovAbbott](https://twitter.com/GovAbbott?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [pic.twitter.com/EuHvrr0Esl](https://t.co/EuHvrr0Esl)

— Wood County Now (@now\_county) [March 4, 2021](https://twitter.com/now_county/status/1367609440455692290?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

“The United States of America was built on freedom of speech and healthy public debate. Big Tech’s efforts to silence conservative viewpoints is un-American, un-Texan and it is unacceptable,” Abbott stated. “Pretty soon, it is going to be against the law in the state of Texas.”

The bill could face legal hurdles due to Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, which gives protections to social media platforms. <https://www.oann.com/texas-gov-abbott-joins-anti-censorship-push-against-social-media-giants/>

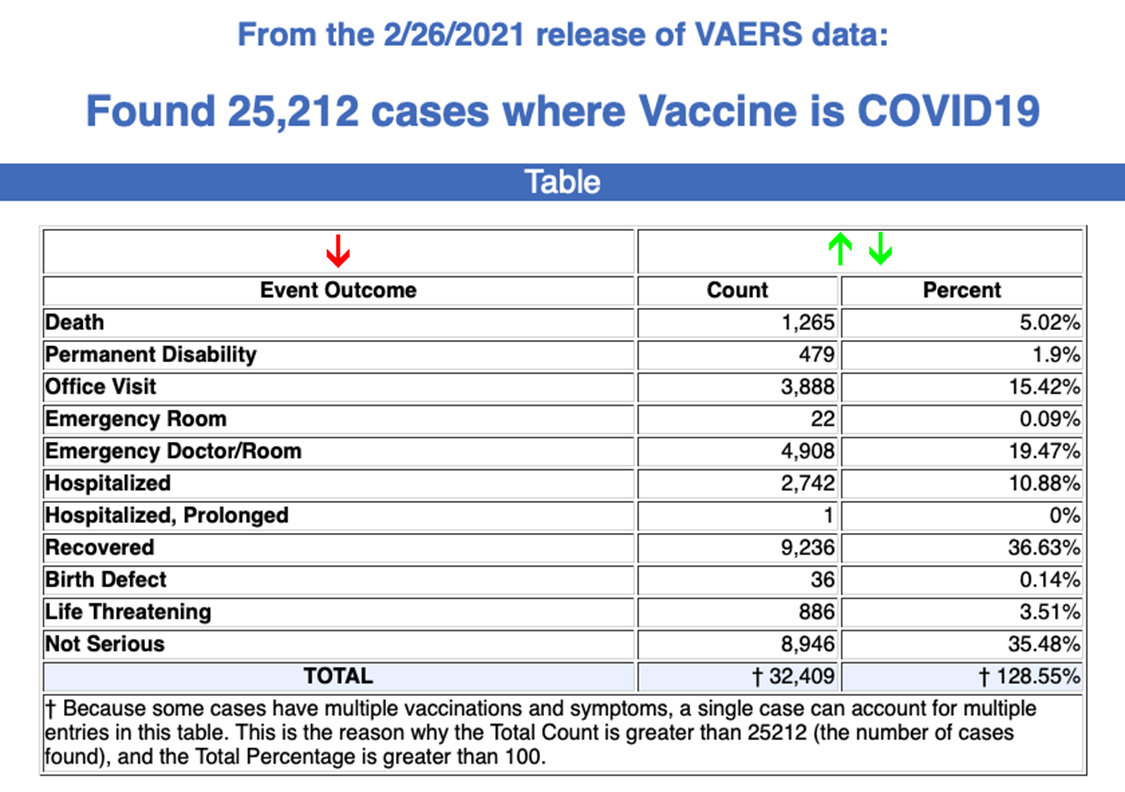
**COVID Vaccine Injury Reports Grow in Number, But Trends Remain Consistent**

***Data released today by the CDC confirm several ongoing trends, including that 47% of deaths occurred in people who reported becoming sick within 48 hours of receiving a COVID vaccine, and 20% of vaccine injuries were cardiac-related.***

*By* [*Megan Redshaw, J.D.*](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/authors/megan-redshaw/)

According to data released today by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the number of injuries and deaths reported to the Vaccine [Adverse Event Reporting System](https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html) (VAERS) following COVID vaccines continues to climb.

Between Dec. 14, 2020, and Feb. 26, a total of [25,212 total adverse events](https://www.medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=CAT&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19) were reported to VAERS, including [1,265 deaths](https://www.medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=CAT&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19) and [4,424 serious injuries](https://www.medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?TABLE=ON&GROUP1=AGE&EVENTS=ON&VAX=COVID19&SERIOUS=ON).



In the U.S., [70.45 million](https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/cumulative-covid-vaccinations?tab=chart&stackMode=absolute&country=~USA&region=World) COVID vaccine doses had been administered as of Feb. 26.

**The Overwhelming Evidence of the Origin of the COVID-19 Pandemic Was Covered Up by US Government Officials, US Scientific Authorities and Their Chinese Counterparts**

*By* [*Joe Hoft*](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/author/joehoft/) *Published March 4, 2021 at 10:27am   
Guest post by Lawrence Sellin, PhD*

**Already by the end of January 2020, elements within the U.S. government and the U.S. scientific establishment were becoming increasingly concerned that the American people might learn the truth about the origin of the COVID-19.**

That is, it was an artificial virus created in a laboratory in the People’s Republic of China with the assistance of U.S. scientists and funding from the U.S. government

In addition to pressure coming directly from the Chinese Communist Party, there was, no doubt, similar coercion being brought to bear on susceptible and compliant people in Washington D.C. by international financial interests, whose investments in China would be placed in jeopardy if it was widely accepted that China manufactured the COVID-19 virus.

Similarly at stake were the careers of prominent members of the U.S. scientific establishment, who could be considered complicit or potentially culpable.

There was also the likely loss of trust by the American people in the integrity of science overall.

Like their partners in China, what U.S. government officials and members of the U.S. scientific establishment feared most was accountabil**ity.**

That was the primary selfish motive for **the cover-up they appeared to have initiated**.

It began on February 3, 2020, when a meeting was held at U.S. National Academy of Science, led by Kelvin Droegemeier, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy; D. Christian Hassell, Senior Science Advisor, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and Anthony Fauci, Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health.

The emails related to the February 3, 2020 meeting are below: MORE -

<https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2021/03/overwhelming-evidence-origin-covid-19-pandemic-covered-us-government-officials-us-scientific-authorities-chinese-counterparts/> [Folks this is s long post but it gives amazing and actually disgusting insights into what has been occurring for the past year. – rdb]

Another post – a bit easier to read is at : <https://theamericanreport.org/2021/03/04/the-overwhelming-evidence-of-the-origin-of-the-covid-19-pandemic-was-covered-up-by-us-government-officials-us-scientific-authorities-and-their-chinese-counterparts/>

**Commentary:**

**Christianity, Savior of Western Culture or Casualty of Cancel Culture? Part 6***By* [*Kathleen Marquardt*](https://newswithviews.com/author/kathleen-marquardt/)*|March 5th, 2021***Aufheben der Kultur**  
 [In Part 1](https://americanpolicy.org/2020/10/15/aufheben-der-kultur-cancel-culture/), I explained that, according to the Marxists of the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, Western Culture and Christianity needed to be cancelled in order for Marxism to succeed in taking over the world. As this was being executed (Parts [2](https://americanpolicy.org/2020/10/28/aufheben-der-kultur-cancel-culture-part-2-the-coming-of-the-second-prehistoric-period/), [3](https://americanpolicy.org/2020/11/20/aufheben-der-kultur-cancel-culture-part-3-asymmetrical-warfare/)[, 4](https://americanpolicy.org/2020/12/14/aufheben-der-kultur-cancel-culture-part-4-social-justice-political-correctness-and-the-woke-menagerie/), and [5](https://americanpolicy.org/2021/02/16/aufheben-der-kultur-cancel-culture-part-5-schools-the-birthing-place-of-cancel-culture/)), another global cabal of American and British bankers and aristocrats who were determined to establish a global government were working parallel to the Marxists.  
 Both groups understood that, in order to have power over the world they must control the United States. It didn’t take the globalists long to realize the Marxists had the plan laid out and were well embedded in the social networks of America, especially the unions and schools. And were working their way into the churches. While the Marxists were making the way into the culture of America, the globalists were setting up the Federal Reserve Bank (1913) and the League of Nations (forerunner to the United Nations) (1920), as their greatest tools to achieve world dominance.  
 To misquote an old phrase, “The one with the most money wins”. The globalist contingent, being in control of the major banks in the western world, had the most money. They decided they could get what they needed from the cultural Marxists, by funding their work in the schools and unions. Under the Carnegie, Ford, and Rockefeller Foundations, the cultural Marxists were able to, not only design better models of brainwashing, but to cover far more areas than they would have on their own. A match made in hell.  
 And all this time, the Right, conservatives, and libertarians were either asleep at the wheel or already succumbing to the siren lure of the Left. Even after having been told the truth, in the Dodd Report to the Reece Commission, for one, as well as the Interviews of Yuri Bezmenov, an ex-KGB officer and Soviet defector. Many books have exposed the cultural Marxist goal, here are just a very few of many:  
 Kostler’s *Darkness at Noon*Krebs’ *Out of the Night*Kravchenko’s *I Chose Freedom*Chamber’s *Witness*Burnham’s *Struggle for the World*And, of course, *Animal Farm* and *1984*  
 Yet, we are doing *nothing* to bring back our republic or reestablish adherence to the Rule of Law and the Constitution. Why is that? With permission, the authors of *Re-remembering the Mis-Remembered Left,* Stephen Coughlin and Richard Higgins have answered this question – and you aren’t going to like it, but it is God’s honest truth:  
 As far back as Marx there is the recognition that Hegel’s dialectic does not advance cultures under its sway but rather **nihilizes** *them. From this recognition, Marx called for a critical philosophy to tear down Western culture and a proletariat of middle-class nihilists to do so. From Marx to Alinsky, one does not have to be religious to* **recognize the dark, destructive nihilist strain that runs through the Left** as characterized by numerous homages to Satan, et al.  
 Today, Marx’s philosophical criticism manifests itself as the Frankfurt School’s critical theory which Herbert Marcuse’s repressive tolerance operationalized as one of the more prominent manifestations of it in America today.  
 *Every aspect of the Left that threatens America today has its genesis in Marxist-inspired programs: from the critical theory of the Frankfurt School to the united front efforts of the Soviet-led Comintern that, in the 1930s, formed Antifa, to the precursor to BLM, to interfaith penetration and more. Moreover, they are the foreseeable progressions of the Left’s historic mission.*   
 *The current state of conventional analysis on the Left is marooned in a pseudo-reality sustained by the archaic political language already identified. As such, strategic awareness of the Left is non-existent and current constructions are intensely reactive, localized and tactical. They are under-inclusively defective—and dangerously so.*  
 *To re-remember the misremembered Left, this analysis adopts the political warfare model used by Mao to implement Marxism in his successful long march effort to control China. The Maoist insurgency model also happens to be the execution strategy American Marxists like Marcuse publicly adopted as their strategy in the early 1970s.*  
 *Political Warfare recognizes the role narratives play in overwhelming a rule of law society. Mass line movements and counter-state activities utilize narratives at the cultural level. The final objective is to power down into the political space. There, fidelity to the narrative will result in non-enforcement of the law. Over time, this non-enforcement will become institutionalized. By imposing narratives on the opposition, the Left gains influence first and control later. Thus, the abuse of language results in a controlled opposition that then leads to an abuse of power. Political warfare strategies are intensely dialectical, seeking the isolation of American values that are then negated through a relentless process of dialectical negation—Aufheben der Kultur.*  
 *In sum, mainstream Americans and conservatives are incapable of mounting a strategic response. The Left has successfully positioned America to play the role it scripted for it.*   
 *As such, this analysis recommends that a group be immediately assembled and resourced to fully develop the Left’s scheme of operation that executes strategic, operational, and tactical level responses. In this context, countering the Left must include responses directed at the dialectical engines, the inherent statism, the scientism, and the information dominance sustained by narratives. All of the above should be executed through the same political warfare lines of effort as counter mass line efforts.*  
 *We face an existential threat. As President Obama made clear, the Left is within 10 to 20 years of realizing the fruits of its long march through America. As a final recommendation: take the red pill now. The question is not whether it will be taken, but rather at what level of pain.*  
 Yes, we are in dire straits, yet few understand the threat.  
 We must go back to the origins of Cancel Culture and why Western Culture and [Christianity](https://americanpolicy.org/2020/10/15/aufheben-der-kultur-cancel-culture/) must be erased, from parts 1 and [2](https://americanpolicy.org/2020/10/28/aufheben-der-kultur-cancel-culture-part-2-the-coming-of-the-second-prehistoric-period/), Why do Western Culture and Christianity both have to be annihilated? Western Culture represents the reasoning, logical, fair and openminded aspects of our world. Out of Western Culture sprang the United States Constitution, the framework of the nation. And the Christian religious traditions, especially the Ten Commandments, are the underlying pillars of Western Culture. As Antonio Gramsci wrote in his prison notebooks, “*Any country grounded in Judaeo-Christian values can’t be overthrown until those roots are cut … Socialism is precisely the religion that must overwhelm Christianity … in the new order, Socialism will triumph by first capturing the culture via infiltration of schools, universities, churches and the media by transforming the consciousness of society.”*  
 Christianity is the crux. It is the only thing now standing between communism and liberty.  Those who formed and honed Aufheben der Kultur/Cancel Culture were well aware of this. Marx set out to eradicate Christianity. “The social principles of Christianity preach cowardice, self-contempt, abasement, submission, humility, in a word all the qualities of the canaille—*Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels on Religion (ed. 1957)*  
 *The democratic concept of man is false, because it is Christian. The democratic concept holds that … each man is a sovereign being. This is the illusion, dream, and postulate of Christianity*. Marx  
 “*America is like a healthy body and its resistance is threefold: its patriotism, its morality, and its spiritual life. If we can undermine these three areas, America will collapse from within*.” Joseph Stalin  
 The Marxists and globalists have been busy for all these decades attacking the church and Western Culture from without and within. We are well aware of the attacks from the outside – removing school prayer (even a minute of silence), the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem. Not allowing religious after-school groups while supporting any and all others. The Five Pillars of Islam and the prayer to Allah are taught in the schools. But a child wanting to do a report of her favorite hero, God, is forbidden and she was ordered by the teacher “to take her paper off school property immediately because just having it in the classroom where her classmates might see it could violate the First Amendment. Some students overheard the teacher rebuking Erin and later mocked her for believing in God.” David Horowitz, *Dark* Agenda*, The War to Destroy Christian America,* pp 47-8  
 [*“New York City is*](https://thefederalist.com/2020/07/08/black-lives-matter-in-public-schools-is-turning-kids-into-little-marxists/) *one of many school systems in the United States set to roll out Black Lives Matter (BLM)-themed lesson plans this fall. According to the NYC Department of Education, teachers will delve into “systemic racism,” police brutality, and white privilege in their classrooms.*  
 *“North Carolina’s largest school system in Wake County launched a*[*website*](https://tfcloudshare.com/wcpssoea/racial-equity-resources/)*this summer that provides BLM lessons for teachers to use in classrooms and for parents to use at home. The website, created by the school system’s Office of Equity Affairs, encourages teachers to “address the injustices that exist beyond education by the conversations we have with others, by speaking up when we see hate, by supporting efforts that oppose racism and oppression, and by directly engaging in advocacy work.”*  
 “*Fundamental Bible-believing people do not have the right to indoctrinate their children in their religious beliefs because we, the state, are preparing them for the year 2000, when America will be part of a one-world global society and their children will not fit in.”* Former Nebraska State Senator Peter Hoagland, radio interview, 1983.  
 Environmental degradation has been the banner used to attack Christianity since the early 1960s. There are more than enough articles at [American Policy Center](https://americanpolicy.org/contact-us/) to explain this. And books galore, here are just a few:  
 Dr. Michael S. Coffman’s *Saviors of the Earth?*Ron Arnold’s, *Trashing the Economy*Brian Sussman’s *Eco-TYRANNY*There are hundreds more.  
 Lynn White, Jr., Professor of History at the University of California, wrote an article for *Science* magazine titled “The Historical Roots of Our Ecologic Crisis”, in which he said: “*What we do about ecology depends on our ideas of the man-nature relationship. More science and more technology are not going to get us out of the present ecological crisis* ***until we find a new religion, or rethink the old one****. . .. as we now recognize, somewhat over a century ago science and technology . . . joined to give mankind powers which are out of control. If so, Christianity bears a huge burden of guilt. . . . Our science and technology have grown out of Christian attitudes toward man’s relationship to nature.*  
 *“No new set of basic values has been accepted in our society to displace those of Christianity. Hence, we shall continue to have a worsening ecological crisis until we reject the Christian axion that nature has no reason for existence save to serve man.*  
 *“By destroying pagan animism, Christianity made it possible to exploit nature in a mood of indifference to the feelings of natural objects. . . . The spirits in natural objects, which formerly had protected nature from man, evaporated.” pp. 5-6*  
 That’s some of the frontal s The insidious attacks from within the churches are what will ‘win the day’ for Cancel Culture and the cancelling of liberty, if not dealt with soon. It goes all the way to the top of many of the different sects of Christianity.  
 *Those who have been leading us to a world government understand that the beliefs of the people must be erased and replaced in order to exchange the old religions with one that will allow the world leaders to control the worshippers. Bishop William Swing, founder of the United Religions Initiative (URI), decided that, “Since the purpose of religion is the service and worship of God, all religions and spiritual movements need to have a common language and common purpose –****for all to worship a shared god****.”* (emphasis mine) William E Swing, 7th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California.  
 “*According to a Vatican statement issued on Thursday, Sept. 12, the Pope is inviting representatives of the main religions, international organizations and various humanitarian institutions, as well as key figures from the world of politics, economics and academia, and prominent athletes, scientists and sociologists to sign a “Global Pact on Education” so as to “hand on to younger generations a united and fraternal common home.”*  
 *“A global educational pact is needed to educate us in universal solidarity and a* ***new humanism****,” Francis said in a video message to launch the initiative.*” LifeSite, Feb. 13, 2019  
 A Protestant pastor in Bremen, Germany preached that Christ is the only way to heaven, and now he is the talk of the town. The people are not praising him — Pastor Olaf Latzel is being accused of disparaging other religions, and **the prosecuting attorney of Bremen is considering filing charges against him**. Pastor Latzel’s sermon was delivered to his congregation on January 18, 2015.  
 What we are seeing is exactly what Mary Parker Follett stated was necessary to bring about the New State ([see part 5](https://americanpolicy.org/2021/02/16/aufheben-der-kultur-cancel-culture-part-5-schools-the-birthing-place-of-cancel-culture/)). She concludes, “*It is a long way from the maxim, ‘Religion is an affair between man and his Maker,” to the cry of Mazzini, “Italy is itself a religion,” but we surely today have come to see in the social bond and the Creative Will, a compelling power, a depth and force, as great as that of any religion we have ever known. We are ready for a new revelation of God. It is not coming through any single man, but through the men and women who are banding together with one purpose, in one consecrated service for a great fulfilment. … We need a new faith in humanity, not a sentimental faith or a theological tenet or philosophical conception, but an active faith in that creative power of men which shall shape government and industry, which shall give form equally to our daily life with our neighbor and to a world league. The New State, pp. 359, 360.*  
 In 1993, the National Religious Partnership for the Environment ([NRPE](http://www.nrpe.org/)) announced a $5million program with the Mount Gilead Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., to “underscore the connection between addressing issues of poverty and the environment. The Partnership is a formal agreement among four of the nation’s largest religious organizations: US Catholic Conference, National Council of Churches of Christ, Coalition on the Environment and Jewish life, and Evangelical Environmental Network – with the Union of Concerned Scientists (look them up, if you don’t know this evil group) as a special consultant. Paul Gorman, Executive Director of the Partnership said, “. . . how people of faith engage the environmental crisis will have much to do with the future well-being of the planet, and in all likelihood, **with the future of religious life as well**.”  
 Then there is the Temple of Understanding, founded in 1960, and which is housed at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, in New York City. It included the Dalai Lama, Jawaharlal Nehru, Pope John XXIII, Eleanor Roosevelt, Anwar el-Sadat, Dr. Albert Sweitzer, U.N. Secretary-General U Thant among others. It set up a series of “Spiritual Summit Conferences that were held around the world, and included Geneva, Calcutta, Harvard, Princeton and Cornell Universities, and at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. In 1984, a meeting was held on Mount Sinai to “thrash out an inter-religious consensus. Assistant U.N. Secretary-General, Robert Muller, was asked to draft a “Declaration of the Unity of World Religions”.  “At the Parliament of the World’s Religions in Chicago in 1993, one of the main lectures was entitled ‘A Proposal To Evolve the Parliament Toward a United Nations of Religions’.  In this keynote speech, United Nations executive Dr. Robert Muller called for the establishment of a permanent World Council of Religion by 1995, along the lines of the United Nations.  Although a number of delegates were skeptical about the setting up of an actual World Council of Religion, it was generally felt that this Parliament brought the global interfaith movement one step nearer to much closer collaboration.  Dr. David Ramage, who chaired the Parliament, saw the next step as one of “**setting up centres of interfaithism in various key regions of the world and then networking relationships between them**. However, others saw the setting up of a global religious council as a very real possibility during the next few years.”  
 Thomas Berry, a priest and “geologian”, believed that the world is being called to a new ‘post-denominational’, even a post-Christian belief system that sees the earth as a living being – mythologically, as Gaia, Mother Earth – with mankind as her consciousness. That the world is experiencing a new enlightenment of a greater magnitude than Copernicus’ discovery that the earth actually revolved around the sun. . . that the traditional Christian view of an external god who created man in His image is as wrong as the pre-Copernican view of the sun revolving around the earth . . . that humans have no special place in the universal community of life which is, collectively, the manifestation of the divine.” *The Dream of the Earth,* 1990.  
 I could add 10,000 more points, but you see what is happening here. There are also all the stories of the cultural Marxists infiltrating Christian churches and, literally, taking over (see Southern Baptist Conference). There are pastors who now say that they may be presiding over same-sex marriages. There are pastors who are not opening their churches because they are afraid of COVID. And there are so very many who are so afraid of losing their 501(c)3 status, that they do not mention these issues. They should have no fear on that account as long as they are not telling their parishioners *specific candidates and bills to vote for. But they are quiet.*  
 *The answer to the quote above from “Re-remembering the Mis-Remembered Left,* “*In sum, mainstream Americans and conservatives are incapable of mounting a strategic response. The Left has successfully positioned America to play the role it scripted for it.*   
 The people who must mount the attack are the pastors and priests who still believe the Bible is the word of God. They must first cleanse their churches of the enemy within, the cultural Marxists who have insidiously made their way into their houses of worship. *And* they must start preaching from the Bible; they must stick to the true word of God.  
 “George Washington was not only the leader of the Continental forces, he was also their Chaplain. Early in the war, Colonel Washington asked the fledgling Continental Congress to provide Chaplains for the troops engaged in the battle with the English Army.  But none of the clergy were willing to step forward, either out of allegiance to the Anglican Church of England or outright fear.  Washington, a life-long Christian and an ordained Vestryman in the Anglican (Episcopal) Church assumed the responsibility of serving in the dual role of Commander and Chaplain, conducting services weekly and leading in prayer on a daily basis. God’s Chaplins don’t always do the right thing. They are even hidden in caves, by the hundreds, by the Obadiahs of today’s world while another, Elijah, alone, preaches the Word of God. Today’s preachers and pastors need to crawl out of their man-caves, go to their pulpits, open the church doors and fight for God’s word. (Related in a sermon and Bible study by Pastors David Koopman and John Peach.)  
 If they do that, maybe, just maybe, they will save Western Culture along with the Christian church.  
 They need to be shouting from their pulpits, defending those who are attacked for their beliefs, and they need to get on their knees and ask God’s forgiveness for not tending to their flocks as they were instructed. <https://newswithviews.com/christianity-savior-of-western-culture-or-casualty-of-cancel-culture-part-6/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Nikki Haley lambasts Biden for rejoining UNHRC, renewing funding to UNRWA**

***Former US Ambassador to the UN says Biden's reversal of Trump Administration's moves is "bad and dangerous".***

*Elad Benari, Canada , Mar 05 , 2021 11:19 PM*

Former US Ambassador to the UN, Nikki Haley, on Friday blasted US President Joe Biden for rejoining the UN Human Rights Council and restoring funding to UNRWA, the UN agency for “Palestinian refugees”.

The US, which was previously UNRWA's largest contributor, [cut a full $300 million](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/251419) in funding to the agency in 2018, when Donald Trump was President and Haley was UN Ambassador.

Trump also [withdrew from the UNHRC](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/247712) in 2018, citing its longstanding anti-Israel bias. However, the Biden Administration [returned to the organization](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/296456) last month, even though [it acknowledged](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/296485) its “disproportionate focus” on Israel.

Writing in an article entitled “Joe Biden Is Going Backward at the United Nations” which appeared in the Algemeiner website, Haley wrote, “If China, Russia, and Cuba started an organization that celebrated their tyranny in the name of human rights, would the United States want to join? If an organization that claimed to help refugees actually hurt them, while spreading anti-Semitism, would the United States want to fund it?”

She added, “The obvious answer to both questions is no. But if you put the words ‘United Nations’ in front of these two groups, suddenly people — including President Joe Biden — think they deserve US support.”

Haley said Biden’s decisions “are bad and dangerous decisions. They insult the American taxpayer, injure American interests, and harm one of America’s closest allies — Israel.”

Of the UNHRC, she wrote it “doesn’t deserve the name” and noted that its members include “communist dictatorships, socialist regimes, and run-of-the-mill tyrannies”.

“The dictators who run these countries use the Human Rights Council to protect themselves from criticism. They point to their membership as proof of their innocence and respectability. And instead of going after real human rights abusers, the Council targets one country above all others: free and democratic Israel,” added Haley.

On UNRWA, she said, “The relief agency’s mission is to support Palestinian refugees, but it doesn’t do that.” She added that the organization vastly inflates the number of “Palestinian refugees” and pointed out its textbooks which include “pro-terrorist propaganda”. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/297980> [On this issue she is correct. On her derision of The Donald she was wrong and demonstrated she has no sense of loyalty she is the same as the vast majority of those egomaniacal critters the lust their way to power. – rdb]

**California Democrat sues Trump over Capitol riots**

***Former House impeachment manager Eric Swalwell sues Trump, his son Donald Trump Jr., Rudy Giuliani and Republican Rep. Mo Brooks.***

*Arutz Sheva North America Staff , Mar 05 , 2021 9:10 PM*

Former House impeachment manager Eric Swalwell on Friday sued former President Donald Trump, his son Donald Trump Jr., Rudy Giuliani and Republican Rep. Mo Brooks, seeking to hold Trump and his allies accountable for inciting the insurrection at the US Capitol on January 6, CNN reports.

The new lawsuit filed on Friday by Swalwell, a California Democrat who helped to lead impeachment arguments against Trump for inciting insurrection, follows [a similar suit](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/296965) filed last month by Rep. Bennie Thompson against Trump, Giuliani and the Oath Keepers and Proud Boys groups.

Swalwell's case makes some of the same claims as Thompson's and cites a civil rights law meant to counter the Ku Klux Klan's intimidation of elected officials, according to *CNN*.

This lawsuit also alleges Trump, Trump Jr., Giuliani and Brooks broke Washington, DC, laws, including an anti-terrorism act, by inciting the riot, and that they aided and abetted violent rioters and inflicted emotional distress on the members of Congress.

Friday's suit could bump up against free speech protections for speakers at the rally, as well as immunity Trump could try to claim he had while serving as president. All of the elected officials in the lawsuit, including Trump, are named in their personal capacities in court, meaning they would use private lawyers and not be shielded by their public offices.

"Trump directly incited the violence at the Capitol that followed and then watched approvingly as the building was overrun," the lawsuit says. "The horrific events of January 6 were a direct and foreseeable consequence of the Defendants' unlawful actions. As such, the Defendants are responsible for the injury and destruction that followed."

Last month, Jason Miller, a spokesman for Trump, distanced him from responsibility for the insurrection, in a response to Thompson's lawsuit.

"President Trump has been acquitted in the Democrats' latest Impeachment Witch Hunt, and the facts are irrefutable," Miller said in a statement at the time. "President Trump did not plan, produce or organize the Jan. 6th rally on the Ellipse. President Trump did not incite or conspire to incite any violence at the Capitol on Jan. 6th."

In response to the new insurrection lawsuit, Miller attacked Swalwell personally in a statement over his pursuit of "yet another witch hunt." Miller also called the two Trump impeachments "hoaxes."

The lawsuits come after [the Senate acquitted Trump](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/296763) of charges of “inciting insurrection” leading to the January 6 riots. While the vote was 57-43 in favor of conviction, it was 10 shy of the supermajority needed. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/297976> Swalwell is a woosey little wimp who is so terrified that he shouldn’t be allowed near Washington. This revolting trader should have been locked up along with Mr. Skinney neck Schiff, another California twit. Obviously this is simply another attempt to try to get in good stead with Cruella Nancy and her pack of thieves. – rdb]

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