**05/25/2023 NEWS**

**The Secret River (The Dead Sea, Israel 2022)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MTbV0AshfuQ&t=46s>

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| "You say that freedom of utterance is not for time of stress, and I reply with the sad truth that only in time of stress is freedom of utterance in danger... Only when free utterance is suppressed is it needed, and when it is needed it is most vital to justice." -- William Allen White (1868-1944) |

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

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

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| **Please**  **Remember**  **These**  **Folks**  **In**  **Prayer-**  **Check often**  **They**  **Change!** | **Pray that the world would WAKE UP! Time for a worldwide repentance!**  **ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world**  **Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.**  **Pray for BB – Severe sciatic Had surgery and doing well**  **Pray for EL – Had stoke – Now having coronary angiogram**  **Pray for KH – diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus **18:17And Moses' father-in-law said unto him: 'The thing that thou doest is not good. 18Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee; for the thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone. 19Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God be with thee: be thou for the people before God, and bring thou the causes unto God.**

**Israel said to appeal to Hamas for calm ahead of tense flag parade in Jerusalem**

***Jerusalem reportedly sends messages to terror group via middlemen in Egypt and Qatar, warning that it is ready to strike Gaza should rocket fire target march again***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 11:39 pm*

Israel is sending messages to the Hamas terror group via Egypt and Qatar in hopes of keeping tensions from boiling over during a nationalist march through the Old City next week, Channel 13 news reported Tuesday.

This year’s annual nationalistic Jerusalem Day “Flag March” will take place on Sunday.

The parade’s route is fraught, with opponents seeing its procession through the Old City’s Muslim Quarter as a provocation, and supporters seeing it as an expression of Israel’s sovereignty over Jerusalem.

Israel has argued in its messaging to Hamas that the route of the march is the same as it has been for years and should not be taken as a casus belli, the network reported.

It also warned that if Hamas shoots rockets or allows other groups to do so, Israel will be ready to hit back at the Gaza Strip, where the terror group is based.

According to Channel 13, the army believes the event can pass peacefully so long as there are no bouts of serious violence and all sides keep their cool.

Earlier, march organizers decided to [limit the number of participants](https://www.timesofisrael.com/jerusalem-day-flag-march-will-limit-attendance-at-damascus-gate-western-wall/) to traverse the Old City to the Western Wall to 16,000 people. Half the group will march through the Old City via the Damascus Gate, while the other half will go through Jaffa Gate, likely only skirting the Muslim Quarter.

Israeli authorities have restricted entries to mass gatherings, including at the Western Wall, after a stampede in Mount Meron in northern Israel killed 45 people last year. The crush at the holy site during the Lag B’Omer holiday festivities was Israel’s worst-ever peacetime disaster.

Jerusalem has been on edge ahead of the parade, mainly due to tensions surrounding the Temple Mount holy site.

Last year, the route was changed at the last minute in a bid to avoid conflagration, but the change did not prevent Hamas from firing rockets at Jerusalem, sparking an 11-day conflict.

Jerusalem Day, which marks Israel’s capture of the Old City and East Jerusalem from Jordan in the 1967 Six Day War, is celebrated by national-religious Jews, most prominently by youths who march through the capital, while dancing with Israeli flags. Palestinians have long viewed the march as a provocation. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-said-to-appeal-to-hamas-for-calm-ahead-of-tense-flag-parade-in-jerusalem/> [Good luck. These people have one thing on their mind – “Death to Israel” – rdb]

**Jerusalem Day ‘Flag March’ will limit attendance at Damascus Gate, Western Wall**

***Organizers of Sunday’s nationalistic event cite crowding concerns in restricting entry on controversial march route***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 9:06 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/05/AP21130504537172-e1620656188778.jpg)

Israelis wave national flags during a Jerusalem Day march, in Jerusalem, May 10, 2021. (AP Photo/Ariel Schalit)

The organizers of the nationalistic Jerusalem Day “Flag March” said Tuesday that attendance will be limited at certain points due to crowding concerns at the Western Wall, where the parade ends.

This year’s annual parade will take place on Sunday.

The “Flag March” route is fraught, with opponents seeing its procession through the Old City’s Muslim Quarter as a provocation, and supporters seeing it as an expression of Israel’s sovereignty over Jerusalem.

Israeli authorities have restricted entries to mass gatherings, including at the Western Wall, after a stampede in Mount Meron in northern Israel killed 45 people last year. The crush at the holy site during the Lag B’Omer holiday festivities was Israel’s worst-ever peacetime disaster.

The rules for the march announced on Tuesday mean that attendance at the Western Wall will be limited to 16,000 participants.

A crowd of people in front of a stone wall

Description automatically generated with low confidence “Following limits on the numbers of people at the Western Wall, 8,000 marchers will proceed to the wall through Damascus Gate, and another 8,000 will march through Jaffa Gate,” the organizers said.  
 “For the remaining tens of thousands, a massive dance event will take place next to Jaffa Gate,” they said.  
 “Out of responsibility for the safety of the participants and their security, the changes were decided in coordination with a request from the Israel Police, to ensure their safe return,” the organizers said.  
 The organizers have decided to make the main event the dance outside the Old City. Those who are not able to go to the Western Wall immediately will be able to visit the site later, as the crowd there leaves.  
 Jerusalem has been on edge ahead of the parade, mainly due to tensions surrounding the Temple Mount holy site.  
 Last week, Public Security Minister Omer Barlev, who oversees police, announced that the march, scheduled for May 29, would be held along the same route as in previous years. Last year, the route was changed at the last minute in a bid to avoid conflagration, but the change did not prevent Hamas from firing rockets at Jerusalem, sparking an 11-day conflict.  
 According to the Barlev-approved plan, marchers will walk along Jaffa Street to Damascus Gate, where access will be blocked for Palestinians. They will continue into the Old City through Hagai Street in the Muslim Quarter and finish at the Western Wall.  
 Barlev’s announcement sparked controversy in the coalition, with left-wing lawmakers attacking the decision, saying it risked causing an escalation with Palestinian terror groups, and Ministers Yair Lapid and Benny Gantz reportedly expressing reservations.  
Young national-religious men take part in the Jerusalem Day Flag Dance at the Damascus Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem on May 13, 2018. (Nati Shohat/Flash90)

Jerusalem Day, which marks Israel’s capture of the Old City and East Jerusalem from Jordan in the 1967 Six Day War, is celebrated by national-religious Jews, most prominently by youths who march through the capital, while dancing with Israeli flags. Palestinians have long viewed the march as a provocation.

Following the announcement of the route, Palestinian terror groups warned against allowing the event to go through.

“I want to clearly warn the enemy against committing these crimes and these steps. The Palestinian people, led by the resistance — especially those in the West Bank and Jerusalem — will not permit this Jewish, Talmudic rubbish to go unanswered,” Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh said earlier this week.

“Our decision is clear and unhesitating… We will resist with all our capabilities and we will not permit the violation of the Al-Aqsa Mosque or thuggery in the streets of Jerusalem,” he said. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/jerusalem-day-flag-march-will-limit-attendance-at-damascus-gate-western-wall/>

**Shin Bet foils Hamas plot to assassinate MK Ben Gvir, bomb Jerusalem rail with drone**

***Security authorities say 5 East Jerusalem men also sought to kidnap soldiers; far-right lawmaker blames left-wing activists, Bennett and Lapid for threat against him***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 10:18 am*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/05/F220420YS109.jpg)

MK Itamar Ben Gvir attends a march by right-wing activists through Jerusalem's Old City, April 20, 2022. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)  
 Israeli security forces uncovered an active Hamas terror cell in East Jerusalem that planned a series of attacks, including against far-right MK Itamar Ben Gvir, authorities said Tuesday.  
 According to the Shin Bet security agency and Israel Police, the five men planned a shooting attack against Ben Gvir and other Israeli targets, as well as kidnappings of Israeli soldiers, and a bombing attack on the Jerusalem light rail using a drone.  
 The security authorities said the cell was led by Rashid Rashak, “a prominent Hamas operative, a resident of the Old City of Jerusalem.”  
 He was also accused of establishing a network of Hamas supporters who led recent [clashes](https://www.timesofisrael.com/police-and-palestinians-clash-at-temple-mount-on-final-friday-of-ramadan/) on Jerusalem’s Temple Mount last month.  
 Shin Bet and police said Rashak planned, together with Mansour Safadi, another Hamas operative from the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Abu Tor, a shooting attack or suicide bombing attack in Jerusalem.  
 Authorities seized a drone that was intended to be armed and used in an attack on Jerusalem’s light rail.

A couple of men standing next to a sign with drawings on it

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Two East Jerusalem men, members of Hamas, who planned a series of attacks against Israeli targets, in a photo published by the Shin Bet on May 24, 2022. (Shin Bet)

The investigation found that the cell planned to hide in the West Bank cities of Hebron or Jenin after committing the attacks, the Shin Bet said.

[A collage of a person

Description automatically generated with medium confidence](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/05/hamascell.jpg) According to Channel 12 news, the cell monitored Ben Gvir’s home in the West Bank settlement of Kiryat Arba, adjacent to Hebron, and logged the times he left — especially by foot.

The five were arrested last month, and were charged with several terror offenses, according to indictments published Tuesday. The other three suspects were named as Mohammed Salima, Hamza Abu Naab, and Safian Ajlouni.

Members of a Hamas cell arrested by Israeli security forces in April 2022: (Clockwise from top left) Rashid Rashak, Mansour Safadi, Safian Ajlouni, Hamza Abu Naab, and Mohammed Salima. (Shin Bet)

Channel 12 said one of the main suspects was initially detained ahead of clashes on Jerusalem’s Temple Mount. During that interrogation, he confessed to the attack plans, the network said.  
 Responding to the announcement, Ben Gvir blamed left-wing activists, as well as Prime Minister Naftali Bennett and Foreign Minister Yair Lapid, for the Hamas plot.  
 “The writing was on the wall. The incitement of the leftists against me and the statements of Bennett and Lapid toward me did their part, and it turns out that a squad of terrorists planned to try to harm me and my family,” Ben Gvir said on Twitter.  
 “Words can kill!” he added.  
 Last month, Bennett ordered that Ben Gvir be prevented from marching at Jerusalem’s Old City’s Damascus Gate, a site of frequent violence, after the Shin Bet warned it may lead to “significant harm” to Israel’s security.  
 Ben Gvir’s march was planned amid sky-high tensions in the region, with near-daily clashes between Palestinians and police on the Temple Mount and Gazan groups threatening to renew rocket fire. Officials feared allowing the march to go ahead could spark a repeat of the May 2021 war between Israel and Hamas-led fighters in Gaza.  
 On Sunday, Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh [warned](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-threatens-israel-over-flag-march-says-all-capabilities-will-be-used/) Israel against allowing right-wing Israelis to conduct the annual Jerusalem Day “Flag March” in Jerusalem’s Old City next week.  
 The foiled attempt by the Hamas cell came amid heightened tensions between Israel and the Palestinians, against a backdrop of terror attacks that have left 19 dead since March 22. In a rare move, Hamas’s military wing [claimed](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-claims-ariel-terror-shooting-vows-it-wont-be-the-last/) responsibility for one of those attacks — a terror shooting that left an Israeli security guard dead at the entrance to the West Bank settlement of Ariel. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/shin-bet-foils-hamas-plot-to-assassinate-mk-ben-gvir-bomb-jerusalem-rail-with-drone/>

**In daytime raid, IDF clashes with Palestinian gunmen near Jenin refugee camp**

***Gunmen open fire on Israeli troops arresting fugitive; PA Health Ministry says 3 Palestinians wounded; overnight, army arrests another 5 Palestinian terror suspects in West Bank***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *and* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 12:19 pmUpdated at 1:28 pm*

Israeli troops clashed with Palestinian gunmen by the Jenin refugee camp in the northern West Bank on Tuesday morning, in an unusual morning raid in the volatile area.

Palestinian media reports said that Israeli troops were raiding the refugee camp itself. The Israeli army said soldiers were operating in Wadi Burqin, close to the refugee camp entrance.  
 Gunshots could be heard in footage from the area. According to local media, Israeli soldiers surrounded the home of a wanted Palestinian in order to arrest him.  
 The Palestinian, identified as Mohammad al-Tubasi, refused to turn himself in. Troops fired anti-tank shells at his home, part of a military tactic known as a “pressure cooker.” In photos circulated on social media, al-Tubasi can be seen wearing the uniform of the Palestinian Authority’s Preventative Security corps.  
 The military said troops detained a suspect involved in terror activities, without elaborating on his identity, adding that two M16 rifles and a military vest were seized at his home.  
 Three Palestinians were wounded during the gun battle, according to the Palestinian Authority Health Ministry. One was hit by live fire in the knee, while another sustained shrapnel wounds to the upper body. Health officials said a third sustained “bruises” but did not elaborate.

[#صورة](https://twitter.com/hashtag/%D8%B5%D9%88%D8%B1%D8%A9?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

مصادر محلية لنيو برس: جيش الاحتلال أعتقل عنصر الأمن الفلسطيني محمد الطوباسي أثناء اقتحامه لحي الهدف بجنين. [pic.twitter.com/fHMX3hzmFd](https://t.co/fHMX3hzmFd)

[A picture containing weapon

Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/05/WhatsApp_Image_2022-05-24_at_12.01.30-rotated-e1653387631748.jpeg)— Newpress | نيو برس (@NewpressPs) [May 24, 2022](https://twitter.com/NewpressPs/status/1529016419421233160?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

The IDF said troops returned fire toward armed Palestinians and that “hits were identified.” No Israeli soldiers were hurt in the operation.

Two M16 rifles and a militrary vest seized at the home of a wanted Palestinian near Jenin in the West Bank, May 24, 2022. (Israel Defense Forces)

Israeli security forces have stepped up their operations in the West Bank following a deadly wave of terror attacks inside Israel that have left 19 people dead since March 22. The raids have concentrated on the increasingly unstable Jenin area, from where several of the attackers hailed.

At least 30 Palestinians were killed over the same period, according to the Palestinian Authority Health Ministry. Some were shot by Israeli soldiers while committing terror attacks, while others were engaged in violent gunfights with soldiers, and still others — such as Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh — were civilians.

Abu Akleh was killed amid clashes between Israeli troops and Palestinian gunmen in Jenin. The Israel Defense Forces says it has not yet been able to determine who fired the fatal shot.

The Israeli military announced on Tuesday morning five additional terror suspects had been detained across the West Bank. At least two possessed illegal weaponry, an army spokesperson said.

مصادر صحفية: احتجاز جنود الاحتلال لشاب أثناء اقتحامهم حي الهدف بمحيط مخيم جنين، ومحاصرتهم لمنزل عائلة الطوباسي [pic.twitter.com/7avhSd3V9I](https://t.co/7avhSd3V9I)

— Newpress | نيو برس (@NewpressPs) [May 24, 2022](https://twitter.com/NewpressPs/status/1529010622083497985?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Israeli troops engaged in a gunfight with Palestinians in the Jenin area during a similar raid on Friday. The Israel Defense Forces said in a later statement that Israeli troops opened fire in response to violence during operations in nearby Kafr Dan. A teenage Palestinian gunman identified as 17-year-old Amjad al-Fayyed was killed and another was critically wounded during the firefight, according to the Palestinian Authority Health Ministry.

Photos circulated on social media appeared to show the teen wearing clothing associated with the Palestinian Islamic Jihad and Hamas terror groups, as well as the military wing of Fatah.

Earlier this month, Noam Raz, a veteran officer of the elite Yamam counterterrorism unit, was [killed](https://www.timesofisrael.com/a-hero-lived-among-us-yamam-officer-noam-raz-laid-to-rest-on-mount-herzl/) when he was hit by gunfire during an Israeli arrest operation near Jenin. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-daytime-raid-idf-clashes-with-palestinian-gunmen-near-jenin-refugee-camp/>

**Over 20k immigrants to Israel since Ukraine war began; almost half from Russia**

***The war between Russia and Ukraine is sending out refugees from both sides.***

*By* [*ZVIKA KLEIN*](https://www.jpost.com/author/zvika-klein) *Published: MAY 24, 2022 19:43 Updated: MAY 24, 2022 21:16*



Ukrainian Jews return to Israel.(photo credit: MARC ISRAEL SELLEM)

Since the beginning of the [Russian-Ukrainian war,](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-707540) more than twenty-one thousand Ukrainian, Russian and Belarusian individuals; eligible for the Israeli Law of Return have entered Israel and most of them are already Israeli citizens.

**Expectations versus reality**

Yet even though there were expectations of hundreds of thousands of immigrants from Ukraine - almost half of the immigrants are from Russia. 21,404 entitled to the [Right of Return](https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/article-703940) have arrived in Israel since the Russian-Ukraine broke out in February, most of them have already officially become Israeli citizens - according to data from the Ministry of Aliyah and Absorption on Tuesday.

 According to the ministry, 1,153 of those who are entitled to make aliyah have still not finished their immigration process. 10,019 of the immigrants are from Ukraine, 9,777 are from Russia and 455 made aliyah from Belarus. On Monday, 211 new immigrants arrived in Israel from these countries.

**Moving away or visiting home?**

REFUGEES FROM Ukraine and Russia board their aliyah flight at Chisinau Airport. (credit: BRIAN SCHRAUGER)

The Jerusalem Post spoke at the beginning of the week to about a dozen new immigrants from Russia who have arrived in Israel in the past few months an[d left for different reasons](https://www.jpost.com/aliyah/article-707467). Most of them have already returned to the Jewish state and most of the others intend to return in the near future.

“I don't know any recent immigrants from Russia who have returned to Russia with no future plans to come back to Israel,” said Alex, a Russian Jew who made aliyah recently from Moscow. “Most of the people returned to Russia for some time because the decision to come to Israel was urgent and not well-prepared.”

These olim (new immigrants) feel the need to speak up as a result of public discussion in Israel after the *Post’s* inquiry a month ago claiming that some 1,800 of the Russian Jews who immigrated to Israel since the war began have returned to Russia with their new Israeli passports. Alex and the rest of the new immigrants who spoke to the *Post* have asked for their names not to be revealed because they are afraid of being threatened by the Russian regime. <https://www.jpost.com/aliyah/article-707566>

**US slaps sanctions on Hamas moneymen funding $500 million terror finance network**

***Treasury targets former and current manager of secret investment fund used to help Gaza-ruling terror group operate, as well as others involved in keeping it in the black***

*By* [*Jacob Magid*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jacob-magid/) *Today, 9:36 pm*

WASHINGTON — The US Treasury Department on Tuesday announced that it had sanctioned a Hamas official along with a network of backers of the terror group.  
 The network is overseen by Hamas’s Investment Office, which runs the day-to-day management of more than $500 million in assets, including firms in Sudan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and the United Arab Emirates. The targeted individuals being sanctioned by the Treasury Department under a 2001 executive order that allows for the financial holdings of designated individuals or groups to be blocked in order to stem terror funding.  
 “Today’s action targets the individuals and companies that Hamas uses to conceal and launder funds,” says Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorist Financing and Financial Crimes Elizabeth Rosenberg while in Israel to discuss terrorism financing efforts.  
 “Hamas has generated vast sums of revenue through its secret investment portfolio while destabilizing Gaza, which is facing harsh living and economic conditions. Hamas maintains a violent agenda that harms both Israelis and Palestinians. The United States is committed to denying Hamas the ability to generate and move funds and to holding Hamas accountable for its role in promoting and carrying out violence in the region,” she added in a statement released by her office.  
 Hamas did not immediately issue a response to the US announcement.  
 The list of sanctioned individuals includes Ahmed Sharif Abdallah Odeh, a Jordanian national who headed Hamas’s international investment portfolio until 2017 and remained involved even after stepping down from the post.  
 He was replaced by Usama Ali, who in 2019 was appointed to Hamas’s Shura Council — a quasi-legislative branch — and he later served on Hamas’s Executive Committee, maintaining direct contact with Hamas Political Bureau Chief Ismail Haniyeh, the bureau’s deputy Saleh al-Arouri and others.  
 Also designated was Hisham Younis Yahia Qafisheh, a Turkish-based Jordanian national who served as Usama Ali’s deputy and was involved in transferring funds on behalf of various companies linked to Hamas’s investment portfolio. Qafisheh has served as a board member at the Sudan-based Agrogate Holding, deputy board chair at the Turkey-based Trend GYO, board chair of the Sudan-based Al Rowad Real Estate Development, and manager at the Saudi real estate firm Anda Company. All four firms have been designated by the Treasury as well.  
 Hamas’s investment office also covertly held assets in the Algeria-based Sidar Company and the UAE-based Itqan Real Estate JSC, which have posed as legitimate businesses but are controlled by Hamas and transferred money to the group and its military wing, the Treasury Department said, justifying its decision to designate the two firms.

The U.S. has designated a Hamas financial official as well as a network of Hamas facilitators & companies across the Middle East and North Africa that generate revenue for the terrorist group through the management of an international investment portfolio. <https://t.co/8aiHNS2HY5>

— Ned Price (@StateDeptSpox) [May 24, 2022](https://twitter.com/StateDeptSpox/status/1529120352546193408?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

The US also designated Abdallah Yusuf Faisal Sabri, a Kuwait-based Jordanian accountant who has worked in the Hamas Finance Ministry for several years.

“Since at least 2018, Sabri has managed Hamas’s operational expenses and oversaw the transfer of large sums of money on behalf of Hamas, including transfers from Iran and Saudi Arabia, which he sent to Hamas members, units, and industries,” the Treasury said.

In 2018, Sabri was appointed chair of a key financial committee that likely made him privy to the terror group’s financial planning, investment projects and sources of income, the Treasury added. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-slaps-sanctions-on-hamas-moneymen-funding-500-million-terror-finance-network/>

**Al Jazeera journalist was killed in ‘targeted attack’ by IDF troops, CNN suggests**

***Network says forensics and firearms experts believe evidence points to controlled bursts directed at reporter; AP probe also suggests IDF gunfire killed her, but notes uncertainty***

*By* [*AP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ap/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:25 pmUpdated at 11:51 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/05/AP22143467916821-e1653399170348.jpg)

In this undated photo provided by Al Jazeera Media Network, veteran Palestinian-American reporter for Al Jazeera Shireen Abu Akleh stands next to a TV camera above the Old City of Jerusalem. (Al Jazeera Media Network via AP, File)

CNN said Tuesday it had conducted its own inquiry into the death of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh in Jenin several weeks ago, and said the results suggested she was deliberately targeted by Israeli forces.

Abu Akleh was shot dead while covering clashes between soldiers and Palestinian gunmen. The Israel Defense Forces has not ruled out that Abu Akleh was accidentally killed by Israeli fire, but says Palestinian gunmen may also be at fault. It has said it can make no determination while Palestinians refuse to hand over the bullet that killed her for forensic examination.

In an [item](https://edition.cnn.com/2022/05/24/middleeast/shireen-abu-akleh-jenin-killing-investigation-cmd-intl/index.html) headlined, “‘They were shooting directly at the journalists’: New evidence suggests Shireen Abu Akleh was killed in targeted attack by Israeli forces,” the network said it had conferred with experts to support the claim.[ This is the typical liberal trash and garbage which CNN is noted for. The major media is seriously anti-Israel. – rdb]

First, using audio from a video of the moment the journalist was killed, the network said forensic audio experts had identified that the shots came from about 200 meters away — the alleged distance between Abu Akleh and nearby IDF forces at the time of her shooting.

Second, it cited Chris Cobb-Smith, a security consultant and British army veteran the network identified as a firearms expert. Cobb-Smith looked at photos of bullet markings left on a tree just where Abu Akleh was hit, and said that they were indicative of controlled, targeted shots rather than stray bullets.

“The number of strike marks on the tree where Shireen was standing proves this wasn’t a random shot, she was targeted,” he said, while noting that evidence of Palestinian fire during the exchanges showed “random sprays.”

[Graphical user interface, text, application

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A CNN headline, on the network’s webite, regarding the death of Shireen Abu Akleh, May 24, 2022

And he added that at a distance of 200 meters, there was “no chance” that random fire would leave such tightly knit marks.

“From the strike marks on the tree, it appears that the shots, one of which hit Shireen, came from down the street from the direction of the IDF troops. The relatively tight grouping of the rounds indicate[s] Shireen was intentionally targeted with aimed shots and not the victim of random or stray fire.”

The Israel Defense Forces has said that any deadly Israeli fire would have been accidental.

An unnamed senior Israeli security official told CNN: “In no way would the IDF ever target a civilian, especially a member of the press.”

Meanwhile, almost two weeks after the death of the veteran Palestinian-American reporter, The Associated Press said Tuesday that a reconstruction it carried out lends support to assertions from both Palestinian authorities and Abu Akleh’s colleagues that the bullet that cut her down came from an Israeli gun.

It did not, however, accuse Israel of intentionally targeting her. It also stressed that its findings were indefinite.

Any conclusive answer is likely to prove elusive because of the severe distrust between the two sides, each of which is in sole possession of potentially crucial evidence.

According to AP, multiple videos and photos taken on the morning of May 11 show an Israeli convoy parked just up a narrow road from Abu Akleh, with a clear line of sight. They show the reporters and other bystanders in real time taking cover from bullets fired from the direction of the convoy.  
 It said the only confirmed presence of Palestinian gunmen was on the other side of the convoy, some 300 meters (328 yards) away, mostly separated from Abu Akleh by buildings and walls. Israel says at least one gunman was between the convoy and the journalists, but it has not provided any evidence or indicated the shooter’s location. Palestinian witnesses say there were no gunmen in the area and no gunfire until the barrage that struck Abu Akleh and wounded another reporter.  
 Those witnesses say they do not doubt that Israeli soldiers killed Abu Akleh, now celebrated as a martyr to some journalists and the Palestinian cause. The Israeli military says she was killed in a complex shootout between soldiers and gunmen, and that only a full investigation — including forensic analysis of the bullet — could prove who fired the fatal shot.  
 The Palestinians have refused to hand over the bullet or cooperate with Israel in any way on the investigation, but say they will share the results of their own probe with any other party.  
 Abu Akleh’s death has further heightened tensions amid a wave of violence and raised new concerns over the safety of reporters in the West Bank, which the Palestinians want as the main part of their future state. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/ap-probe-suggests-idf-gunfire-killed-al-jazeera-journalist-but-notes-uncertainty/>

**Thousands at Tehran funeral for assassinated IRGC colonel, chant ‘Death to Israel’**

***IRGC and Quds Force commanders pay last respects to Khodaei; ‘We want revenge only,’ mourners say; unconfirmed reports say he oversaw attacks on Israeli targets in India, Thailand***

*By* [*AP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ap/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 4:41 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/05/AP22144251121475-1-e1653393180613.jpg)

Mourners gather around a truck carrying the flag draped coffin of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Col. Hassan Sayyad Khodaei who was killed on Sunday, in his funeral ceremony in Tehran, Iran, May 24, 2022. (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)

TEHRAN — Thousands of mourners poured into the streets of Tehran on Tuesday to pay their respects to a senior Revolutionary Guard member fatally shot by two gunmen earlier this week, punching the air with their fists and chanting “Death to Israel.”

The killing on Sunday of Col. Hassan Sayyad Khodaei bore the hallmarks of previous deadly shooting attacks in Iran blamed on Israel, such as those targeting the country’s nuclear scientists.  
 There has been no claim of responsibility for the attack. Iranian officials have blamed “global arrogance,” which is code for the United States and Israel.  
 The funeral procession snaked through the main Tehran cemetery as mourners shouted anti-US and anti-Israel slogans. A prominent poster hailed Khodaei as a martyr along with Gen. Qassem Soleimani, a top Iranian general killed in a US drone strike in 2020 in Iraq, and featured tattered Israeli, American and British flags.  
 “Iran is a victim of terrorism,” the banner declared, overlaid with the logos of Mossad and the Central Intelligence Agency.  
 Guard commander Gen. Hossein Salami as well as Gen. Esmail Ghaani, leader of Iran’s expeditionary Quds Force, attended the funeral.

A group of people wearing face masks

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Iran’s Revolutionary Guard commander Gen. Hossein Salami, center, attends the funeral ceremony of the Guard’s Col. Hassan Sayyad Khodaei in Tehran, Iran, May 24, 2022. (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)

Ghaani also offered condolences at Khodaei’s home on Monday night. Iran’s nuclear negotiator visited the crime scene, underscoring the government’s shock. Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi [vowed](https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-will-avenge-killing-of-revolutionary-guards-colonel-president-vows/) revenge. A street in Tehran has already been named after the colonel.

The 50-year-old Khodaei remains a shadowy figure, and Iran has yet to offer biographic detail beyond saying that he was a member of the elite Quds Force that oversees operations abroad through Iran’s allied militias across the Middle East. The Guard has described him as “defender of the shrine” — a reference to Iranians who support militias fighting the extremist Islamic State group in Syria and Iraq.

According to a report Monday in the Iranian opposition media outlet Iran International, Khodaei was responsible for a 2012 car bomb targeting an Israeli diplomat in New Delhi, which injured the envoy’s wife. Khodaei was also reportedly behind a series of botched bombings a day later in Thailand aimed at killing Israeli envoys.

Reports in Hebrew and Iranian media said he had planned kidnappings and other attempts to attack Israeli and Jewish targets worldwide and was in charge of recruiting drug dealers and other criminal entities to carry out the attacks.

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| --- | --- |
| A person holding a book  Description automatically generated with medium confidence  Mourners attend the funeral ceremony of Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Col. Hassan Sayyad Khodaei, shown in the poster, who was killed on Sunday, in Tehran, Iran, May 24, 2022. (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi) | A group of people sitting at a table playing a board game  Description automatically generated with medium confidence  Relatives mourn over the flag draped coffin of Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Col. Hassan Sayyad Khodaei during his funeral ceremony in Tehran, Iran, May 24, 2022. (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi) |

Women in black chadors wailed and wept over Khodaei’s coffin, an ornate box covered with flowers and draped with the Iranian flag and mourning symbols of the Shiite faith.

“We want revenge only,” Moghtaderi, one of the mourners, told The Associated Press at the funeral. She gave only her last name. “Enemies must be aware that we are loyal to the martyrs and their blood is so precious to us.”

Khodaei was shot five times by two unidentified gunmen on motorbikes in his car in the middle of Tehran on Sunday.

Tehran has vowed to avenge the assassination but stopped short of directly blaming Israel. Unsourced Hebrew media reports claim that intelligence shows that only a foreign body could have carried out such a brazen attack on Khodaei.

Iranian authorities have yet to pin down the suspects, even though the incident took place in the heart of one of the most secure areas in Tehran — on Mohahedin-e Eslam Street, which is home to other senior officials in the IRGC and its elite Quds Force.

Israel, which has made no official comments on the incident, has reportedly raised the security alert level at its embassies and consulates around the world, fearing a retaliatory Iranian attack.

An unsourced Channel 13 report also cited fears that Jewish targets might be attacked overseas, and said Israel is also on alert for the possibility of some kind of response from across the northern border.

Khodaei’s assassination was the most high-profile killing inside Iran since the November 2020 killing of top nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/thousands-at-tehran-funeral-for-assassinated-irgc-colonel-chant-death-to-israel/>

**Iraqis communicating with Israel in any way could soon face execution – report**

***Bill also forbids ‘financial or moral assistance’ to Israel, UK’s Jewish News reports, raising concern for Iraq’s Jewish community; UK Jewish leader from Iraq calls bill ‘barbaric’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 3:03 pm*

A drastic anti-Israel law set to come into effect in Iraq will see citizens who communicate with Israelis in any way sentenced to death, the UK’s Jewish News reported Monday.

The bill will apply to all Iraqi citizens, foreigners visiting Iraq, and Iraqis abroad, and will extend to Israeli-linked organizations and online communication via social media.

The [report](https://www.jewishnews.co.uk/iraq-set-to-execute-citizens-who-communicate-with-israel/) noted the far-reaching implications of the legislation, which goes further than similar bills that exist in other Arab states, such as Kuwait.

Titled “Banning Normalization and Establishment of Relations with the Zionist Entity,” the bill strictly forbids “contact and communication of any kind and means with the occupying Zionist entity, its nationals, and representatives, whether individuals or institutions or organizations, for any reason.”

The bill, which was introduced by anti-Western Shiite cleric [Muqtada al-Sadr](https://www.timesofisrael.com/iraqi-election-winner-meets-with-pro-iran-rivals-after-push-to-annul-election/), also forbids the “promotion of any ideas, ideologies, principles, or Israeli or Zionist conduct, in any form,” with transgressors facing potential “execution or lifelong imprisonment.”

On a more practical level, the bill bans any form of “financial or moral assistance” to Israel or any institution affiliated with it, raising concerns for Iraqi Jews living in the semi-autonomous region of Kurdistan — once home to a vibrant Jewish community that has largely relocated to Israel since its establishment.

The bill means that any form of contact between Jewish relatives from Kurdistan and Israel could result in the death penalty.

The bill still needs to receive the approval of a parliamentary subcommittee, but the Jewish News cited sources saying it would likely become law.

Across Iraq, Jewish roots run deep: Ur in the southern plains is the traditional birthplace of biblical Abraham, and the Babylonian Talmud, a central text of Judaism, was compiled in the town of the same name in the present-day Arab state.  
 In the north, the Kurdish regional capital of Erbil was once the heart of the ancient kingdom of Adiabene, which converted to Judaism in the 1st century and helped fund the building of the Temple of Jerusalem.  
 Jews once comprised 40 percent of Baghdad’s population, according to a 1917 Ottoman census. But after the creation of Israel in 1948, regional tensions skyrocketed and anti-Semitic campaigns took hold, pushing most of Iraq’s Jews to flee.  
 The roughly 150,000 Jews still in Iraq during the establishment of the Jewish state in 1948 fled fast: by 1951, 96 percent were gone. Staying meant facing growing discrimination and property expropriation.  
 The threat of facing execution for communicating with Israel is merely the latest attack on Iraq’s small remaining Jewish community, according to the Jewish News report, which cited “great disappointment” among Iraq’s Jewish community over being excluded from the country’s Citizenship Act of 2006 — seen by the Jewish community as a reflection of the country’s continued policy of “ethnic cleansing.”  
 Originally from Iraq, British Jewish leader Edwin Shuker told the Jewish News that the proposed bill was “barbaric” and argued it posed “an affront to Iraq and the good people of Iraq with whom we grew up, who desire peace, and to reconnect with Iraqi Jews wherever they have been displaced.”  
 “These and others are now threatened with execution. This is state-sponsored terrorism against civilians and I for one have shelved any plans to visit the country or to connect with it, even though I am a British citizen,” Shuker said, calling on the British government “to demand clarifications and to take the appropriate measures against such brutality.”  
 The report about the draconian bill came as London is set to host the Iraq Britain Business Council (IBBC) Spring Conference, which attracts both Iraq and British diplomatic and business officials and is sponsored by major British companies such as BP, Shell, PWC, and Serco.  
 Last year, a group of 300 Iraqi officials gathered at a conference in the Kurdish capital of Erbil, where speakers [called for peace and reconciliation with Israel](https://www.timesofisrael.com/after-death-threats-iraqis-who-attended-pro-israel-normalization-summit-recant/). However, they soon recanted their remarks after being subjected to death threats and arrest warrants, with Iraq’s government condemning the event as illegal and vowing to prosecute those who attended. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/iraqis-communicating-with-israel-in-any-way-could-soon-face-execution-report/> [Radical insanity of the Islamic groups is simply an indigenous obsession nurtured from birth. There will be no peace with these people until the Messiah arrives to correct the situation. – rdb]

**Ukraine says 200 decomposing bodies uncovered in Mariupol basement**

***As war rages in east, UK says Russia achieved some ‘localized successes’ despite Ukrainian resistance; Kremlin-installed official asks Moscow to set up military base in Kherson***

*By* [*Ricardo Mazalan*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ricardo-mazalan/)*,* [*OLEKSANDR STASHEVSKYI*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/oleksandr-stashevskyi/) *and* [*Elena Becatoros*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/elena-becatoros/) *Today, 4:41 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/05/AP22143535750680-e1653394191286.jpg)

Undertakers lower the coffin of Ukrainian serviceman Oleksander Matyukhin, 32, in Kharkiv, eastern Ukraine, May 23, 2022. (AP Photo/Bernat Armangue)

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Workers digging through rubble found 200 bodies in Mariupol, Ukrainian authorities said Tuesday, another grim discovery in the ruined port city that has seen some of the worst suffering of the 3-month-old war.

The bodies found in the basement of a collapsed apartment building were in a state of decomposition and a stench permeated the neighborhood, said Petro Andryushchenko, an adviser to the city’s mayor.

Mariupol, which the Russians recently claimed full control over, has endured some of the worst suffering of the war and became a worldwide symbol of defiance for the diehard defense put up for months by fighters at a steelworks.  
 The announcement of the discovery of the bodies came shortly after Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky accused Russia of waging “total war,” seeking to inflict as much death and destruction as possible on his country.  
 “Indeed, there has not been such a war on the European continent for 77 years,” Zelensky told Ukrainians Monday night, on the eve of the three-month anniversary of the start of the war.  
 He pointed to a missile attack that killed 87 people last week in the town of Desna, 55 kilometers (35 miles) north of Kyiv, one of the deadliest single strikes in the war.

A person giving a speech

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy displayed on a screen as he addresses the audience from Kyiv on a screen during the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, May 23, 2022. (AP Photo/Markus Schreiber)

“And it was only four missiles,” he said, noting the many hundreds of such strikes since the beginning of the war on Feb. 24. (Recall if you will that this Zelensky background is that of an actor and comedian. He loves the audience and the attention and has, if you search carefully, in the short time he has been the Ukrainian leader amassed a ‘tidy sum’ complements of a number of known provocateurs such as Soros. It is as though he was “hired” for this job much as the Obamanation was. – rdb] The conflict began with expectations that Russia might overtake the country in a blitz lasting only days or a few weeks. But stiff Ukrainian resistance, bolstered by Western weapons, has bogged down Moscow’s troops, forcing them to pursue more a limited objective.

The Kremlin is now focused on the eastern industrial heartland of the Donbas, where Russian forces have intensified efforts to encircle and capture Sievierodonetsk and neighboring cities, British military authorities said Tuesday. That’s the only part of the Donbas’ Luhansk region that remains under Ukrainian government control.

Russian forces have achieved “some localized successes” despite strong Ukrainian resistance along dug-in positions, the UK Defense Ministry said, but the fall of Sievierodonetsk and the area around it may cause logistical problems for the Russians.

“If the Donbas front line moves further west, this will extend Russian lines of communication and likely see its forces face further logistic resupply difficulties,” the ministry said.

In its effort to secure a victory in the Donbas, Moscow has withdrawn some forces from around Ukraine’s second-largest city of Kharkiv.

There, residents lined up for rations of tea, sugar, pasta and cereal, holding out plastic bags to receive cups of flour and other supplies.

Meanwhile, a Russian-installed official in Ukraine’s Kherson region said the pro-Kremlin administration will ask Moscow to set up a military base there.

Advertisement

“It is vitally important and will become a security guarantee for the region and its residents,” said Kirill Stremousov, deputy head of the administration.

Ukrainian officials have speculated Russia plans to stage a referendum in the region to declare its independence, similar to ones held years ago in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of the Donbas. Moscow recognized the self-proclaimed Donetsk and Luhansk republics two days before invading Ukraine, using that as a pretext to send troops to its ex-Soviet neighbor.

Instead, Stremousov said the region would ask the Kremlin to make it part of Russia. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov has said it is up to the people of Kherson to decide how and where they want to live.

Meeting in Tokyo with fellow leaders in the Indo-Pacific security coalition known as the Quad, US President Joe Biden said Tuesday that Russia’s war in Ukraine had brought a “dark hour in our shared history.”

Global defense leaders on Monday agreed to send more advanced weapons to Ukraine, including a Harpoon launcher and missiles to protect its coast, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin told reporters. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/ukraine-says-200-decomposing-bodies-uncovered-in-mariupol-basement/>

**Russia's invasion might start World War III - George Soros**

***"Today China and Russia present the greatest threat to open society," Soros said.***

*By REUTERS Published: MAY 24, 2022 21:15 Updated: MAY 25, 2022 00:51*



Billionaire investor George Soros arrives at the Schumpeter Award in Vienna, Austria June 21, 2019. (photo credit: REUTERS/LISI NIESNER)

Billionaire financier George Soros said on Tuesday that Russia's invasion of Ukraine may have been the beginning of World War Three so the best way to preserve free civilization was for the West to defeat President Vladimir Putin's forces. [The world’s most evil man who has devastated countries and multiple economies with his manipulations wants to remove one of the people who doesn’t follow the globalist agenda. - rdb

Soros, 91, a legendary hedge fund manager who earned fame by betting against the pound in 1992, cast the Ukraine war as part of a broader struggle between open societies and closed societies such as [China and Russia](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-707548) which were in the ascent.

"The invasion may have been the beginning of the Third World War and our civilization may not survive it," Soros told Davos, according to a text of his speech released by his office.

"The best and perhaps the only way to preserve our civilization is to defeat Putin as soon as possible. That's the bottom line."

Soros said that Putin, who says the ["special operation" in Ukraine](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-702307#:~:text=the%20russian%20invasion%2c%20which%20putin%20calls%20a%20%22special%20operation%2c%22%20has%20killed%20thousands%20of%20people%2c%20sent%203.6%20million%20abroad%20and%20driven%20more%20than%20half%20of%20ukraine%27s%20children%20from%20their%20homes%2c%20according%20to%20the%20united%20nations.) is going to plan and will achieve all the Kremlin's aims, now believed the invasion was a mistake and was preparing to negotiate a ceasefire.

"But the ceasefire is unattainable because he cannot be trusted," Soros said. "The weaker Putin gets the more unpredictable he becomes."

Soros said the European Union had to understand that Putin could turn off Russian natural gas, which currently accounts for about 40% of Europe's needs, "while it really hurts."  
 Russia's Feb. 24 invasion of Ukraine has killed thousands of people, displaced millions more and raised fears of the most serious confrontation between Russia and the United States since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.  
 Putin says the United States was using Ukraine to threaten Russia through NATO enlargement and Moscow had to defend against the persecution of Russian-speaking people. Ukraine and its Western allies reject these as baseless pretexts to invade a sovereign country.  
 "I can't predict the outcome, but Ukraine certainly has a fighting chance," Soros said.  
**China's Xi** Soros cast Russia, by far the world's biggest country by area, and China, the world's second largest economy, as the leading members of a group of ascendant "closed societies" where the individual was subservient to the state. If you don’t think the people in the EU and the US are subservient to the state they way these critters have organized it you are blind.- rdb]  
 Echoing [US President Joe Biden](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-707430), who has said the West is locked in a battle with autocratic governments, Soros also added some pessimism.  
 Russia’s invasion of Ukraine didn’t come out of the blue. It’s the result of the increasing struggle between two diametrically opposed governance systems: open society and closed society. Watch my remarks from [@Davos](https://twitter.com/Davos?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) at 1pm EDT/7pm CEST: <https://t.co/PdcK4grLtW> [pic.twitter.com/YKuNitZcCf](https://t.co/YKuNitZcCf)  
 — George Soros (@georgesoros) [May 24, 2022](https://twitter.com/georgesoros/status/1529100448296214528?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)  
 "Repressive regimes are now in the ascendant and open societies are under siege," Soros said. "Today China and Russia present the greatest threat to open society."  
 Soros said digital technology, especially artificial intelligence, had helped China to collect personal data for the surveillance and control of its citizens more aggressively than ever before.  
 Chinese officials dismiss foreign criticism as clouded by outdated colonial thinking. Such officials laud the Communist Party for throwing off foreign oppressors and rebuilding China by lifting 800 million people out of poverty.  
 Soros criticized President Xi Jinping's "zero-COVID" strategy, saying it had failed and tipped Shanghai towards "the verge of open rebellion."  
 Along with the COVID policy, Soros said Xi had made a series of mistakes which could cost him significant influence as the Communist Party prepares for a decision on awarding him a precedent-breaking third term.  
 "Contrary to general expectations Xi Jinping may not get his coveted third term because of the mistakes he has made," Soros said. "But even if he does, the Politburo may not give him a free hand to select the members of the next Politburo." <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-707584>

**Russian oil shipments hit record high**

***Seaborne cargoes with Urals crude onboard have surged despite talk of oil ban***

*24 May, 2022 16:28*

Nearly 62 million barrels of Russia’s flagship Urals crude oil, a record amount, are currently in tankers at sea, according to data from energy analytics firm Vortexa, as cited by Reuters.

However, traders are reportedly struggling to find buyers for some of the cargo as EU countries fail to agree on a possible Russian oil ban. Other buyers have reportedly been shunning Russian crude due to fears of future sanctions.

According to Vortexa, the volume of Urals crude oil on the water is triple the average recorded before February 24, when Russia’s military operation was launched in Ukraine.

*“The headline numbers, showing Russian exports are still relatively strong, don’t tell the full story,”* Houston-based energy strategist Clay Seigle said, as quoted by Reuters. *“Russian oil at sea is continuing to accumulate.”*

The number of Urals cargoes at sea with no set destination constitutes 15% of the total, also a new high, Seigle said, adding that some of the oil could be in transit to undisclosed buyers, while others could be unsold cargoes.

Most barrels of Russian crude oil have reportedly headed to Asia, mostly to India and China, while volumes headed to Europe have also increased. <https://www.rt.com/business/556018-russia-oil-shipment-record-high/> [Looks like all the “Bi-Dum" maneuvers are simply enhancing his opponent and punishing the American people.- rdb]

**North Korea fires 3 missiles after Quad rebuke**

***Ballistic missile tests follow condemnation of Pyongyang by US and its allies at Tokyo meeting***

*24 May, 2022 22:02*

Three ballistic missiles took off from North Korea, the South Korean military reported on Wednesday morning local time. The launches came after the US, Japan, India and Australia – the so-called “Quad” – condemned the North Korean missile program and pledged themselves to “a free and open Indo-Pacific that is inclusive and res*ilient.”*

The first missile was fired towards the waters near North Korea’s eastern coast, South Korea’s Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement around 6 am local time, offering no additional details. The Japanese coast guard confirmed there had been a launch of an unidentified type of missile.

Within an hour, however, Seoul was reporting “additional launches of unknown ballistic missiles in north and east directions,” according to the Yonhap news agency. A total of three missiles were launched between 6 am and 6:42, from the Sunan area of Pyongyang, the South Korean military later said.

Pyongyang’s 17th missile test so far this year comes as US President Joe Biden left Japan to return to Washington, after a five-day trip to Asia. Before departing, Biden and his *“Quad”* colleagues issued a [joint statement](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/05/24/quad-joint-leaders-statement/) about their role in the future of the region dubbed by the US the *“Indo-Pacific.”*

“We reaffirm our commitment to the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, consistent with United Nations Security Council Resolutions,” said the statement signed by Biden, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, Indian PM Narendra Modi, and Australia’s newly elected PM Anthony Albanese.

*“We also condemn North Korea’s destabilizing ballistic missile development and launches, including multiple intercontinental ballistic missile tests, in violation of UNSCRs, and call on the international community to fully implement these resolutions. We urge North Korea to abide by all of its obligations under the UNSCRs, refrain from provocations, and engage in substantive dialogue,”* the Quad added.

The White House had warned North Korea might carry out a missile test during or after Biden’s visit to the region. The government in Seoul also announced it had [developed a plan](https://www.rt.com/news/555715-korea-us-visit-nuclear/) in case Pyongyang carried out a nuclear test.

North Korea is currently dealing with an [outbreak of Covid-19](https://www.rt.com/news/555528-north-korea-military-outbreak/), with the military brought in to help deal with the situation.

The partition of the Korean peninsula after its liberation from Japan triggered a war between the Communist North and the US-backed South in 1950. The conflict expanded to drag in the US and China, until it was frozen by a 1953 armistice. <https://www.rt.com/news/556037-north-korea-missiles-quad/>

**Virginia judge rules sexually explicit LGBT books are too ‘obscene’ for school libraries**

***Attorney Tim Anderson hopes the ruling will set a precedent in Virginia.***

[*Clare Marie Merkowsky*](https://www.lifesitenews.com/author/clare-marie-merkowsky/) *Tue May 24, 2022 - 12:54 pm EDT*

VIRGINIA BEACH, Virginia ([LifeSiteNews](https://lifesitenews.com/)) – A Virginia judge has sided with parents, ruling that pornographic LGBT books are too “obscene” to be shown to children in schools.

On May 18, the Virginia Beach circuit court deemed two LGBT books inappropriate for children, [ABC News](https://wjla.com/news/local/virginia-judge-books-obscene-banned-kids-school-district-ban-library-gender-queer-court-mist-fury-sexual-content-barnes-noble-fairfax) reported. The books were declared too “obscene for unrestricted viewing by minors” by Judge Pamela Baskerville. This ruling could affect schools as far as the Metro D.C. area, including Fairfax County.

“It doesn’t mean the books are banned. It doesn’t mean we’re burning books or infringing on free speech,” attorney and Virginia State Delegate Tim Anderson said.

“What it means is that there is extreme sexual graphic content in both of those books not suitable for minors without the parent consent,” he continued.

The books, titled “Gender Queer: A Memoir” and “A Court of Mist and Fury,” both contain sexual and pornographic content. MORE -  <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/virginia-judge-rules-sexually-explicit-lgbt-books-are-too-obscene-for-school-libraries/> [YEA! - rdb

**WHO withdraws 12 Biden 'sovereignty' amendments amid fierce opposition**

***Proposals cede authority to U.N. agency during health 'emergencies'***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published May 24, 2022 at 8:02pm*

Amid charges of [ceding U.S. sovereignty to the World Health Organization](https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/biden-moves-give-health-care-sovereignty-america/), 12 of the 13 amendments submitted by the Biden administration for a vote in the World Health Assembly this week in Geneva have been removed from consideration.

The amendments were publicized only last month, and it was the advocacy of independent researcher James Roguski that alerted the public to the implications for U.S. sovereignty, prompting a groundswell of popular opposition, largely in the past week.

Roguski, who has been monitoring the WHA proceedings, which began Sunday, said the withdrawal appears to be the result of "the massive response from people all over the world in opposition to the amendments to the International Health Regulations, along with legal actions in the U.K. (and a whole lot of prayer)."

Along with the fact that the amendments can be resubmitted in the future and WHO's ultimate objective is for the leading nations to sign a global pandemic treaty, "now is not the time to relax," [Roguski wrote on his Substack page dedicated to the issue](https://jamesroguski.substack.com/).

The news of the removal of a dozen amendments came through legal action filed in the United Kingdom by a physician, Zac Cox. After his May 17 request for judicial review was rejected, Cox filed an appeal last Friday.

The U.K. Government Legal Department of the Secretary of State for Health and Social care replied to Cox that the appeal was without merit because 12 of the 13 proposed amendments had been removed from consideration. That was due, the government said, to the fact that the WHO's [Working Group for Pandemic Response](https://apps.who.int/gb/wgpr/index.html) was "unable to reach a consensus."

The working group had the task of shepherding the amendments through a process in preparation for them to be presented to the World Health Assembly.

The one remaining Biden amendment reduces the period of time in which a nation can withdraw its vote on an amendment to the International Health Regulations from 18 months to six months.

In an interview Tuesday with "War Room," Roguski explained that opponents of the move to give the WHO more power shouldn't rest, because the Working Group for Pandemic Response "will never give up."

"They will keep trying to do this again in the future," he said. "We've got to stay vigilant."

Last week, in interviews with WND, acclaimed health reformer Dr. Peter Breggin, mRNA technology inventor Dr. Robert Malone and former Congress member Michele Bachmann warned that the Biden amendments amounted to a handover of U.S. sovereignty over health care.

[Breggin argued](https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/dr-peter-breggin-biden-ceding-u-s-sovereignty-china/) "the U.S. is the one power that stands in the way of globalism."

[Malone described the Biden move](https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/absolutely-asinine-dr-robert-malone-warns-giving-keys-kingdom/) as the U.S. giving the China-controlled WHO "the keys to the kingdom."

And Bachmann, pointing to the U.S. capitulation to the WHO during the pandemic, [urged Americans to "melt the phone lines" of their elected officials.](https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/watch-michele-bachmann-urges-melt-phone-lines-power-grab/?preview=true) <https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/withdraws-12-biden-sovereignty-amendments-amid-fierce-opposition/> [Thank heavens for this but PLEASE heed the final warning. They won’t stop trying. The globalist group is unending with their efforts. That is Soros and Schwab and friends. They ARE trying to come after us and won’t stop until we are subservient to them. – rdb]

**Davos elites warn nations not to resist 'painful global transition'**

***Echo Biden's assurance of a bright side to record-high gas prices***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published May 24, 2022 at 8:16pm*

Echoing President Biden's comments, two European leaders at the World Economic Forum meeting in Davos, Switzerland, described the record gas prices as part of a "painful" period of "transition" to alternative energy that should not be resisted.

German vice-chancellor Robert Habeck, as [Summit News reported](https://summit.news/2022/05/24/videos-davos-elites-warn-painful-global-transition-should-not-be-resisted-by-nation-states/), said Monday that governments should not seek to protect their citizens from the consequences.

And Norwegian finance CEO Kjerstin Braathen described the energy crisis as a "transition" full of hardship but insisted the "pain" is "worth it."

iden, meanwhile, said Monday that the pain at the pump was part of "an incredible transition" of the American economy away from oil and natural gas.

"[When] it comes to the gas prices, we're going through an incredible transition that is taking place that, God willing, when it's over, we’ll be stronger and the world will be stronger and less reliant on fossil fuels when this is over," Biden told reporters after his meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.

Biden insisted that, nevertheless, his administration's actions have been able to keep the energy crisis "from getting worse — and it's bad."

Bottom of Form

Germany's Habeck emphasized that the long-term issue of "climate change," which was the focus of the Davos conference two years ago, must be a prime consideration. And he said the world must no longer be beholden to the "rule of the markets."

"We have to state that we collaborate in one world and have some solidarity in the world, but, therefore, we have to change the rule of the markets as well," he said.

Braathen acknowledged the pain high gas prices inflict on small and medium businesses.

"We need to accept that there will be some pain in the process," she said. "The pace that we need (to transition to alternative energy) will open up for missteps. It will open up for shortages in energy. It will open up for inflationary pressures. And maybe we need to start talking about it now. Because that pain is worth it."

Biden has contended the record high gas prices are largely due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. But a video montage of the president's vows during the 2020 campaign to "eliminate" traditional forms of energy, along with his actions on his first day in office, suggest there are other factors in play.

In a July 2019 primary debate with his Democratic Party opponents hosted by CNN, Biden was asked, "Would there be any place for fossil fuels, including coal and fracking, in a Biden administration?"

"No," he replied. "We would work it out. We would make sure it’s eliminated."

*See the montage of Biden's condemnation of the oil industry:*

Biden's campaign later clarified that "eliminating" oil-based energy meant ending subsidies for the industry and transitioning by 2050 to an economy with net-zero emissions.

Last Thursday, however, Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., tied the president's policies to the record-high gas prices in an exchange with Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm.

Granholm told Hawley "you can thank the activity of Vladimir Putin for invading Ukraine."

The senator shot back: "With all due respect, madam secretary, that's utter nonsense."

Hawley argued that long before the Russian invasion – from January to August of 2021 – "the price of gasoline was up over 30% in my state alone."

"It has been a continuous, continuous upward tick since then," Hawley said.

"And here's what your president did when he first came to office. He immediately reentered the Paris Climate Accord. He canceled the Keystone Pipeline. He halted leasing programs in ANWR. He issued a 60-day halt on all new oil and gas leases and drilling permits on federal lands and waters. That's nationwide," Hawley said.

The senator noted the halt affected 25% of U.S. oil production.

"He directed federal agencies to eliminate all supports for fossil fuels," Hawley continued. "He imposed new regulations on oil and gas and methane emissions. Those were all just in the first few days. Are you telling me that had no effect on our energy supply?"

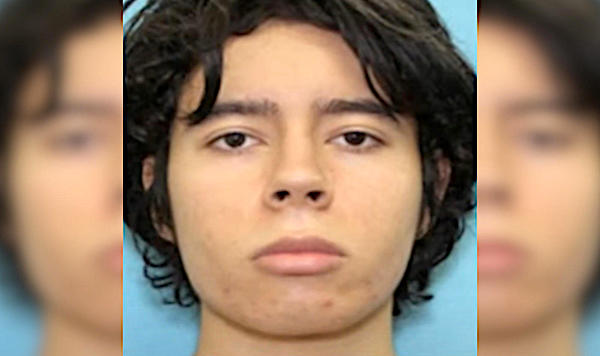
On March 31, Biden announced his decision to release oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, promising prices at the pump would "continue to come down ... it will come down and it could come down fairly significantly."

Economists warned that the move could make gas even more expensive, and less than two months later, the average gas price has surged to $4.59. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/davos-elites-warn-nations-not-resist-painful-global-transition/> {Evil and demons are dominating the world right now and it will take the Messianic Age to fix the problems. – rdb]

**Texas school shooting: 18 students, 1 teacher killed, gunman dead**

***18-year-old suspect shot his grandmother before heading to campus***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published May 24, 2022 at 5:01pm*



Salvador Ramos, Uvalde, Texas, shooting suspect

(DAILY MAIL) -- The death toll from Tuesday's shooting at a Texas elementary school has risen to 18 students and one teacher - all killed by an 18-year-old gunman, shot dead by a heroic Border Patrol agent, who ran into the school and shot him.

The Border Patrol agent was entered the school with a tactical team, while law enforcement engaged him. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/texas-school-shooting-2-dead-multiple-children-hospitalized/> [Evil personified. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**Joe Biden's Buffalo Speech Was the Speech of an Indecent Man**[*Dennis Prager*](https://townhall.com/columnists/dennisprager/) *Posted: May 24, 2022 12:01 A* If an American president has ever given as mendacious, anti-American and hate-filled a speech as President Joe Biden did in Buffalo, New York, last week, I am not familiar with it. Nor are you.  
 Biden used the terrible mass shooting of black people in a Buffalo grocery store to smear America, divide Americans and foment race-based hatred. A decent man would have given an entirely different speech.  
 A decent man would have gone to Buffalo and said something like this:  
 "My fellow Americans, what happened here in Buffalo was pure evil. Let there be no equivocating about this moral fact. If evil exists, what happened here was evil. But, my fellow Americans, this young man and his race-based homicidal hatred represents an infinitesimally small number of Americans, white or otherwise. The overwhelming majority of Americans of every race, ethnicity, and religion get along with each other beautifully. We work alongside each other, date each other, socialize with one another and marry one another. We are the most successful experiment in creating a multiracial, multi-ethnic, multi-religious country in world history. The actions of a deranged teenager do not change this fact."  
 Instead, the hater-in-chief went to Buffalo and said:  
 "What happened here is simple and straightforward: terrorism. Terrorism. Domestic terrorism. Violence inflicted in the service of hate and the vicious thirst for power that defines one group of people being inherently inferior to any other group. A hate that, through the media and politics, the internet, has radicalized angry, alienated and lost individuals into falsely believing that they will be replaced. That's the word. Replaced by 'the other.' By people who don't look like them.  
 "Look, we've seen the mass shootings in Charleston, South Carolina; El Paso, Texas; in Pittsburgh. Last year, in Atlanta. This week, in Dallas, Texas, and now in Buffalo. In Buffalo, New York. White supremacy is a poison. It's a poison. It really is. Running through our body politic. And it's been allowed to fester and grow right in front of our eyes. No more. I mean, no more. We need to say as clearly and forcefully as we can that the ideology of white supremacy has no place in America. None ...  
 "Look, the American experiment in democracy is in a danger like it hasn't been in my lifetime. It's in danger this hour. Hate and fear are being given too much oxygen by those who pretend to love America, but who don't understand America. ...  
 "Now is the time for the people of all races, from every background, to speak up as a majority in America and reject white supremacy ...  
 "We have to refuse to live in a country where black people going about a weekly grocery shopping can be gunned down by weapons of war deployed in a racist cause ..."  
 As noted earlier, this was not only a hate-filled speech; it was a speech of the Big Lie. The Big Lie of white supremacy as a major threat to America generally and to black America specifically.  
 Let's examine each of the examples of white supremacist mass shootings he gave:  
 "Charleston, South Carolina"  
 Seven years ago, Dylann Roof killed nine black worshippers at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church.  
 "El Paso, Texas"  
 In 2019, a 21-year-old white racist, Patrick Wood Crusius, killed 23 people and wounded 21 others at a Walmart store. The great majority of his victims were Hispanic.  
 "Pittsburgh"  
 In 2018, a white antisemite, Robert Gregory Bowers, murdered 11 Jews attending Sabbath services at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. As was the case with the Buffalo shooter, Bowers was a deeply troubled man. His father, while on trial for rape, committed suicide when Bowers was 7 years old, and like all the examples Biden cited, he was a troubled loner. Neither he nor any of these other shooters worked in concert with any hate group or co-conspirators.  
 "Last year in Atlanta"  
 In 2021, 21-year-old Robert Aaron Long killed eight people at three massage parlors. The killings were motivated by his sex addiction and his religious conviction that those who tempted him should be killed. Race had nothing to do with it.  
 "This week in Dallas, Texas"  
 Last week in Dallas, Jeremy Smith shot and wounded three women of Asian descent.  
 Jeremy Smith is a black man.  
 Why Biden included this shooting as an example of white supremacy is a puzzle. Why no mainstream media I could find noted and condemned this lie is not puzzling.  
 So, then, our hate-fomenting president mentioned six examples of "white supremacist" shootings. A total of two, one of them seven years ago, involved a white racist shooting black people. One involved a sex addict killing sex workers. One involved a black man shooting Asian people. One involved an antisemite targeting Jews. And one was a black man who shot Asian-Americans.  
 With these examples, Biden went to a grieving black community to lie to them in order to stir up anger in them about the alleged scourge of white supremacist violence in this country.  
 At least half of this country knows why Biden did this:  
 First, to focus Americans' attention on "white supremacy" rather than on the inflation, looming recession, food crisis and energy crisis he and his party have created with their policies.  
 Second, to keep black Americans voting Democrat by saying to them, in effect: "You need protection from your fellow hate-filled Americans; we Democrats are your protectors."  
 Meanwhile, 9,941 black Americans were killed in 2020. Nearly all were killed by other black people. But to Joe Biden, his party, and the mainstream, i.e., left-wing, media, those black lives don't matter. At all. Why not? Because they weren't killed by white supremacists, and they therefore don't serve the Democrats' deliberately divisive narrative.  
 <https://townhall.com/columnists/dennisprager/2022/05/24/joe-bidens-buffalo-speech-was-the-speech-of-an-indecent-man-n2607703> So was his speech Tuesday. = rdb]

**Pandemic Monkeyshines***By* [*Cherie Zaslawsky*](https://newswithviews.com/author/cherie/)*|May 24th, 2022* While Bill Gates trumpeted his so-called “[Decade of Vaccines](https://www.science.org/content/article/gates-call-decade-vaccines-pledges-assault-child-mortality)” in 2010—apparently given a new lease on life with Covid—he’s been understandably quieter about his planned Decade of Pandemics. Of course the two go hand in hand, or perhaps hand in glove, as both are merely tools to further the Davos elites’ two-pronged attack on We the People: genocide and subsequent enslavement of those who survive.  
 Plandemics and their subsequent mRNA vaccines can maim and kill millions of people, while providing the psychopathic elites with plausible deniability. Here’s [Gates’ disingenuous warning](https://thehill.com/changing-america/well-being/538426-bill-gates-who-predicted-the-pandemic-names-the-next-two-monster/): “Also, related to pandemics is something people don’t like to talk about much, which is bioterrorism, that *somebody who wants to cause damage could engineer a virus*. “ [Italics mine.] Hmmm…now why would anyone want to do that, Bill?  
 In case you were wondering, Stephen Luby, professor of medicine and senior fellow at Stanford’s Wood Institute for the Environment, informs us that: [*There will be a Sars-CoV-3*](https://stanfordmag.org/contents/of-viruses-and-vectors)*.*  
 Not one to be outdone by pundits across the Pond,  Sustainable Prince Charles offers this gem: [*There will be more and more pandemics, if we don’t do ‘the great reset’ now.*](https://stopworldcontrol.com/proof/)  
 It seems the WHO is planning for ten solid years of [pandemics, from 2020 to 2030](https://vachristian.org/the-plan-the-who-plans-for-10-years-of-pandemics-from-2020-to-2030/). How does WHO know what, why and when? Unless, of course, Gates’ minions—the WHO included—are feverishly planning and executing these pandemics. What better way to accurately predict the future than by controlling it?  
**LESSONS FROM *FRANKENSTEIN***  
 Among the dwindling numbers of literary classics students are assigned today, one often finds Mary Shelley’s novel *Frankenstein*. Written when Shelley was only eighteen, it is quite an achievement and brilliant in concept; although, in my view, far from a literary masterpiece and actually a bit of a slog to read. Nevertheless, students love it.  
 Unfortunately, they miss the point.  
 Instead of grasping what I consider to be the genius of the novel—its exposition of the truism that when man plays God, disaster inevitably follows—the kids derive the message that you should be kind to monsters. Many of them write essays to the effect that if only people had not rejected the poor monster—if only they had not hurt his feelings—he wouldn’t have gone on a killing rampage, which many students think was justifiable. I kid you not. This is how your children are being trained to think in public schools.  
 Perhaps their teachers also fail to point out the moral of this story. In fact, if it was clearly recognized and taught as a cautionary tale about hubris in schools today, I’d wager that the Common Core progressives who put together today’s pathetically weakened and subversive curriculum, would quickly remove it from the syllabi. After all, from man made viruses to gene-altering “vaccines” to transhumanism, we’re being besieged by legions of unleashed Dr. Frankensteins.  
**FAUCI’S STEALTH WEAPON: GAIN-OF-FUNCTION “RESEARCH”**  
 Of special note among the legions of domestic Frankensteins must be our own Dr. FauxChi, whom one might describe as a modern-day amalgamation of Josef Mengele, the Nazi’s mad scientist who conducted cruel experiments on prisoners, and Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi’s Minister of Propaganda.  
 The Fauch’s organization NIAID has given millions of dollars to crazed scientists to bioengineer new and deadly GMO viruses and retroviruses that previously apparently did no harm in bats or other creatures, and couldn’t infect humans, but now can cause worldwide pandemics.  
 This begs the question: Why perform “Gain of Function” research at all, since the function you gain creates a bioweapon?  
 Here’s the logic: in case those viruses were ever to naturally jump from bats to people, say in a Wuhan wet market, and make people sick, scientists would be able to recognize the pathogens and presumably make vaccines against them for the huge benefit of… patent holders, like Fauci’s NIAID, and Big Pharma.  And if thousands or millions were to die in the process? That’s just collateral damage.  
 Of course there’s an even more nefarious possibility—dare I say likelihood: that these Frankensteinian viruses and the genetically modified “vaccines” we’re told we must have to combat them, are both designed for genocidal “depopulation” purposes. Pick your poison.  
**RAND PAUL VS. TEFLON TONY**  
 Recently, Senator Rand Paul bravely stood up to Fauci, perhaps to make amends for having stabbed President Trump in the back along with the majority of his feckless fellow Senators on January 6th—but I digress.  
 Kudos to Rand for pointing out Dr. Fraudster’s lies and collusion with the Wuhan Institute of Virology to fund the dangerous, illegal and immoral viral-lethality-enhancing “research” that led to Sars-CoV-2 and Covid-19.  
 But Rand’s main concern, like that of so many others, is that these viruses could escape the lab and infect people. Well, accidents do happen.  
 Except, as [FDR told us](https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/franklin_d_roosevelt_164126), in politics, where “…nothing happens by accident. If it happens, you can bet it was planned that way.” And for those who refuse to believe Covid-19 was planned—in spite of [Event 201](https://www.centerforhealthsecurity.org/event201/) describing the precise scenario of the pandemic and worldwide lockdowns several months prior to the Wuhan outbreak, as well as the perfect timing of the “pandemic” to pull the plug on Trump’s economic miracle and pave the way for flagrant voter fraud through [unprecedented national mail-in voting](https://truthnewsnet.org/2000-mules-the-documentary/) to keep, um, Biden voters “safe”—all I can say is I’m running out of bridges to sell.  
 Back to the bats.  
**THE NEW NORMAL: “ZOONOTIC” PANDEMICS?**   
 Here’s the May 2021 cover of [Stanford’s Alumni Magazine](https://stanfordmag.org/issues/may-2021), illustrations by Catrin Welz-Stein:  
 The accompanying ghoulish [article](https://stanfordmag.org/contents/of-viruses-and-vectors): *Of Viruses & Vectors*, by Deni Ellis Béchard, almost reads like a primer on Agenda 21/2030, full of warnings about global warming, climate change and the dangerous “edges where humans and animals come into contact” leading to “human-wild interface with less and less buffer between them.”  Who knows what dire diseases may emerge “…at the edge of human habitats.” Did you realize you live in a “human habitat” instead of a city or suburb or small town?  
 The passage quoted above obliquely refers to the Davos elites’ [*Wildlands Project,*](http://rangefire.us/2019/03/09/agenda-21-wildlands-project-what-you-need-to-know/) as they plan to make the “wildlands” as off-limits to us as our Capitol was for months after January 6th, while herding us into crowded high-density “districts” à la [*The Hunger Games*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Hunger_Games_(novel)).  
 In his [article](https://stanfordmag.org/contents/of-viruses-and-vectors), Béchard  kills two bats with one stone: implying we should stay out of forests, etc., and presumably stop raising livestock (animals are “reservoirs” for “vectors” like mosquitos that spread viruses) though people have done this safely for millennia.  So what has changed? The addition of the elite cabal’s phony global warming/climate change psyop, along with their control of the media for propagandizing their mischief.  
 Referencing climate change and other spurious globalist claims, Béchard blithely assures us we’re in for more pandemics, sooner rather than later, and the next one could stem from the [NIPAH virus](https://stanfordmag.org/contents/of-viruses-and-vectors), with a fatality rate of 75%. Yes, you heard that correctly. Seventy-five percent fatality rate. Compare that to Covid’s measly .1% for all but the frail elderly and those with serious co-morbidities who have a rate from about .2% to 2% or so.  
 And surprise, surprise, NIPAH is also bat-derived.  
 What is this fascination with bats?  The 2011 predictive-programming movie [Contagion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contagion_(2011_film))—and here’s your spoiler alert—featured a pandemic almost exactly like the one we’ve just endured, which was discovered to have originated from…you guessed it…a bat!  
 Here’s another unpleasant surprise for you: Look at the American quarter that came out in 2020, a year which should be rechristened by the Chinese as the Year of the Bat:  
 What a coincidence!  
 Perhaps the Globalist Cabal—billionaire Gates and Davos pals who can’t wait to depopulate, I mean vaccinate, the world—with their penchant for the occult and demonic, also had in mind the Mayan’s bat god, [Camazotz](https://www.learnreligions.com/bat-magic-and-folklore-2562685), associated with death and sacrifice, as in the sacrifice of human beings.  Pretty remarkable that a spooky-looking pair of bats was the best that American Samoa could come up with in the way of an uplifting emblem.  
 Here’s another creepy picture of our dystopian virus-laden future by Catrin Welz-Stein from the same article *Of Viruses & Vectors*.  
**WHO’S MONKEYSHINES**  
 But it looks as if the monkey may have beaten out the bat, as the [WHO is reportedly convening an “emergency” meeting on the Monkeypox](https://www.naturalblaze.com/2022/05/who-convenes-emergency-meeting-as-monkeypox-virus-goes-global.html) which it claims is going global. Hmmm… I don’t recall ever hearing about monkeypox, which sounds as if it affects only, well…monkeys. Does that mean the WHO seeks to make monkeys out of us? If so, it won’t be the first time.  
 After the manner of Hollywood producers who often follow up a mediocre film with a sequel that’s even worse, it seems the Powers-That-Be are following the same template they used for Covid: First they claim to find a few scattered cases of some exotic or “novel” virus but reassure us that we have no cause for alarm…as yet. This way they can slowly build up a crescendo of fear, then suddenly crank it up to full-blown panic with projections of millions of deaths—ultimately terrifying people into getting a brand spankin’ new mRNA Chimp-22 vaccine that will magically be rushed to market to keep us, you know, “safe.”  
 **GAIN OF FUNCTION = LOSS OF BENIGNITY**  
 Once laboratory scientists re-engineer a virus that has never infected people and/or is benign to humans, in order to make it malignant, they’ve engaged in bioterrorism research and development. There’s no polite way to say this—it’s evil.  
 On the one hand, as Mary Shelley showed us more than a hundred years ago, messing with nature to create new life forms is bound to be catastrophic.  On the other, since Dr. Faustus himself has both funded this kind of “research,” lied about having done so, and presumably gotten his co-conspirators at the Wuhan Institute of Virology to cover for him, we can take this as clear indication that FauxChi knew what he was doing was wrong. And like his fictional predecessor, Dr. Frankenstein, little Tony Fauci will surely pay the price for the [hellishness he’s unleashed on the world](https://www.amazon.com/Real-Anthony-Fauci-Democracy-Childrens-ebook/dp/B08XQYGC68).  
 But unfortunately, he’s not alone. Not only have a number of “scientists” been working on Gain-of-MalFunction “research,” some of these geniuses have been laboring to create bizarre new life-forms that have even more in common with Mary Shelley’s infamous doctor and his monstrous creation. In fact, transhumanists are busily remaking man in their own benighted image, as the globalist cabal’s plan is not only to do away with our liberty, economy and quality of life, but also with humanity as we know it. For these hubristic New World Order designers, We the Peons are already being described as “legacy humans.”  This is analogous to the heirloom tomatoes you may find at your local farmers’ market—the rare varieties from the good ol’ days.  
 The new human species they plan to create will be merged with AI and/or some form of technological machinery—that is, those who are slated to be the “smart ones,” a la Huxley’s [*Brave New World*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brave_New_World). The Epsilons—those at the bottom rung of the societal ladder—will be merged with animals as “chimeras.” [Alex Jones was evidently right](https://www.newswars.com/alex-jones-right-again-scientists-admit-they-successfully-created-human-monkey-hybrids/)—these experiments have been going on for many years.  
 And now there’s a team of researchers at Tufts that supposedly successfully created… [the first-ever, self-replicating living robots](https://wyss.harvard.edu/news/team-builds-first-living-robots-that-can-reproduce/).  
 Perhaps it was inevitable that as man discovered more and more about the wonders of our universe and of our own bodies, some would trod this path. It seems there’s nothing new under the sun after all.  The Serpent’s promise to Eve in the Garden was if she’d eat the forbidden fruit, she—and her mate—would become “as gods.”  
 Perhaps the psychopathic Powers-That-Be and their malevolent university-trained cohorts have forgotten the upshot of a devil’s bargain. At the very least, they ought to reread *Frankenstein*. Either that or the Bible  
<https://newswithviews.com/pandemic-monkeyshines/>

**Our Fault, Our Fix!**By [Kate Stansell](https://newswithviews.com/author/kate/)|May 23rd, 2022  
**We’ve nearly given away our Republic**  
**BUT, WE CAN GET IT BACK IF WE WORK NOW!**  
 We’ve allowed ourselves to become dependent on the government by giving them powers that were never meant to be theirs. Our founding documents enumerate certain powers for the federal government. In general, these have to do with taxation, conducting foreign wars, etc. Everything else, including elections, belongs to the states, that is to US!  
 Map

Description automatically generatedWe have squandered our freedoms by giving over far too much of our lives’ control to Washington, and now we are paying for it. Our beautiful Constitution and Bill of Rights are being torn to shreds, and with it go our freedoms.  
 In a very brief look backwards, here’s how it happened.  
 One by one, our government voted themselves power over us, as the Globalists/Marxists laid their plans to destroy America through the decades. Religion, education, health care, even property ownership, all were moved under their control, bit by bit, bill by bill, executive order by secret memo.  
 The UN Agendas 21 and 2030 are tools installed under our very noses, giving non-government organizations powers and funding without our consent, and a whole new evil meaning to the word  
 Clinton’s “President’s Council on Sustainable Development”, was formed in 1993 on the heels of our signing onto the UN Agendas. From the Carter White House archives, the council was created to give us “Bold new approaches to achieve our economic, environmental and equity goals.” “Equity”?? Equity is a cornerstone of our Republic – equality of opportunity for all. How did we give the power to impact governance in the freest country in the world, to a non-elected body?  
 How have we allowed the steady creep of election fraud, which has been known fact for years, to grow so large that we lost our very government?  
 Like the little frogs in the kettle, we are beginning to notice the rise in the heat. Should we have seen this coming. Sure, but it’s here now, and we have to deal or lose our country. The uncomfortable heat is coming in the form of things we never thought we would face in our America. Shortages of baby formula, fertilizer, fuel and food?? A government that is the laughingstock of the world? That happens only in third world countries. Right? Actually, yes.  
 We are one.  
 America is, for all practical purposes, a third world “banana republic”, complete with an unelected government that hides behind barbed wire. Actions against the citizens are planned and executed by secret committees and off-the-record communiques.  
 The United States of America suffered a coup in Nov., 2020, (followed by the Purge beginning on Jan. 6, 2021) whereby, through massively well orchestrated fraud, our vote – and our government – were stolen from us. Biden told us himself, in October, 2020, just how good his Democrat Party had become at this…  
 “We have the most extensive and inclusive voter fraud organization in American history…” The fact-chukers of course declared that it didn’t happen.  
 Ok, whether we want to accept this or not, this is where we are – frightened, angry, disbelieving, confused.  
 The Globalists powers knew that when it came to times such as we are facing today, Americans would come together in defense of their way of life, if not in agreement on political approaches. So, they had to divide us. Divide and conquer.  
 Enter Barrack Hussein Obama, the great divider. Nearly every day of his eight (yes, probably stolen) years, he whined about the injustices and inequities of this country. America has done more for more millions of people around the globe than has any other, but Obama hated it all. America was racist, unfair, blah, blah, blah. His partner, Michelle, helped out. Together, they did their Soros-appointed job well. All of a sudden, America was “bad”.  
 So now, we are frightened, angry, disbelieving, confused and divided We were too busy, too disinterested, too lazy and complacent to go to a school board meeting, or to city council or the County Board meetings. We voted only for candidates whose names we’d heard, without knowing or caring what/who they were. Step by step, bit by bit, the Marxists turned up the heat, and we sat in the kettle, oblivious. Now we are beginning to get very uncomfortable, and are hopping mad.  
 This is a state which the Marxists created, and in which they expect us to be paralyzed and ineffective.  
 WE are NOT, and here is what we do to prove it.  
 \* \* \*  
**Our Failures, OUR FIX!**  
 Local action is the only way out of this. We’ve said it before, advocated for it, and built groups around the nation who have done some really good things. If you already have a Freedom Pod in your community, you are a step ahead, but, now we must all go much further.  
 We must build Freedom Rescue Platoons, whose #1 focus is securing the November 2022 Midterms. We must take on securing the ballots AND getting good Constitutional candidates as part of our choices in November. Here’s how.  
**Step #1: Research.**  
 Know your county election officials, and how your election system is set up. Where is every poll, and how are they set up. Do they have proper ingress/egress in lighted and secure areas? When does early voting begin, and how are the ballots cast? Do you have drop boxes in remote locations, or only outside polling places? Obtain lists of precinct workers, election volunteers, and the rules and regulations that cover voting in your area. What printed materials are allowed to be distributed and by whom? I can provide some non-candidate-specific palm cards for you to copy and use, both at the polls and before, wherever they can be distributed. Learn when are the polls open, how are ballots cast. Is there early or mail-in voting. What rules govern each? Is there a hot-line in place where incidents at the polls and or drop boxes can be addressed in real time. What kind of “electioneering” other than handouts is allowed on site at the polls; get the rules and post them. Most important, how is the chain of custody of each ballot assured? If your county election official cannot answer this last question, you must demand that that process be defined and published.  
**Step #2: Enlist your foot soldiers**  
 These are the people in your group who will be poll watchers and workers, do the running, between polls and to meetings of the election boards as the midterm approaches.  
 If there is time, according to your state’s primary dates and rules, continue to canvass areas if you have been able to get your voter rolls. The more fraud you can find, the more you will have to advertise to your elected officials. AND to the public. Remember, elected officials do not want the boat to rock (or the kettle to be spilled freeing the frogs) before an election.  
 I strongly suggest that, for each county in a state that has drop boxes, a drop box patrol be formed.  
 These “foot soldiers” for the drop box patrol might be best recruited from real soldiers, retired military who will travel in groups to keep an eye on drop box activity, recording anything that seems out of line. Check D’Sousza’s “2000 Mules” to learn more about this essential task.  
 Your local VFW will be a good place to recruit. Veterans have pledged to uphold our Constitution, and have done so by offering up their lives. Most will be more than happy to help secure our ballots after they have personally given so much to secure our freedom.  
**Step #3: DON’T VOTE FOR THE SAME OLD BUMS WHO GOT US INTO THIS!**  
 We MUST refill our public offices with those who will serve us. So many big names have failed us, so do NOT, under any circumstances, vote for them again!  
 You can help your community by really researching the candidates on the ballot. Don’t just read their websites, but find out who they are associated with, where they grew up and went to school, what they have done in private life, etc. Formulate tough questions to ask: e.g., how they would have voted on the Ukranian War funding, or what they would to about the food and fuel shortages, and try to get answers. OR, if a candidate for a local race, challenge them as well, with local issues and how they propose to handle them. Ask them about guaranteeing your property rights, and how they intend to do that.  
 If your sheriff is up for election, get his pledge that he will uphold his oath of office, to support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. He or she is, after all, the highest Constitutional official in the state, and must be able to be relied upon to do so, if challenged by an illegitimate power in DC or governor in the statehouse.  
 Ask EVERY candidate to sign a pledge to defend and uphold the Constitution! How can they say no? A dodge is as good an an answer to this. If a candidate – from EITHER PARTY refuses to sign or address the issue, they are NOT a qualified to run for public office in America.  
 Post the answers you get on social media. If they will not give answers, post that, too! Get your efforts out everywhere you can, on social media, in local papers, or even posters, for maximum coverage.  
 Search the entire country for good Constitutional candidates! We all know that a bad Congress critter in another state can be as harmful as one from our own. (think Pelosi, Schumer, Schiff, AOC and many more, and what they have done to us). If you find one, donate, and talk them up. Start a support group for them on social media, or volunteer to help their campaign with with mailings, which can be done remotely. We need to fill our US Congress with people who support our constitution instead of Communism.  
 This is a lot of work, as I’ve set it out here. But WE are a lot of very upset frogs who must get the heat under the pot turned down or off. Our precious freedoms are worth every bit of effort we can put in. There won’t be a next try. The enemy is trying to affix the lid to the kettle so we can never fight again. <https://newswithviews.com/our-fault-our-fix/>   
   
**Biden's Biggest Worry for the Country Is Completely Irrelevant Right Now**[*Matt Vespa*](https://townhall.com/columnists/mattvespa/) *Posted: May 24, 2022 12:01 AM* The New York Times's Thomas Friedman had lunch at the White House. It's an eye-roll-worthy piece that is par for the course for the publication. It seemed like the lunch was a bit of a downer. Biden was loaded with many worries, but if this is the biggest one, as indicated by Freidman, it only shows that this administration's crisis management and prioritization are beyond saving.   
 We all knew this—it's just another notch in the stick that this White House will use to beat America's economic health to death. Also, the horse has long left the barn here. I mean, c'mon, Joe. *That's your biggest worry at this point*?  
 He's afraid that he can't unite the country. It's not the baby formula shortage that he knew was coming several months ago and did nothing. It's not the rising gas prices that are going to kill American working families. It's not the supply chain crisis. It's not the southern border that's already a humanitarian and national security fiasco. It's not the rising inflation. It's his inability to connect with conservatives, really (via [NYT](https://www.nytimes.com/2022/05/22/opinion/biden-trump-republicans-democrats.html)):   
 What I felt afterward was this: For all you knuckleheads on Fox who say that Biden can’t put two sentences together, here’s a news flash: He just put NATO together, Europe together and the whole Western alliance together — stretching from Canada up to Finland and all the way to Japan — to help Ukraine protect its fledgling democracy from Vladimir Putin’s fascist assault.  
 In doing so, he has enabled Ukraine to inflict significant losses on Russia’s invading army, thanks to a rapid deployment of U.S. and NATO trainers and massive transfers of precision weapons. And not a single American soldier was lost.  
 It has been the best performance of alliance management and consolidation since another president whom I covered and admired — who also was said to be incapable of putting two sentences together: George H.W. Bush. Bush helped manage the collapse of the Soviet Union and the reunification of Germany, without firing a shot or the loss of a single American life.  
 Alas, though, I left our lunch with a full stomach but a heavy heart.  
 Biden didn’t say it in so many words, but he didn’t have to. I could hear it between the lines: He’s worried that while he has reunited the West, he may not be able to reunite America.  
 It’s clearly his priority, above any Build Back Better provision. And he knows that’s why he was elected — a majority of Americans worried that the country was coming apart at the seams and that this old war horse called Biden, with his bipartisan instincts, was the best person to knit us back together. It’s the reason he decided to run in the first place, because he knows that without some basic unity of purpose and willingness to compromise, nothing else is possible.  
 But with every passing day, every mass shooting, every racist dog whistle, every defund-the-police initiative, every nation-sundering Supreme Court ruling, every speaker run off a campus, every bogus claim of election fraud, I wonder if he can bring us back together. I wonder if it’s too late.  
 There are multiple issues that go above uniting the country. Frankly, as I've said, that ship has sailed. It sailed in 2020 when he pretty much recycled Hillary Clinton's "basket of deplorable" moment. This administration is also gearing up for war with MAGA supporters—who are base Republicans now. You can't bash them and then wonder why there's no rush for unity.   
 Second, you can't unite the country with a Democratic Party base that's as insane as it is right now. Sorry, you can't. These are some of the most insane and repulsive people to ever inhabit planet Earth. They're ticks. They're locusts. They're more virulent than COVID. They have an agenda that only caters to the white wealthy and uber-progressive elite along the Acela Corridor and the Left Coast. It's a regional party. It's a snobby party. It's a party that has an agenda that hurts three-fourths of the country. The college debt bailout plan is just that—making working-class Americans with no higher education pay for the education of whiny, woke, white kids who are not getting paid huge salaries post-graduation.   
 Electric cars are also a luxury item that only rich, white liberals can afford.   
 On top of that, the left has forced moderate suburban parents to become culture warriors as their kids are being indoctrinated to become gay, trans, or whatever at school by weirdo teachers who think it's fine to come out to their students, detail graphic sexual escapades, and dole out puberty blockers in secret. Oh, and there's the Critical Race Theory shenanigans, which are fake history and academic fraud. The extra layer of nonsense is that the COVID lockdowns did nothing to curb mortality and only created a mental health crisis among our students and a years-long education gap that we'll probably never close. This was intentional. Biden couldn't make teachers' unions unhappy, and it doesn't help that the CDC pretty much colluded with these bad teachers to keep schools closed.   
 Democrats are just bad for America. There is nothing we can agree on—even sports have been infected with their anti-police nonsense. They are an annoying and insufferable bunch who are incapable of shutting the hell up. These people hate you for having a BBQ on the Fourth of July. Why? Well, it's bad for the environment. They want all of us to go vegan. Do they even know that such a diet is truly a first-world privilege? For the folks who use privilege to silence views they don't like, they sure have a lifestyle that can only be supported by those in an elite class.  
 There's nothing wrong with making money, but there must be some level of awareness that most Americans just can't buy electric cars, place solar panels on their homes, and stop eating meat. Most of the world's population would starve if it were up to the vegans. Maybe that's the point—as vegans are probably hardcore greenies and population control (i.e., killing lots of poor people in third world countries) is always their top item of discussion.   
 These folks can't take a joke. Who can call these people good neighbors? To hell with them, frankly.   
 Also, can someone tell Tom and his elitist friends that at this point, with the economy in freefall and a recession looming, the American people don't give a damn about Ukraine? American mothers can't find baby formula to feed their children. NATO was already strong under Trump. It's not like this is some great accomplishment. Biden has done more for Ukraine than for America. That's not how it should be, folks.   
 I was for arming the Ukrainians initially, but as with anything here – we're getting sucked into a vortex where the consequences range from Russia withdrawing to all-out nuclear war. Under this president who is half braindead, I don't trust that we'll get a good result in any scenario. The man has been wrong on foreign policy for 40 years. That's not disinformation; tht's a fact.  <https://townhall.com/columnists/mattvespa/2022/05/24/bidens-biggest-worry-for-the-country-is-completely-irrelevant-right-now-n2607671>

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| **THE SHORASHIM BIBLICAL GIFT CATALOG 005**  [**http://mad.ly/7f9f64?pact=20013931524&fe=1**](http://mad.ly/7f9f64?pact=20013931524&fe=1)  **Support Shorashim!** |

**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Bennett: Biden's decision to leave IRGC on terror list is correct and justified**

***Prime Minister comments on Biden administration's decision to keep Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps on US list of terrorist organizations.***

*Elad Benari 24.05.22 23:40* Prime Minister Naftali Bennett commented on Tuesday evening on [the US decision](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/328125) to keep the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) on the Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTO) list.  
 “I commend the US administration, led by my friend President Joe Biden, on the decision to keep the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in their rightful place — on the Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTO) list.”  
 “President Biden is a true friend of Israel who is committed to its strength and security.”  
 “Over the past few months we made our stance clear — the IRGC is the world’s largest terror organization, involved in planning and carrying out deadly acts of terror and destabilizing the Middle East.”  
 “This is the right, moral and correct decision by President Biden, who updated me on this decision during our last conversation. For this I thank him."  
 Bennett’s comments came after the *Politico* website reported that Biden had decided not to remove the IRGC from its list of terrorist organizations, refusing to concede to a key Iranian demand in the negotiations to revive the 2015 Iran nuclear deal.  
 According to several sources, Biden told Bennett of his decision during a phone call on April 24, and that decision is final.  
 In March, it was reported that the Biden administration [was considering removing terrorism sanctions](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/324094) from the IRGC as part of negotiations to restore the 2015 Iran nuclear deal.  
 Bennett and Foreign Minister Yair Lapid [later said](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/324210) they “refuse to believe” that the US would take such a step.  
 In April, the Pentagon's top general [said he was opposed](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/325469) to removing the elite Quds Force of Iran's Revolutionary Guards from the US terror group list.  
 "In my personal opinion, I believe the IRGC Quds Force to be a terrorist organization, and I do not support them being delisted from the foreign terrorist organization list," Joint Chiefs Chairman General Mark Milley told a congressional hearing. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/325469>

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**05/24/2023 NEWS**

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| **PLEASE NOTE: I am sorry for the abrupt termination of the news postings. My brother was having health issues and we needed to be there for him. He is doing pretty well now. Thank you for your patience. - RDB** |

**SHOCKING DISCOVERY UNDER THE DOME OF THE ROCK!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkBRb1Aef8U>

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| Long but excellent explanation of the temple position and the dome of the rock. rdb |  |

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| "The liberty of the press is not confined to newspapers and periodicals. It necessarily embraces pamphlets and leaflets.  These indeed have been historic weapons in the defense of liberty, as the pamphlets of Thomas Paine and others in our history abundantly attest." -- Justice Charles Evans Hughes (1862-1948) Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court |

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

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

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| **Please**  **Remember**  **These**  **Folks**  **In**  **Prayer-**  **Check often**  **They**  **Change!** | **Pray that the world would WAKE UP! Time for a worldwide repentance!**  **ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world**  **Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.**  **Pray for BB – Severe sciatic Had surgery and doing well**  **Pray for EL – Had stoke – Now having coronary angiogram**  **Pray for KH – diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus **18:17And Moses' father-in-law said unto him: 'The thing that thou doest is not good. 18Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee; for the thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone. 19Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God be with thee: be thou for the people before God, and bring thou the causes unto God.**

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| **News very short today. Spent day in garden and at a family event. Didn’t get to this until very late. – rdb]** |

**Gaza sources: terror groups preparing for attack on Israel next week**

**Palestinian enclave's terrorist groups brace for next week's controversial flag march, as all regional actors on high alert; 'We will confront and never allow harm to Al Aqsa,' Hamas official says**

TPS | Published: 05.23.22, 22:25

Sources in Gaza warned Israel the Palestinian enclave's terrorist groups are preparing for possible confrontations, including the launching of rocket fire, if Israel's nationalist flag parade goes through next Sunday.

“Hamas’ military wing is on high alert and ready to carry out the leadership’s orders for a possible confrontation with Israel if the flag parade, expected on the 29th of the month [Sunday], moves very close to the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Western Wall plaza,” a source in the Gaza Strip said on Monday.

The source said that the military wing is now on high alert, recruiting militants, checking communication systems, and preparing outposts. He emphasized that “this is not an idle threat.”

According to the source, the threats voiced on Sunday by Ismail Haniyeh, head of the Hamas Politburo, to the “The Sword of Jerusalem – Unity of the Uma and People” conference in the Gaza Strip, made clear beyond doubt that rocket fire on Israel should be the response to Israel's traditional flag parade on Jerusalem Day.

Haniyeh stressed that the “resistance” would confront the Israeli flag march and would respond by all means, and called on its people to be prepared.

“We are following the threats to storm the Al-Aqsa Mosque on May 29 and organize a march of flags, which were torn by the rockets of the resistance a year ago.” MORE - <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/syjdsztv5>

**US said brokering talks to transfer islands from Egypt to Saudi with Israeli backing**

***Israel’s approval needed since Egypt agreed in 1979 peace treaty to demilitarize Tiran and Sanafir; Jerusalem asking Riyadh to take steps toward normalization in exchange***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 5:48 am*

The Biden administration is reportedly brokering talks aimed at finalizing the transfer of two Red Sea islands from Egypt to Saudi Arabia in an agreement Israel hopes will include steps by Riyadh toward normalizing ties with the Jewish state.

In 2017, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi ratified a treaty to hand over Tiran and Sanafir to Saudi Arabia. The deal withstood protests and legal challenges in Egypt but was never finalized.

The two Red Sea islands figure prominently in the Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement signed in 1979, which promises safe passage to Israeli civilian and military ships through the narrow waterways of the Straits of Tiran.

As part of the 1979 peace deal, Egypt agreed to demilitarize multinational observers led by the United States. and allow the presence of a force of multinational observers led by the US to patrol the islands. Their transfer to Saudi Arabia, therefore, requires a degree of Israeli buy-in in order to move forward.

The island transfer, first announced in April 2016, had fueled rare protests in Egypt with opponents of Sissi accusing him of having traded the islands for Saudi largesse. The government said the islands were Saudi to begin with but were leased to Egypt in the 1950s.

The Straits of Tiran are Israel’s only water passage from Eilat to the open sea, allowing for shipping to and from Africa and Asia without requiring passage through the Suez Canal, as well as passage to and from the Suez Canal. Israel Navy ships use the waterway to reach open seas, where they carry out naval exercises that are not possible in the narrow confines of the Gulf of Aqaba. The Egyptian blockade of the waterway to Israeli shipping in 1967 was a key casus belli for Israel that led to the onset of the Six-Day War. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-said-brokering-talks-to-transfer-islands-from-egypt-to-saudi-with-israeli-backing/>

**Knesset passes veterans scholarships law after Likud agrees to Gantz’s compromise**

**Defense minister alters bill at last-minute so that it covers 75% of ex-combat soldiers’ tuition costs instead of originally proposed 67%, leading Likud to drop its opposition**

By [TOI staff](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) Today, 3:51 am

The Knesset passed legislation granting tuition scholarships to IDF veterans early Tuesday after the Likud party agreed to a last-minute compromise proposal from Defense Minister Benny Gantz and withdrew its opposition to the bill.

The coalition legislation originally sought to cover two-thirds of combat veterans’ tuition, though Likud refused to offer its support, first insisting that it didn’t want to give the coalition a parliamentary victory and then clarifying that it would only do so if the bill was amended to cover 100 percent of former soldiers’ college costs.

Two-thirds, however, has been the funding rate since the scholarship program began in 2016. Coalition sources said it intentionally leaves space for student self-funding, in order to create a sense of obligation for recipients to finish school.

Coalition leaders decided to move forward with the vote on Monday evening, daring the opposition parties to vote against such a popular bill. As the vote neared though, the 60-MK coalition appeared not to have enough votes to get it through, given reported refusal from the Islamist Ra’am faction along with rebel MKs Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi (Meretz) and Idit Silman (Yamina) to back the measure. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/veterans-scholarships-bill-passes-after-likud-agrees-to-gantzs-compromise/>

**Authorities seek to tamp down tensions amid backlash over Temple Mount prayer ruling**

**After Hamas threats and international criticism, Judicial Authority says Sunday’s controversial decision in favor of Jews who prayed at holy site will not change status quo**

By [Tobias Siegal](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/tobias-siegal/) 23 May 2022, 6:59 pm

In an unusual message to the media, Israel’s Judicial Authority stressed on Monday that a controversial ruling the day before by a Jerusalem Magistrate’s Court juvenile judge did not indicate a change in policy at the flashpoint Temple Mount holy site.

The authority said Sunday’s contentious ruling in favor of Jews who prayed at the holy site “does not intervene” in police enforcement of the delicate status quo.

Judge Zion Saharay had ruled Sunday in favor of three Jewish teenagers who appealed a decision by the Israel Police to bar them from visiting the Temple Mount in Jerusalem for a period of time after they were detained for reciting a prayer on the compound.

By praying at the site, the teenagers violated a longstanding but informal arrangement known as the status quo, which dictates that Jews are allowed to visit the site but not pray there. The Temple Mount is the holiest site for Jews and the compound’s Al-Aqsa Mosque is the third-holiest for Muslims.

[In his Sunday ruling](https://www.timesofisrael.com/judge-rules-against-temple-mount-ban-for-jewish-youth-caught-praying-there/), Saharay said he did not consider bowing down and reciting a prayer sufficient cause to curtail freedom of religion for fear it would cause a disturbance at the site. The ruling was nearly unprecedented and [sparked condemnation](https://www.timesofisrael.com/jordan-court-support-for-jewish-prayer-at-temple-mount-breaches-international-law/) from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and the Hamas terror group. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/authorities-seek-to-tamp-down-tensions-amid-backlash-over-temple-mount-prayer-ruling/>

**Turkey’s foreign minister to arrive in Israel Tuesday for 2-day visit**

**In latest sign of thawing ties, Mevlut Cavusoglu will meet with Lapid, plans to visit Temple Mount without Israeli officials**

By [Lazar Berman](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/lazar-berman/) 23 May 2022, 10:16 pm

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu will visit Israel on Tuesday and Wednesday, Israel’s Foreign Ministry announced Monday evening.

Cavusoglu is slated to land in Israel on Tuesday morning, and will visit Palestinian Authority Mahmoud Abbas in Ramallah later that day.

On Wednesday, Cavusoglu is scheduled to meet with Foreign Minister Yair Lapid. The two diplomats will give public statements together shortly before noon.

Cavusoglu will have lunch with Tourism Minister Yoel Razvozov, and then will head to Jerusalem’s Old City for a private tour and a visit to the Temple Mount.

Cavusoglu plans to go to the Temple Mount compound without any Israelis accompanying him, the Kan public broadcaster said, citing “an official familiar with the details.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/turkeys-foreign-minister-to-arrive-in-israel-tuesday-for-2-day-visit/>

**Battling inflation, Bank of Israel hikes interest rate for the 2nd time in 2 months**

**Increasing rate by 0.4% to 0.75%, central bank cites strong economic growth, tight labor market and rising inflation**

By [TOI staff](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) 23 May 2022, 7:56 pm

The Bank of Israel raised its benchmark interest rate on Monday by 0.4 percentage points, from 0.35% to 0.75%, in the second rate hike in two months as it seeks to tamp down inflation.

[Last month](https://www.timesofisrael.com/bank-of-israel-raises-interest-rate-for-first-time-since-2018-to-limit-inflation/), the central bank raised the key rate from 0.1% to 0.35% after keeping it at an all-time low during the pandemic. April’s rate increase was the first time the central bank raised the interest rate since November 2018, after reducing it due to COVID-19’s damage to the economy.

The increases come as the Bank of Israel works to limit rising inflation and housing prices in Israel.

In February, the central bank [indicated](https://www.timesofisrael.com/bank-of-israel-signals-upcoming-interest-rate-hike-citing-strong-economy/) that it would start gradually increasing the interest rate, citing at the time strong economic performance alongside the pandemic, and indications pointing to “continued strong activity.”

[In its announcement](https://www.boi.org.il/en/NewsAndPublications/PressReleases/Pages/23-05-22.aspx) Monday, the central bank said, “Economic activity in Israel is continuing at a high level.” MORE -

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/battling-inflation-bank-of-israel-hikes-interest-rate-for-the-2nd-time-in-2-months/>

**Israel to extend visas of Ukrainian refugees, allow them to work**

**Decision applies to Ukrainians who came after the Russian invasion; those who were in Israel illegally before won’t be allowed to work; Shaked to reexamine issue in 30 days**

By [TOI staff](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) 23 May 2022, 6:13 pm

The Interior Ministry announced Monday that it will automatically extend the tourist visas of Ukrainian citizens currently in Israel through June 30 and allow them to work.

Since the beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 24, more than 28,000 Ukrainians have entered Israel, including Jews, joining thousands who were already in the country when war broke out.

Jewish Ukrainians can apply for citizenship under Israel’s law of return. The Interior Ministry’s Monday decision will affect around 15,000 refugees, Haaretz reported.

The Ukrainian refugees who did not qualify for citizenship were granted a three-month entry visa, which for the earliest arrivals will soon be expiring. According to the Interior Ministry announcement, the visas will be automatically extended without the need for the Ukrainian refugees to visit any government office.

Ukrainians who entered Israel after February 24, when Russia invaded, and began working illegally will not be prosecuted. No action will be taken against their employers either, the ministry said.

Ukrainian nationals who were in Israel illegally when the war broke out will not be deported but won’t be allowed to work.

Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked will revisit the issue within 30 days and make another decision on the status of Ukrainians who arrived in Israel both before and after the Russian invasion. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-to-extend-visas-of-ukrainian-refugees-allow-them-to-work-in-country/>

**Ben-Gurion University students hold flag-waving pro-Palestinian rally, drawing furor**

**Beersheba mayor calls the gathering a ‘disgrace’; college defends permitting event in the name of diversity**

By [Emanuel Fabian](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) and [TOI staff](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) 23 May 2022, 5:03 pm

Students at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in the southern city of Beersheba held a pro-Palestinian rally on the campus Monday, waving Palestinian flags and singing nationalist songs after being prevented from holding a protest on Nakba Day, which laments the establishment of the State of Israel, last week.

Pro-Israel students set up a counter-demonstration opposite the rally and the two sides were kept separate by barriers, police and security personnel.

Non-students who arrived with Israeli flags were not granted entry, a measure the university explained as intended to keep the peace. Students were allowed to bring in Israeli flags.

Some of those in the pro-Palestinian group held up signs reading Peace. There were several Jewish students on the pro-Palestinian side, which was mostly made up of Arab Israeli students.

Ruvik Danilovich, the mayor of Beersheba, slammed the pro-Palestinian event, writing in a letter to university president Daniel Chamovitz that it was “a disgrace.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/ben-gurion-university-students-hold-pro-palestinian-rally-drawing-outrage/>

**U.S. Navy board takes major action on officer who refused COVID shot**

**'An obligation to stand against the unlawful order and be a voice for thousands'**

By [Bob Unruh](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) Published May 23, 2022 at 12:23pm

A board made up of the Navy's own officers has ruled against the military branch in a fight over a lieutenant who refused to take the experimental COVID shot, and had his career threatened as a result.

The decision was from a board of three Navy officers for Lt. Bill Moseley, and concluded Moseley did not commit misconduct by refusing the injection mandated by the military for the China virus.

"Although this [is] only one case of thousands and we have many more clients facing prosecution by the military," lawyer R. Davis Younts said in a statement, "we are encouraged that the truth was revealed in this board, and we hope this ground-breaking case sends a strong message to the Department of Defense."

The lawyer released a statement after the board last week found for his client. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/u-s-navy-board-takes-major-action-officer-refused-covid-shot/>

**Commentary:**

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**05/23/2023 NEWS**

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| **PLEASE NOTE: I am sorry for the abrupt termination of the news postings. My brother was having health issues and we needed to be there for him. He is doing pretty well now. Thank you for your patience. - RDB** |

**Lost Treasures Of Jerusalem - The Story of Explorer Montagu Parker**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXr9vG6mErQ>

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| "The dominant purpose of the First Amendment was to prohibit the widespread practice of government suppression of embarrassing information." -- Justice William O. Douglas (1898-1980), U. S. Supreme Court Justice |

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

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| **Please**  **Remember**  **These**  **Folks**  **In**  **Prayer-**  **Check often**  **They**  **Change!** | **Pray that the world would WAKE UP! Time for a worldwide repentance!**  **ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world**  **Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.**  **Pray for BB – Severe sciatic Had surgery and doing well**  **Pray for EL – Had stoke – Now having coronary angiogram**  **Pray for KH – diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus **18:14And when Moses' father-in-law saw all that he did to the people, he said: 'What is this thing that thou doest to the people? why sittest thou thyself alone, and all the people stand about thee from morning unto even?' 15And Moses said unto his father-in-law: 'Because the people come unto me to inquire of God; 16when they have a matter, it cometh unto me; and I judge between a man and his neighbour, and I make them know the statutes of God, and His laws.'**

**Judge rules against Temple Mount ban for Jewish youth caught praying there**

***PM’s office insists no change to status quo after Jerusalem Magistrate’s Court cites statement by police chief ensuring freedom of religion for ‘all residents of the country’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:17 pmUpdated at 10:57 pm* In a near-unprecedented decision, the Jerusalem Magistrate’s Court ruled Monday in favor of several Jewish teenagers who were temporarily barred from the Temple Mount compound in Jerusalem after they bowed down and recited the “Shema Yisrael” prayer at the flashpoint site.  
 By praying at the site, the teenagers violated a longstanding but informal arrangement known as the status quo, which dictates that Jews are allowed to visit the site but not pray there.  
 The agreement has frayed in recent years, as groups of Jews, including hardline religious nationalists, have regularly visited and prayed at the site. The Israeli government, nonetheless, says it is committed to maintaining the status quo, despite reports indicating that it turns a blind eye to Jews seeking to pray at the site.  
 Previous court rulings or [statements by politicians](https://www.timesofisrael.com/police-okay-temple-mount-visit-by-far-right-lawmaker-ben-gvir/) that threatened to violate the status quo at the site have often led to clashes with Palestinians and international condemnation, including from regional actors Jordan and Turkey. A visit to the flashpoint site by then-minister Ariel Sharon in 2000 was the catalyst to the Second Intifada. Last year, perceived changes to the status quo were among the main causes of an 11-day war in Gaza.  
 Next week, [a nationalist “flag march,”](https://www.timesofisrael.com/year-after-it-drew-hamas-rockets-israel-oks-jlem-day-flag-march-via-damascus-gate/) approved to pass through Jerusalem’s Muslim Quarter, is threatening to rekindle tensions in and around the Temple Mount, following a tense month that saw near-daily clashes at the site.  
 Responding to the ruling, the Prime Minister’s Office issued an unusual statement clarifying that no changes were planned in the status quo on the Temple Mount.  
 “There is no change, nor is any change planned, on the status quo of the Temple Mount,” the statement said. “The Magistrate Court’s decision is focused exclusively on the matter of conduct of the minors brought before it, and does not include a broader determination regarding the freedom of worship on the Temple Mount. With regard to the specific criminal case in question, the government was informed that the state will file an appeal to the District Court.”  
 In his Sunday ruling, Judge Zion Saharay said that he did not consider bowing down and reciting a prayer sufficient cause to curtail freedom of religion for fear it will cause a disturbance at the site.

Saharay also cited Police Chief Kobi Shabtai in comments from last May that officers would ensure freedom of religion for “all residents of the country and the territories” at the flashpoint holy site.  
 “A public statement made by the head of police that clearly suggests that all residents of the country are allowed to enter the Temple Mount and pray there is an invitation for anyone interested in doing so to come,” Saharay wrote.

A person in uniform standing at a podium

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Police Chief Kobi Shabtai attends a ceremony honoring Israeli security forces, at the Knesset in Jerusalem, May 17, 2022. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

The judge noted that “under these circumstances… When the appellants conduct themselves in accordance with the public call of the police commissioner and according to the Law on the Protection of Holy Places, they cannot be suspected of committing a criminal offense.”

Saharay went further, criticizing the police for limiting the teenagers’ access to the site. “This constitutes a disproportionate infringement on their freedom of movement, which is a fundamental constitutional right,” the judge said. [Wonder of wonder and miracle of miracles. Kudo’s to this judge who apparently has a brain and an understanding of the covenant. – rdb]

The judge emphasized, however, that the decision solely relates to whether the suspects can be given a restraining order barring them from returning to the Temple Mount. It does not establish anything regarding the permissibility of Jewish prayer in general at the Temple Mount.

“This [decision] does not intervene with the police’s job in enforcing public order at the Temple Mount, nor does it determine anything regarding freedom of worship at the Temple Mount. These matters are not discussed in the decision at all,” Saharay wrote.

The ruling was reached after the teenagers involved appealed a previous decision by the Jerusalem Magistrate’s Court.

Attorney Nati Rom, who filed the petition on their behalf, thanked Saharay and said it was time for the police to stop targeting law-abiding citizens.  
 “It’s about time that the Israel Police began enforcing the law… and defending the residents of Jerusalem, rather than dealing with esoteric issues, while violating the freedom of religion of Jews at the Temple Mount,” he said.  
 According to a report by Channel 12, police officials were shocked to learn of Saharay’s ruling, claiming it may have dangerous repercussions and accusing the judge of distorting Shabtai’s comments.  
 “The court ruling is based on statements made by the police commissioner, when in practice, he wasn’t talking about the Temple Mount,” an unnamed police official was quoted as saying.  
 “When the commissioner speaks about freedom of worship, he does not refer to the Temple Mount, where the status quo determined by government policy and High Court rulings over the years is maintained,” the police official added. “This is a case of a distorted interpretation of his remarks.”  
 The report said the prosecution would appeal Saharay’s ruling.  
 A [court decision](https://www.timesofisrael.com/judges-approval-of-jewish-mans-quiet-prayer-on-temple-mount-stirs-arab-anger/) from October last year in favor of a Jewish man who prayed quietly at the Temple Mount threatened to violate the fragile status quo governing the site by drawing sharp criticism from Muslim authorities in the country.  
 The ruling concerned Aryeh Lippo, a Jewish man who had been barred from the site for 15 days, after police caught him quietly praying there.  
 The decision was quickly overturned by the Jerusalem District Court, however, with Public Security Minister Omer Barlev warning that such a ruling could rekindle violence.  
 The Temple Mount, known to Muslims as the Haram al-Sharif, is the holiest site for Jews and site of the third holiest shrine in Islam. It is the emotional epicenter of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and tensions there helped ignite the 11-day Gaza war in May. [Sooner or later the land of Israel is going to have to stop being bullied by the Islamic group and actually acknowledge and live by the covenantal rights that The Holy One bestowed on them. Denying this right is not any different than when the 12 spies wouldn’t go intothe land. Rdb]

A group of people running

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Palestinian clash with Israeli police at the Temple Mount compound in Jerusalem’s Old City on April 22, 2022. (Ahmad Gharabli/AFP)

A report by Channel 12 from last July suggested that despite the repeated tensions at the site and the status quo, Israel has been allowing limited cases of Jewish prayers at the site, with police turning a blind eye, an accusation that the police officially denied.

During last month’s convergence of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan and the Jewish holiday of Passover, the site saw nearly daily clashes between Israeli security forces and Palestinian rioters.

The heightened tensions in the capital [drew a harsh response from Jordan](https://www.timesofisrael.com/jordan-praises-palestinian-temple-mount-rioters-summons-israeli-envoy-for-rebuke/), whose prime minister used unusually hostile language to condemn “Zionist sympathizers,” and what he called Israel’s “occupation government.” Jordanian King Abdullah slammed the Jewish state for allowing Jewish pilgrims to enter the site and called on the Israeli government to respect “the historical and legal status quo” there.

Jordan has long maintained that its treaties with Israel grant it custodianship over Jerusalem’s Christian and Muslim holy sites; while Israel has never accepted this claim, it grants day-to-day administration of the Temple Mount to the Jordan-funded Waqf. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/judge-rules-against-temple-mount-ban-for-jewish-youth-caught-praying-there/>

**‘Jewish, Talmudic rubbish’: Hamas vows to use ‘all capabilities’ against Flag March**

***Last year, terror group fired rockets at Israel during religious-nationalist event celebrating Jerusalem Day; current parade route through Muslim Quarter still pending cabinet OK***

*By* [*Aaron Boxerman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/aaron-boxerman/) *Today, 3:05 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/000_9C9237-e1623773964142.jpg)

Nationalist Israel Jews wave Israeli flags as they march outside the Damascus Gate to Jerusalem's Old City, on June 15, 2021. (Ahmad Gharabli/AFP)

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh warned Israel in a Sunday speech against allowing right-wing Israelis to conduct the annual Jerusalem Day “Flag March” in Jerusalem’s Old City next week, a year after Hamas fired rockets at Jerusalem when the event was last held.

“I want to clearly warn the enemy against committing these crimes and these steps. The Palestinian people, led by the resistance — especially those in the West Bank and Jerusalem — will not permit this Jewish, Talmudic rubbish to go unanswered,” said Haniyeh, speaking by video in front of a crowd in Gaza. [Any time you do anything that these radical Islamic terrorists don’t like “you are committing a crime” even if you aren’t. they are in all things totally dictatorial and you absolutely must challenge them and back them into a wall or you will lose. You can never accede to their demands. They view it as weakness and a win for them and a loss for you and then they push for something more. – rdb]

“Our decision is clear and unhesitating… We will resist with all our capabilities and we will not permit the violation of the Al-Aqsa Mosque or thuggery in the streets of Jerusalem,” said Haniyeh.

Last week, Public Security Minister Omer Barlev announced that the march, scheduled for May 29, would be held the same way as in previous years. According to the Barlev-approved plan, marchers will walk along Jaffa Street to Damascus Gate, where access will be blocked for Palestinians. They will continue into the Old City through Hagai Street in the Muslim Quarter and finish at the Western Wall.

The plan still requires cabinet authorization. But Barlev’s announcement immediately sparked controversy in the coalition, with left-wing lawmakers attacking the decision, saying it risked sparking an escalation with Palestinian terror groups.

Jerusalem Day, which marks Israel’s conquest of the Old City and East Jerusalem from Jordan in the 1967 Six Day War, is celebrated by national-religious Jews, most prominently by youths who march through the capital while dancing with Israeli flags. Palestinians have long viewed the march as a provocation.

Last year’s march was held as tensions skyrocketed between Israel and the Palestinians in Jerusalem. Israeli police had clashed repeatedly with Palestinians on the flashpoint Temple Mount holy site during the final days of the Ramadan holy month, leaving hundreds injured. There was also tension surrounding potential evictions of Palestinians from East Jerusalem’s Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood.

Israeli authorities altered the route of the 2021 march an hour before it was set to be held following Hamas threats. Police fanned out across the Old City in an attempt to prevent Israeli marchers from reaching Damascus Gate.

But Hamas nonetheless fired rockets toward Jerusalem during the march. Sirens wailed through the capital as participants rushed for cover.

A group of people sitting on the grass

Description automatically generated with medium confidence The rocket fire sparked last year’s 11-day war between Israel and Gaza terror groups. Hamas has vowed not to allow Israel to repeat the yearly rally.

In his speech, Haniyeh noted with satisfaction that “this march was torn apart by Al-Qassam rockets one year ago” — a reference to the terror group’s military wing.

Israelis take cover as a siren sounds warning of incoming rockets from the Gaza Strip, during Jerusalem Day, in Jerusalem, May 10, 2021. (Flash90)

A masked spokesperson for a cluster of Gaza terror groups, including Hamas, followed up with comments after Haniyeh’s speech. Flanked by four armed gunmen, he similarly threatened Israel over the Flag March.

“Our people will absolutely not allow Israel to break the rules of engagement and to allow a return to provocations,” the spokesperson told the assembled crowd in Gaza.

This year’s march again comes amidst roiling tensions between Israel and the Palestinians. Since March 22, a wave of deadly terror attacks has struck Israeli cities, killing 19 — the bloodiest violence outside of war in years.

Israeli counter-raids in the West Bank left at least 30 Palestinians dead over the same period. Many were gunmen involved in firefights with Israeli soldiers or took part in violent clashes. Others were apparently uninvolved civilians, such as Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, who was killed in disputed circumstances two weeks ago in Jenin, sparking an international outcry.

The violence again overlapped with the Ramadan holy month. Palestinians and Israeli police clashed several times at the Temple Mount site, although the tensions did not escalate into widespread violence. Jews revere the hilltop as the holiest site in their religion, while Muslims claim it as Islam’s third-holiest shrine. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-threatens-israel-over-flag-march-says-all-capabilities-will-be-used/> [Get ready for more fireworks because win or lose these critters will continue to try to lay their claim to the land they don’t own and never really have held title to. It was Ottoman land before it became Israel when the Brits left the mandate. - rdb

**Slain Iranian officer said to have planned attacks against Israelis, Jews worldwide**

***Unsourced TV reports say Hassan Sayad Khodayari was behind recently uncovered attempt by Iranian operatives to kidnap Israelis, as well as alleged plot to kill Israelis in Cyprus***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 9:31 pmUpdated at 9:53 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/05/image-1-1.jpg)

Col. Hassan Sayad Khodayari. (screenshot)

A senior member of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps who was killed in Tehran on Sunday had planned kidnappings and other attempts to attack Israeli and Jewish targets worldwide, according to unsourced reports in Hebrew media.

Col. Hassan Sayad Khodayari [was shot five times](https://www.timesofisrael.com/senior-iran-revolutionary-guards-member-said-assassinated-in-tehran/) by two unidentified gunmen in his car in the middle of Tehran, earlier Sunday, according to Iranian state media.

Reports identified him as a “defender of the sanctuary,” a reference to Iranians who carry out Tehran’s operations in Syria and Iraq within the Guard’s elite Quds Force that oversees operations abroad.

Although the Guard gave only scant detail about the attack that occurred in broad daylight in the heart of Iran’s capital, the group blamed the killing on “global arrogance,” typically code for the United States and Israel.

An Iranian official quoted by Qatar-based Al-Jazeera warned that the assassination constitutes “a crossing of the red line,” and that those responsible “will pay a heavy price.”

That accusation, as well as the style of the brazen attack, raised the possibility of a link with other motorbike slayings previously attributed to Israel in Iran, such as those targeting the country’s nuclear scientists. If suspicions regarding Israeli involvement in the attack are true, it would pose a new level of action by the Jewish state against Iran, as Khodayari was not involved in any way in its nuclear program, according to the Kan public broadcaster.

A picture containing car, kitchen appliance, control panel

Description automatically generated

The body of a senior member of Iran’s Revolutionary Guard identified as Sayad Khodayari, who was assassinated in Tehran on May 22, 2022. (Twitter)

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack. Asked about the incident by Channel 12 news, Defense Minister Benny Gantz refused to comment.

Little information was publicly available about Khodayari, as Quds officers tend to be shadowy figures carrying out secretive military missions supporting Hezbollah, the Lebanese terror group, and other militias in Syria, Iraq and elsewhere.

But according to Channel 13 news, one of the operatives under Khodayari’s direction was [Mansour Rasouli](https://www.timesofisrael.com/mossad-agents-interrogated-irgc-member-in-iran-over-assassination-plot-reports/). In April, it was reported that Rasouli, said to be a member of the IRGC, admitted to Mossad agents, during an interrogation at his home in Iran, that he was sent to target an Israeli diplomat in Turkey, as well as an American general stationed in Germany, and a journalist in France.

A person sitting in a car

Description automatically generated with medium confidence Channel 12 reported that Khodayari was also behind an attempt — [recently uncovered by the Shin Bet](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-says-it-foiled-iranian-operation-to-lure-israelis-abroad-possibly-nab-them/) — by Iranian operatives to lure Israeli academics, businesspeople, and former defense officials abroad and possibly kidnap them.

That report also said he was behind [an alleged plot](https://www.timesofisrael.com/cyprus-charges-6-with-terror-for-alleged-plot-against-israelis/) to kill five Israelis in Cyprus.

Channel 12 also said that Khodayari had recently returned from Syria, where he served under former commander of the IRGC’s Quds Force and celebrated Iranian general Qassem Soleimani, who himself was killed in a US airstrike in Iraq in January 2020.

Mansour Rasouli, 52, an alleged IRGC member who was reportedly interrogated by Mossad agents in Iran. (Screenshot: Twitter; used in accordance with clause 27a of the Copyright Law)

An Iranian security source was quoted as saying he also played an “important” role in Iran’s military industry, “especially when it came to drones.”

The IRGC was designated a Foreign Terrorist Organization by then-US President Donald Trump’s administration, after it withdrew from the 2015 nuclear agreement officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

The elite military unit has been discussed extensively in recent months after Tehran demanded that the group be removed from a US terror blacklist as a condition for returning to compliance with the 2015 multilateral nuclear agreement.

Israel has urged the US to reject Tehran’s demand, saying the group is “a terrorist organization that has murdered thousands of people, including Americans.”

MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/slain-iranian-officer-said-to-have-planned-attacks-against-israelis-jews-worldwide/>

**Prospect of millions in funding for Arab towns ends 3-day coalition crisis**

***Meretz MK Rinawie Zoabi reverses move to quit after facing pressure from Arab leaders, who expect already-earmarked funds to be released***

*By* [*Carrie Keller-Lynn*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/carrie-keller-lynn/) *Today, 9:23 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/05/F220519OF32-e1653241237325.jpg)

Meretz MK Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi arrives for an interview at Channel 12's Neve Ilan studios, May 19, 2022. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

Just three days after resigning from the coalition in protest of its rightward shift and neglect of Arab issues, MK Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi returned to the political alliance Sunday, thanks to pressure from Arab society and in exchange for an apparent promise that the government will release funds earmarked for Arab towns.

Rinawie Zoabi surprised the coalition, including her own Meretz party’s leadership, with her Thursday departure, which dropped the coalition to a 59-seat minority standing in the 120-member Knesset.

Her return was speedily announced after a Sunday meeting with Foreign Minister Yair Lapid and several Arab municipal leaders. While Lapid and Rinawie Zoabi declined to detail agreements made, several mayors present at the meeting told The Times of Israel that they hope that the “hundreds of millions” of shekels in stuck funding will be released to Arab municipalities.

“There will be a vote in the Finance Ministry to disperse this money soon. We’re talking about hundreds of millions of shekels here that they need to transfer,” said Kafr Kanna mayor Izz al-Din Amarna.

Throughout the meeting with Lapid, the mayors demanded that the government accelerate the disbursement of the funds, he said.

The money, clarified Kfar Manda mayor Ali Khader Zidan, is not a new allocation but rather part of an already budgeted five-year plan to reduce inequality between Arab and Jewish towns.

Two people sitting on a couch

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Foreign Minister Yair Lapid meets with Meretz MK Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem on May 22, 2022. (Oz Avital)

“It’s not an issue of budgets that were agreed upon, it’s an issue of budgets that were promised in the coalition negotiations and haven’t arrived,” said Zidan. “So what needed to happen was to plan a system by which the money will arrive in the field.”

As part of coalition negotiations with the Islamist Ra’am party, significant budgets were obtained to address infrastructure, crime, and socioeconomic issues in Arab cities. However, much of the money has yet to appear in municipal coffers.

Several government ministries have roles in releasing the funds, and Amir Besharat, a senior adviser at the National Council for Arab Mayors, blamed offices controlled by the coalition’s rightward flank, such as the Interior Ministry, for gumming up the process.

Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked — a member of Prime Minister Naftali Bennett’s ruling right-wing Yamina party — has fought repeatedly with Ra’am over legislation and budgets for Arab communities.

“[Ra’am chief] Mansour Abbas may have successfully brought funding. But these government ministries have yet to change their racist policies toward the Palestinian minority in Israel,” Besharat said.

Zidan similarly called out “neglect” of Arab towns.

“There’s been neglect of Arab society as if it’s not part of [Israeli] society,” Zidan said, adding that Arab municipalities do “not [receive] equal money compared to what’s given to the Jews.”

Funding for Arab communities has become a politically charged topic on the right. Opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu, the former prime minister who heads the Likud party, has repeatedly attacked coalition leaders for appropriations made for Arab communities and issues.

“Bennett and Lapid are willing to do anything to survive in power and for this purpose they pay huge sums, from your money, the taxpayers, to the haters of Israel and the terror supporters upon which their government depends,” Netanyahu charged in a Sunday video statement released shortly after the Lapid-Zoabi meeting.

“They have already paid NIS 50 billion to Abbas, last week, they paid NIS 200 million to [Joint List MK Ahmed] Tibi for some road he demanded, and today, they paid hundreds of millions to Zoabi,” the Likud leader said, making the claim that Rinawie Zoabi obtained fresh funding.

The prime minister’s Yamina party, constantly under fire from its base and opposition parties for not being sufficiently right-wing, quickly responded that “no new funds were promised to MK Rinawie Zoabi.” Rather, Yamina confirmed that “what was discussed with her was opening barriers to existing appropriations from the five-year plan approved by the government within the existing budget.”

Despite their frustration with elements of the current government, many Arab leaders pushed on Rinawie Zoabi to maintain the coalition. Should it crumble, Netanyahu and ultra-rightwing allies might lead a right-religious government back to power, an alternative they prefer less.

“We asked for her not to leave the coalition. We told her that we are not interested in toppling this government. We pressured her and she went back on it,” said Amarna, who added that pressure by Arab mayors was key to keeping Rinawie Zoabi inside the coalition.

Shortly after the temporary defector’s departure announcement, a campaign mounted on Arabic-language social media to ask her to not break up the government, culminating in protesters outside of her Nof Hagalil home on Saturday night. Adding to the pressure, on Friday, Abbas met with Rinawie Zoabi to similarly encourage her to keep the government together.

Citing dissatisfaction with the coalition’s shift rightward and with the Israel Police’s behavior on the Temple Mount and during the recent funeral of journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, Rinawie Zoabi temporarily eased the way for the return of a solidly right-wing government by stripping the coalition of its parity.

In contrast to Yamina MK Idit Silman — who quit the coalition last month over complaints that it did not align with her Jewish and right-wing values — Rinawie Zoabi did not find a natural home in the right-religious-oriented opposition. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/prospect-of-millions-in-funding-for-arab-towns-ends-3-day-coalition-crisis/>

**Lapid in tears as cabinet discusses budget boost for people with disabilities**

***PM says proposed bill will enshrine rights and services in law ‘for the first time’; FM weeps as he shares daughter’s story***

*By* [*Tobias Siegal*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/tobias-siegal/) *Today, 7:10 pm*

Foreign Minister Yair Lapid broke out in tears Sunday during a cabinet discussion of a bill aimed at approving the allocation of NIS 2 billion ($595 million) for people with disabilities.

The government convened Sunday for its weekly cabinet meeting, with the bill, proposed by Lapid along with Welfare and Social Services Minister Meir Cohen, high on the agenda.

Opening the meeting, Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said the government was taking “another historic step toward integrating people with disabilities” into society.  
 “We are allocating approximately NIS 2 billion,” the premier said, “for a range of new services,” that will include social workers’ assistance, guidance in running a household, stenography  and translation into sign language, and more services that have been lacking or not sufficiently addressed in the past.  
 Bennett said that the bill officially enshrines the rights of people with disabilities by law “for the first time,” noting that its implementation will “provide opportunities” and “dramatically change” the daily lives of people with disabilities, as well as the lives of their families.  
 During the debate, the foreign minister shared with the panel of ministers his personal connection to the matter, being a father to a child on the spectrum — Yael — and noting some of the hardships and blessings involved in raising a child with  autism, citing specifically noting “the physical and emotional pain felt by parents, the fact that Yael can’t speak and tell her parents she loves them.”  
 “This is the most important thing you’ll ever do,” the emotional minister said to his fellow ministers of the legislation.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/05/Cabinet-meeting-e1653230622209.jpg)

From left to right: Welfare Minister Meir Cohen, Finance Minister Avigdor Liberman, Foreign Minister Yair Lapid and Prime Minister Naftali Bennett during a weekly cabinet meeting, May 22, 2022. (GPO/Haim Zach)

Stressing the importance of making an effort to integrate people with disabilities into society, Bennett said Sunday that the government recently approved an “important amendment” that will provide “100 new accessible intercity buses for people with disabilities so that they will be able to go to work, to their families and to school.

“This has not been possible until today,” he claimed, noting the hard work of Transportation Minister Merav Michaeli and Yamina MK Shirly Pinto that created opportunities “that did not exist until today.”

Lapid has been vocal about the importance of accepting people with disabilities. In a Facebook post from 2018, he shared an incident with his daughter that involved driving twice to a nearby convenience store because he failed to understand what she was asking the first time.

“I just wanted to thank everybody who happened to be at the Alonit [convenience store] near Netanya this morning and say that if there’s a country I would prefer raising a child with special needs in, it’s Israel. Not because of the conditions — God knows we have a lot to do in that regard — but because of the Israelis,” Lapid wrote at the time.

And in 2019, after Likud MK David Amsalem suggested that now-Defense Minister Benny Gantz might be “autistic,” Lapid posted withering criticism on Facebook, telling Amsalem, “Don’t mess with me.”

“To him, being my daughter is a curse,” Lapid wrote at the time, “because in Amsalem’s world everything comes at the expense of the weak.

“Benny Gantz isn’t autistic, Mr. Amsalem,” he went on. “You don’t have to stop the car on the side of the road when he has a wild tantrum and bites his mother. He doesn’t take food from the tables of other diners in a restaurant. He doesn’t need to be fully sedated to get dental work. His parents don’t stay up nights worrying about who will care for him when they’re older.

“I’m a politician. I’m supposed to be polite. Not this time. Don’t mess with me, Dudi. Speak nicely about my daughter,” Lapid said.

According to data published by the Justice Ministry’s Commission for Equal Rights of Persons with Disabilities in December 2021, Israel is home to some 1.6 million people experiencing some form of physical or mental disability, including 326,000 children — some 17 percent of the population. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/lapid-in-tears-as-cabinet-discusses-budget-boost-for-people-with-disabilities/>

**Fatah leader in Jenin to ‘Post’: We’re headed toward major escalation**

***An IDF operation took place in Jenin over the weekend during which 17-year-old Amjad al-Fayed was fatally shot.***

*By* [*KHALED ABU TOAMEH*](https://www.jpost.com/author/khaled-abu-toameh) *Published: MAY 22, 2022 16:16 Updated: MAY 22, 2022 18:33*



Fatah leader in Jenin Shami al-Shami(photo credit: AHMAD JALAL)

The current tensions in the Jenin area could lead to further escalation between Palestinians and Israel, Shami al-Shami, a senior official with the ruling Fatah faction, warned on Sunday.  
 Shami, a resident of the city of Jenin, told The Jerusalem Post that if there is no change in the near future, “The situation will escalate and we will see more killings and destruction.”  
 Shami, a former member of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC), the parliament that has been inoperative since the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, is considered a popular leader of Fatah in the Jenin area. He also has close relations with the various armed groups, especially those based in the Jenin refugee camp.  
 Shami spoke to the Post shortly after the IDF carried out another raid on the Jenin Refugee Camp early Saturday, d[uring which 17-year-old Amjad al-Fayed was fatally shot](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-707291). Shami said he and other Palestinians did not rule out the possibility that the IDF would launch another major operation in the Jenin refugee camp, similar to the one that took place during Operation Defensive Shield in 2002.  
 Such an operation, he cautioned, would lead to more death and destruction on both sides.  
 “It seems that the Israeli army has a plan to drain out the fighters in the Jenin camp through continuous incursions,” he said. “We expect the army to lay siege to Jenin and the refugee camp, but only after completely wearing out the resistance fighters.”  
 The gunmen in the camp, he said, belong to “national and Islamic factions, and most of them are very young people.”  
 Asked whether the armed wing of Fatah, al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, was involved in the fighting against the IDF, he said, “The position of Fatah is that it’s a duty to resist the occupation. Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades are part of the struggle; they have lost some of their members, while others have been imprisoned [by Israel].”  
 He said that he has no doubt that the Jenin area is headed towards further escalation, “whether by the army or the resistance fighters.”  
 In order to restore the calm, the [Fatah](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-707305) official added, the Israeli government must stop the military incursions into Jenin and the refugee camp, hand over the bodies of Palestinians killed by the IDF or while carrying out terrorist attacks in Israel, and achieve progress in the political process with the Palestinians.  
 Shami rejected the widespread belief that the Jenin area has once again become a hotbed for terrorism.  
 “We are not terrorists,” he argued. “Resistance is a legitimate right guaranteed by international conventions. Those who are carrying out killings and demolitions are the terrorists. For every action, there is an opposite reaction.”  
 Shami said that despite the tensions, his message to the Israeli government is that it needs to work toward achieving progress in the peace negotiations with the Palestinian Authority and “break the current stalemate.”  
 “The tensions and absence of peace talks don’t serve the interests of both Israelis and Palestinians,” he stressed. “Everyone wants to live in peace and security.” <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-707376> [A terrorist is a terrorist whether he is 15 or 55. Not all Islamics are as radical as the ones encountered here but there are a huge number of them whose primary goal in life is to kill a JEW. – rdb]

**Tehran and Muscat seek to revive Iranian-Omani gas pipeline project**

***President Ebrahim Raisi will arrive in Muscat on Monday in the first visit to Oman by an Iranian head of state since 2020.***

*By DEBBIE MOHNBLATT/THE MEDIA LINE Published: MAY 22, 2022 22:22*

President Ebrahim Raisi will arrive in Muscat on Monday in the first visit to Oman by an Iranian head of state since Haitham bin Tariq Al Said became sultan in January 2020.

“In reiteration of the good neighborliness and advanced relations binding the Sultanate of Oman and the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi will pay a visit to Oman this Monday, May 23,” the Omani Royal Court said in a statement.

The two countries’ oil ministers have agreed to renew their long-stalled [gas pipeline](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-707266) project, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported on Saturday. The underwater pipeline is planned to transport natural gas from Iran to Oman.

IRNA referred to the renewal of the project as a major diplomatic success for Raisi who has invested great efforts in boosting the Islamic Republic’s relations with neighboring countries.  
 The Iranian-Omani Gas Pipeline project originated in a memorandum of understanding signed by the two countries’ oil ministers in 2013. It was valued at $60 billion over 25 years as Iran was set to supply Oman with natural gas. Progress cooled off but the effort was renewed in 2016. However, the project was halted due to US pressure on Oman to find a different gas supplier before Washington withdrew from the Iran nuclear deal in 2018.  
 Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi speaks in Tehran on the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, in February. Built into the DNA of the Iranian Revolution from its start in 1979, is the aim of destroying Israel. (credit: PRESIDENT WEBSITE/WANA (WEST ASIA NEWS AGENCY)/HANDOUT VIA REUTERS)  
 Seyyed Javad Mousavi Zare, a geopolitical expert and a guest researcher at the Center for Strategic Studies in Tehran, said in an interview with The Media Line that this comes as part of the Iranian president’s strategy.  
 “Part of the approach of Mr. Raisi's government in strengthening [Iran’](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-707342)s economic diplomacy is focused on energy,” said Mousavi Zare.  
 On the other hand, he added, “the imposition of sanctions, the uncertain outcome regarding the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action [JCPOA, the Iran nuclear deal], and also the failure of Iran in attracting foreign investors, especially Pakistan [regarding the export of Iranian gas to the neighboring country], and India [in Iran’s Chabahar port] has caused the project to transport Iranian gas to Oman to be pursued more seriously.”  
 Oman also has good reasons to pursue this project despite the challenges and geopolitical complications.  
 Dr. Thomas O’Donnell, a senior global energy markets and geopolitical analyst working in Berlin, told The Media Line that Oman needs natural gas for its domestic market and this promises to be much cheaper than importing liquefied natural gas by ship.  
 However, O’Donnell continued, “Oman could also become an important transit point for further supply of Iran’s abundant natural gas to India and to other GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] states. This is of course very appealing to Oman.”  
 Oman is also motivated to secure a supply of gas from its neighbor by the high international demand for oil and gas caused by the sanctions on Russia, he added.  
 “Iran has one of the world’s greatest untapped gas-production potentials. It is logical for Oman to be poised to take advantage of this if it becomes possible,” O’Donnell said.  
 Emmanuel Dupuy, president of the Paris-based Institute for European Perspective and Security (IPSE), said the timing of the renewed efforts on the project was significant.  
 This project is of urgent necessity as the situation in Ukraine is affecting the Gulf producers of oil, he said. “The pressure is on them to deliver more oil and gas to Western countries, and at the same time that Russia has asked its counterparts and partners to be less cooperative with Western countries,” Dupuy continued.  
 However, the project could face many complications.  
 Concerning the timing, O’Donnell argued the uncertainty of the renewal of the JCPOA is also a factor, and he believes that the success of the pipeline project is tied to the success of the nuclear talks in Vienna.  
 Its chances of success are likely strongly tied to the signing of a new nuclear deal, he said. “If that deal fails, the US can be expected to reinvigorate the isolation of Iran from oil and gas markets. Oman would come under significant pressure to again freeze the project.”  
 Mousavi Zare added a few more scenarios that could halt the construction of the pipeline.  
 First, Donald Trump might win re-election in November 2024, he said.  
 Then there is the Israeli diplomacy and consultations with Omani counterparts in an effort to delay the project and continued pressure from the Saudi royal family to halt the project to curtail the expansion of Iranian influence.  
 Mousavi Zare added that a lack of technology to construct such a sophisticated pipeline is also a factor.  
 “Part of the project would take place in the deep parts of the Persian Gulf; Iran may be deprived of the latest global technologies needed to complete it due to the imposition of sanctions,” he said.  
 The current state of the initiative is not very promising, Mousavi Zare added. “The progress of this project has been very slow so far.”  
 The water in a large part of the project route is between 500 and 1,000 meters (1,600 and 3,300 feet) deep, and neither party has the technology to build pipelines in deep water, he explained.

“A large part of the seabed route between Iran and Oman has not even been studied, and in order to shorten the pipeline route and prevent it from entering deep waters, it needs to pass through the UAE’s territorial waters. This, of course, has been hindered by the UAE so far,” Mousavi Zare said. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-707412>

**Root cause of Ukraine conflict named by ex-German SPD leader**

***The former head of the ruling Social Democrats, Oskar Lafontaine, has blamed the conflict in Ukraine on NATO’s refusal to listen to Moscow***

*22 May, 2022 11:47*

A veteran top German politician has said the West’s refusal to listen to Moscow’s concerns is one of the main causes of the current conflict in Ukraine. Oskar Lafontaine, who from 1995 until 1999 served as chair of the Social Democrats, accused the West of ignoring Russia’s security interests for years.

In an interview with left-wing newspaper Junge Welt published on Saturday, Lafontaine argued that “for a long time, we have been in a situation where Russia and China have been militarily encircled by the US.” The former SPD leader said Moscow had made it clear to NATO for 20 years that Ukraine should not become part of the military alliance – a scenario, which, according to Lafontaine, would mean US missiles deployed on the Ukraine-Russia border.

“*These security interests were consistently ignored,*” the politician said. And this was “*one of the key reasons for the outbreak of the Ukraine war.*”

Speaking of Ukraine’s NATO aspirations, the former SPD chair dismissed the argument that every country is free to decide what alliance to join.

“*Everyone knows that the US would never accept Cuba’s accession to a military alliance with Russia, nor the deployment of Russian missiles on the US border with Mexico or Canada,*” Lafontaine argued.

According to the German politician, Russia’s key concern in Ukraine is not NATO accession per se, but the prospect of missiles appearing on the border with minimal warning time.

Lafontaine broke down the Ukraine crisis into three key phases: firstly, NATO’s relentless eastern expansion, despite warnings from within the US that the strategy risked a conflict with Russia; secondly, President Putin’s “decision to invade Ukraine”; and thirdly, Joe Biden’s “war of attrition*.*”

The politician said America’s $40 billion dollar aid package for Ukraine, consisting mostly of weapons, is further “proof that the US does not want p*eace.*”

“They want to weaken their rival Russia and say so quite openly,” he added.

Lafontaine, however, clarified that he condemns the war, “*just like I condemn without any qualification all other wars that violate international law.*”

The politician argued that further arms to Ukraine will prolong the war, meaning “yet more people will die*.*” He accused politicians in the West of thinking purely in the categories of ‘victory’ and ‘defeat,’ while ignoring the “*most important*” aspect, which is saving people’s lives.  
 According to Lafontaine, “*those, who do not want more people to die, must be against any prolongation of the war, and consequently also against any weapons delivery.*”  
 He criticized the argument that by providing military support to Kiev, the West is helping Ukraine defend itself, questioning why no one called for supporting “*countries attacked by the US with deliveries of German weapons*” in the past.  
 Speaking of Russia sanctions, Lafontaine claimed that they “*are increasingly hurting people here at home – especially those with lower incomes, who can no longer pay their energy bills.*”  
 We are shooting ourselves in the knee. The US is probably laughing at us, because they are hardly affected by the sanctions, they can sell their liquefied natural gas in Europe in bigger quantities and their defense industry is getting a lot of business.  
 The former SPD chair believes the current German leadership is in no position to work in the country’s own best interest, being nothing more than a “*loyal vassal of the US.*”  
 Lafontaine noted that the Green Party, which is part of the ruling coalition, has firmly entrenched itself in the role of the “*extended arm of the US in the Bundestag*” since the Yugoslav war. The party “*supports every US decision when it comes to wars,*” the politician said, adding that the Greens only pay attention to human rights violations when those happen in Russia or China.  
 The party’s current stance illustrates a radical transformation from a pacifist political force it once was. The Social Democratic Party, which the current Chancellor Olaf Scholz is a member of, too, has changed dramatically, according to its former chair, drifting away from its principles of peace, disarmament and social improvements.  
 Lafontaine reserved special criticism for the German press, which “*is blind to the US war crimes*” while offering a platform for warmongers.  
 The veteran German politician said that many in Germany feared that the “*war will spread,*” calling on the public to take to the streets in keeping with the tradition of the “*peace movement of the 1980’s.*” <https://www.rt.com/news/555905-spd-ex-chair-nato-ignored-russian-interests/> [This may sound unpatriotic but this man is 100% correct. This war was truly incited by the deep state in the EU and US. It is a power play. They will be responsible for the death of millions if Putin is backed into a corner and goes nuclear. He made that clear long ago. Zelensky is simply a puppet for the Klaus Schwab deep state group. – rdb]

**Global ‘wheat war’ is coming – media**

***West could be forced to ask Russia for grain in exchange for lifting sanctions***

*21 May, 2022 07:01*

Wheat prices have surged to record highs over the past two months as major producers like Russia, Kazakhstan and India scrapped exports to protect their domestic markets. This has sparked fears of food insecurity and hunger around the world.

According to experts who spoke to Russia’s Izvestia newspaper, since the beginning of the year the cost of wheat has risen in price by more than 60%. They say the surge was caused by the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, which provide nearly a third of the globe’s wheat exports.

In the 2021-2022 season that began in July last year, Russian suppliers accounted for 16% of global wheat exports, and Ukrainian producers accounted for 10%. But due to the conflict both countries banned wheat exports. In February Russia restricted the export of all grains (wheat, rye, barley and corn) outside the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) until June 30. Meanwhile, Ukraine has shut its only remaining port in Odessa.

Anti-Russia sanctions forced international companies to sever long-standing business ties and leave Russia, which caused supply disruptions. In one example, the EU recently banned cooperation with the Black Sea Novorossiysk Commercial Sea Port, through which more than half of the exported grain is shipped.

Moreover, following Moscow’s decision to ban exports, Kazakhstan followed suit with its own restrictions, while, earlier this month, India also scrapped the export of wheat, stating that “*food security of India, neighboring and other vulnerable countries is at risk*.”

Following the news from New Delhi, wheat futures in Chicago jumped by 6% to $12.47 per bushel, its highest value in two months. And the price of wheat in Europe reached an historic high of about $461 per ton.

The grain crisis is being felt across the globe, but most acutely in Africa, which relies on exports from the Black Sea region for 90% of its needs. Last month, UN Secretary-General António Guterres warned that a fifth of humanity was at risk of poverty and hunger due to the current situation in the wheat market.

Western states have accused Russia of unleashing a “wheat war,” putting the blame for the current crisis on Moscow, but experts state that Russia is not the only one responsible for the worsening crisis, or if it is, it is not voluntary. Russia has not banned exports but introduced temporary duties and quotas to protect the domestic market. As for Ukraine, its grain is being actively removed from storage under the cover of EU help. The bloc’s top diplomat Josep Borrell recently stated that “Ukraine should be helped to continue producing and exporting grain and wheat,” and since Ukrainian storage facilities are now full, they “*need to be emptied to make room for a new crop*.”

Citing experts, Izvestia notes that Russia and Ukraine are not the only key global exporters of wheat. Other producers could save the world market from the crisis, for instance the US and Canada, which export 26 and 25 million tons of wheat, respectively, or around 25% of global exports. Other major Western producers are France (19 million tons) and Germany (9.2 million tons). However, according to analysts, these countries are unlikely to share their grain with those in need, prioritizing their own food security.

“Producing countries will have their own difficulties, primarily related to energy prices, production costs and inflation, so it is likely that they simply will be too occupied to care for those countries that will be forced to star*ve,*” Nikolai Vavilov, strategic research specialist at Total Research. is cited as saying.

Another expert, the head of the analytics department at the research company NTech Daria Akimova, says these countries would want to keep their raw materials to shield their economies from further inflation spikes.

“*In order to protect themselves within the country from hunger and reduce their own inflation, producing countries are trying to keep raw materials. Since in the event of currency instability, and indeed any instability, it is always more profitable to have raw materials than cash: it does not depreciate as quickly as currency*,” the newspaper reported citing Akimova.

Experts largely fail to predict how the wheat market situation will develop further. On one hand, according to Viktor Tunev, Chief Analyst of Ingosstrakh Investments, the problems with the supply of such a widely produced commodity as wheat will most likely be solved by the new harvest, as well as the restoration of supplies from Ukraine and Russia once the conflict is resolved.

On the other hand, it is unclear how long it will take to resolve the conflict. Some experts claim that Western states would at some point be forced to ask Russia to share supplies in exchange for the removal of sanctions. <https://www.rt.com/business/555679-grain-crisis-russia-sanctions/>

**Analysts Warns World Has Only 10 Weeks of Wheat Supplies Left in Storage**

[*Press Room*](https://foxmetronews.com/author/sawah/)[*May 22, 2022*](https://foxmetronews.com/news/analysts-warns-world-has-only-10-weeks-of-wheat-supplies-left-in-storage/)

***Experts warn of a surge in crop prices and food costs as wheat exports from Ukraine and Russia are impacted by the war.***

Last week India announced it would ban exports of wheat due to a heat wave and supply concerns.

An analyst in global warming and food insecurity warned the UN last week that the world has about 10 weeks of wheat supplies stored due to the War in Ukraine.

Russia is the world’s largest wheat exporter.  Ukraine is sixth largest exporter.

The Insider reported:

The world has about 10 weeks of wheat supplies stored as Russia’s invasion of Ukraine enters its fourth month, a food insecurity expert told the UN.

Sara Menker, the CEO of agriculture analytics firm Gro Intelligence, told the UN Security Council that the Russia-Ukraine war was not the cause of a food security crisis but “simply added fuel to a fire that was long burning.”

Ukraine is considered the world’s “breadbasket” and Russia and Ukraine combined account for almost a third of the world’s wheat exports.

This comes as US Secretary of State Antony Blinken accused Russia of using food as a weapon. Blinken, also addressing the UN Security Council, said that Russia was holding food “hostage” not just for Ukrainians but for millions across the world.

“The Russian government seems to think that using food as a weapon will help accomplish what its invasion has not – to break the spirit of the Ukrainian people,” Blinken said.

Menker said droughts across the world are contributing to declining wheat resources. Menker said global food supplies are also being impacted by climate change and fertilizer shortages. <https://foxmetronews.com/news/analysts-warns-world-has-only-10-weeks-of-wheat-supplies-left-in-storage/>

**Tens of thousands march in New York’s Israel parade in major show of solidarity**

***Top government officials from US and Israel join hundreds of Jewish groups in Manhattan, in a long-delayed affirmation for community after 2-year COVID hiatus***

*By* [*Luke Tress*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/luke-tress/) *Today, 11:18 pm*

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| Participants march in the annual Celebrate Israel parade on Fifth Avenue in New York City, on May 22, 2022. (Luke Tress/Times of Israel) | New York Governor Kathy Hochul, center, and other Jewish and government leaders march in the Celebrate Israel parade, in New York City, on May 22, 2022. (Luke Tress/Times of Israel) |

NEW YORK — Tens of thousands marched in New York City’s annual Celebrate Israel parade on Sunday, in a significant and long-delayed affirmation for the area’s Jewish communities and Israel supporters.

Hundreds of groups representing a broad swath of American Jewry marched down Manhattan’s Fifth Avenue, along with top American and Israeli government officials.

The parade, billed as the largest expression of solidarity with Israel outside of its borders, had not taken place in three years due to the pandemic. It is meant to be both a public show of support for Israel, including at the political level, and a chance for New York Jews to get together.  
 The march came during a fraught period. Since the last parade in 2019, antisemitism has surged in New York, the partisan climate has continued to stoke tensions between Jewish groups and fray political support for Israel, and sizable anti-Israel marches have taken place in the city.  
 The theme of this year’s parade was “Together again.” Ahead of the event, the organizers estimated 40,000 people would march from over 250 groups.  
 Thousands of students from Jewish schools in the New York region streamed through central Manhattan, waving Israeli and American flags, dancing and singing in Hebrew. Many of the students wore coordinated shirts with the parade’s slogan emblazoned on them in Hebrew and English. Some of the students chanted in Hebrew, “Israel is my home,” and “The people of Israel live.”

Other groups came from a range of Jewish organizations, from the pro-settlement Hebron Fund to the leftist LGBTQ organization Keshet. There were representatives of mainstream groups including Jewish medical organizations, the Israeli scouts, Yeshiva University, and Nefesh B’Nefesh.

New York Governor Kathy Hochul marched with an Israeli flag alongside New York State Attorney General Tish James and parade grandmaster Harley Lippman, an American entrepreneur who played a part in brokering the Abraham Accords. He said United Arab Emirates Ambassador to the US Yousef al-Otaiba was supposed to join the parade, but had to cancel after his country’s leader died earlier this month.

An Israeli delegation was led by Defense Minister Benny Gantz, Immigration and Absorption Minister Pnina Tamano-Shata, and Diaspora Minister Nachman Shai. Labor MK Gilad Kariv, Yesh Atid’s Inbar Bezek, and Likud’s Ofir Akunis also marched, as did a group from Israel’s United Nations delegation, led by envoy Gilad Erdan. Ambassadors and diplomats from Australia, Bhutan, Nauru, Bulgaria, Guatemala, the Czech Republic, Latvia, and Brazil also joined.

Lippman told The Times of Israel that the Israeli delegation “shows the unity of the Diaspora, the Jewish community worldwide, and Israel. We are, as Jewish people, very connected to Israel.”

A group of people holding flags

Description automatically generated with low confidence New York City Mayor Eric Adams marched next to Israel’s consul to New York Asaf Zamir and parade organizer Gideon Taylor of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York. Former New York City mayors Bill de Blasio and Rudy Giuliani also joined the procession, as did congressional representatives Lee Zeldin and Jerrold Nadler.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz, Immigration and Absorption Minister Pnina Tamano-Shata, and Diaspora Minister Nachman Shai march in the Celebrate Israel parade in Manhattan on May 22, 2022. (Ariel Hermoni/Defense Ministry)

A heavy police presence secured the area around the parade, with manned barricades and police vehicles monitoring entries to the area starting a couple of blocks away.

A New York City Police Department marching band led the procession, which passed by thousands of spectators, many waving flags in front of the avenue’s flagship company stores, for several hours on Sunday afternoon. Many Israelis chatted in Hebrew on the sidelines and in the procession.

The rappers Nissim Black and Kosher Dillz performed over a beat sampling “Hava Nagila,” and some floats bounced to music by Israeli pop artists Omer Adam and Eden Ben Zaken.

Dr. Jonathan Gold marched with a group of descendants and family members of foreigners who fought in Israel’s 1948 War of Independence. The group has marched in the parade every year it took place since 1965.

A group of people marching in the street

Description automatically generated with medium confidence “I think it’s wonderful to show solidarity and it’s a challenging time for Israel. And it’s great for the youth,” Gold said.

Joseph Potasnik, the executive vice president of the New York Board of Rabbis, said, “We walk on separate paths in our different houses of worship, but today we walk on one path together as one people. It’s a special moment for all of us.

“It’s nice to be a part of something where we can all be together. It’s important that we see each other face to face. Faith to faith, face to face,” he said.

Marchers in the Celebrate Israel parade in New York City, May 22, 2022. (Luke Tress/Times of Israel)

The Westchester Torah Academy elementary school marched while beating drums the students designed and produced using 3D printers. The project was part of the school’s educational goal of focusing on practical uses for science, and a homage to Israel’s technological prowess, said David Merel, the director of operations and technology for the school.  
 “We thought it would be great to honor Israeli innovation by printing these out because Israel’s on the frontier of 3D printing,” he said.  
 “I think it’s great that we’re now back after two years. It’s beautiful to come back,” he said. “The kids are here, they’re pumped, they’re excited. You can’t ask for anything more.”  
 A handful of pro-Palestinian counter-protesters heckled the marchers from one spot on the sidelines, leading to some verbal standoffs over a police barricade. A couple dozen members of the fringe anti-Zionist, ultra-Orthodox Naturei Karta group also protested.  
 The pro-Palestinian demonstrators chanted, “There is only one solution, intifada revolution,” “Go back to Europe,” and shouted “Shame,” as the governor passed by.  
 Not all Jewish groups were represented. There were relatively few ultra-Orthodox marchers; the city’s sizable Satmar community, one of the largest ultra-Orthodox groups in the region, is staunchly anti-Zionist.  
 Israel is politically divisive, including in New York. New York City congressional representatives Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Jamaal Bowman co-sponsored a bill on Monday that would have the US formally recognize the Palestinian “Nakba,” endorsing the Palestinian view of Israel’s establishment. The participation of New York’s leadership in the parade indicated the Democratic party’s mainstream remains firmly supportive of Israel. Hochul and Adams both have strong ties to New York Jewish communities, and are consistently engaged with Jewish representatives.  
 The parade also represented a message to the city. Reported antisemitic incidents are at their highest level ever, according to the Anti-Defamation League, including physical assaults, racist graffiti and verbal abuse taking place regularly.  
 Since the last Israel parade in 2019, there have been massive pro-Palestinian, anti-Israel protests in New York, mostly during and after last year’s Gaza war. Smaller rallies take place regularly, with demonstrators calling for a “global intifada” at central locations, including Fifth Avenue, often to the approval of passersby. Some of the protests have spilled into violence against Israel supporters, including last month, when pro-Palestinian activists beat a man holding an Israeli flag.  
 “During COVID, we lost the streets, to put it bluntly. We lost the streets and I think we need to be back on the streets because that’s a message, and that’s a sign of pride and engagement of who you are,” Taylor, the parade’s organizer, told The Times of Israel ahead of the event. “I think there is a feeling that this year is a time when we really have to come together and we have to send a very powerful visible message and that’s what this does.”  
 He said the Jewish Community Relations Council, which has managed the parade since 2011, had worked hard this year to broaden participation to a range of Jewish groups, after it had become increasingly Orthodox before the pandemic.  
 “It’s a message of pride — that we’re proud Jews and others who are friends of Israel. It’s a message that we’re not afraid, that after terrorism, after attacks in Brooklyn and hate crimes, we’re not afraid to come and march on the most iconic street in New York and to say we are here to celebrate Israel,” he said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/tens-of-thousands-march-in-new-yorks-israel-parade-in-major-show-of-solidarity/>

**DHS sounds alarm of violence against 2 groups in America over Roe ruling**

***'Criminal actors have adopted narratives surrounding abortion rights'***

A picture containing text, sport, person, athletic game

Description automatically generated*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published May 22, 2022 at 1:08pm*

Amid the fierce divide over the leaked opinion indicating the Supreme Court is prepared to overturn the Roe v. Wade decision, the Department of Homeland Security is warning law-enforcement officials of the possibility of violence against members of the Supreme Court and American clergy.

[The Washington Free Beacon reported](https://freebeacon.com/biden-administration/read-the-dhs-memo-on-left-wing-threats-against-judges-and-priests/) a memo from the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis warns of the "potential for threats to public safety in response to abortion debate."  
 "Domestic violence extremists (DVEs) and criminal actors have adopted narratives surrounding abortion rights to encourage violence, likely increasing the threat to government, religious, and reproductive health care personnel and facilities and ideological opponents," the memo states.  
 At least 25 "violent threats on social media" have been identified, it says, that include "burning down or storming the US Supreme Court and murdering Justices and their clerks, members of Congress, and lawful demonstrators."  
 House Democrats have stalled bipartisan legislation to increase security for the families of Supreme Court justices. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/dhs-sounds-alarm-violence-2-groups-america-roe-ruling/>

**Powers that be shovel fear porn as latest health crisis breaks out**

***'It has got into the population as a sexual form'***

*By* [*Joe Kovacs*](https://www.wnd.com/author/jkovacs/) *Published May 22, 2022 at 5:13pm*

With the COVID pandemic still affecting much of America and the world, officials are now stoking new fears about another health crisis, as President Joe Biden says monkeypox is something to "be concerned about."

"They haven't told me the level of exposure yet, but it is something that everybody should be concerned about," Biden said Sunday at Osan Air Base in South Korea as he boarded Air Force One for a flight to Japan.

"We're working on it hard to figure out what we do and what vaccine, if any, may be available for it," he continued. "But it is a concern in the sense that if it were to spread, it's consequential."

Monkeypox is a usually mild infectious disease, endemic in parts of West and Central Africa. It's spread trough close contact, and can be easily contained through hygiene and self-isolation.

The Drudge Report splashed numerous headlines on its front page Sunday, including: "Outbreak explodes" and "Monkeypox spreading through sex?"

Text

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According to Jake Sullivan, White House national security adviser, the U.S. is prepared to battle the disease and has a supply of "vaccine that is relevant to treating monkeypox."

"We have vaccine available to be deployed for that purpose," Sullivan told reporters aboard the flight, indicating Biden is given regular updates on the situation.

"I've been out on the road, giving him updates based on the written inputs we are getting from our health and medical team and, you know, walking through with him what the — what the current state of play looks like and, as we learn about cases both in the United States and elsewhere, making sure that he's tracking the picture."

Belgium is become the [first country to implement a 21-day monkeypox quarantine](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10841885/Doctors-warn-significant-rise-UK-monkeypox-cases-surge-two-three-weeks.html), with people forced to self-isolate for three weeks, after the country recorded three cases, all linked to a festival in Antwerp. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/fear-porn-infects-america-monkeypox-worries/> [Just in time for the November election????? Crooked creeps.- rdb]

**Critics warn feds will use 'domestic terrorism' law to silence dissent**

***'More power to surveil and monitor and to control ... free speech'***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published May 22, 2022 at 1:50pm*

The domestic terrorism bill passed by the House this week targets "white supremacists" and "neo-nazis."

But the problem, [points out Robert Spencer](https://robertspencer.org/2022/05/new-domestic-terrorism-bill-supposedly-targets-white-supremacists-and-neo-nazis) – known for his prolific writing on Islamic supremacism and terrorism – is that the political left typically uses those terms to smear anyone opposed to their agenda.  
 That has included, he wrote on his Jihad Watch site, "law-abiding Americans who abhor racism and fascism and are simply standing against Communist indoctrination, transgender delusions, and other lies foisted upon us from above these days."  
 The House bill passed Wednesday, H.R. 350, establishes domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Justice Department and the FBI. It requires the agencies to assess white supremacist and neo-nazi threats in the United States and inside agencies.  
 Lawmakers abandoned plans for a floor vote last month, but the mass shooting May 14 at a grocery store in Buffalo, New York, prompted an urgency for passing the bill.  
 In the Senate, it's the problem articulated by Spencer that confronts the bill, as some senators argue it would target people who speak out against issues radical school curricula and COVID-19 policies.  
 In fact, FBI whistleblowers have disclosed to lawmakers that the bureau opened multiple investigations into parents protesting education policies, [the Washington Examiner reported](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/restoring-america/fairness-justice/fbi-opened-multiple-investigations-into-protesting-parents-gop-lawmakers-say). Attorney General Merrick Garland directed the FBI and the Department of Justice to form a joint task force in October 2021 to investigate threats against school board members. The directive came after the National School Boards Association asked the Biden administration in a September 2021 letter to probe parents protesting at school board meetings as domestic terrorists under the Patriot Act.  
 **More power to surveil, monitor, control**  
The DOJ, DHS and the FBI already have teams that investigate domestic terrorism. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the three agencies likely would need more than 100 new analysts, agents, lawyers and support staff to fulfill the bills' requirements.

The House bill's chief sponsor, Rep. Brad Schneider,  D-Ill., insists that amendments ensure First Amendment rights will be protected.

However, libertarian journalist Glenn Greenwald argues that such promises have made regarding previous terrorism bills that have arisen since 9/11.

And, he emphasized in an interview with Fox News host Laura Ingraham, unlike the initial war on terror, this one is "aimed not at foreign nationals but at American citizens."

"Even before January 6, Biden came out and said a new war on terror against domestic extremism is my number one legislative priority," Greenwald recalled.

"And they exploited January 6 and now they are exploiting these Buffalo shootings to give all of these agencies more power to surveil and monitor and to control our dissent and free speech."

*See Greenwald's remarks on Fox News:*

In April, as [WND reported](https://www.wnd.com/2021/04/right-wing-attacks-biden-doj-considering-domestic-terrorism-law/), a senior DOJ official said during a House hearing that the department was seeking "a new law allowing prosecutors to bring specific charges for plotting and carrying out acts of domestic terrorism." His remarks came a day after President Biden

At the time, Rep. Matt Cartwright, D-Pa., chairman of the powerful Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, emphasized the need to counter "right-wing" groups.

"This is a cancer on our country," he said. "Right-wing extremist attacks and plots have greatly outnumbered those from all other groups combined and caused more deaths as well." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/05/critics-warn-feds-will-use-domestic-terrorism-law-silence-dissent/>

**Commentary:**

**Demonization, American Style** *05/20/2022 Caroline Glick* Demonization, the effort to portray a political rival as an inhuman monster, has long been a means to mobilize public support. The ancient Romans did it. The Soviets didn’t know there was another option.  
 While negative campaigning has long been a tried and true method for winning elections in the free world, actual demonization was fairly rare, particularly in the United States, actual demonization was a fairly rare phenomenon until after the turn of the century. But in recent decades, and with unprecedented intensity and venom since 2016, the Democrats have aped the Soviets and adopted demonization as their main political tool for winning elections. The primary object of their hatred is former President Donald Trump.  
 Last Sunday, Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi showed how it is done in an interview with *CNN*. The interview focused on the Democrat Party’s concern that the conservative majority in the Supreme Court will overturn [Roe v. Wade](https://www.israelhayom.com/2022/05/03/us-supreme-court-set-to-overturn-landmark-abortion-rights-decision/), ending the federal mandate for abortions and letting the separate states decide for themselves whether to place limitations on the procedure. Concerns among Democrats and the party’s progressive base rose exponentially earlier this month when in a shocking break with the past, a source at the Supreme Court leaked a draft judgment on the issue authored by conservative Justice Samuel Alito to Politico.  
 Sunday, *CNN*‘s Dana Bash asked Pelosi if the fact that conservatives are now the majority on the Supreme Court means that the Democrats dropped the ball on abortion rights. Pelosi rejected Bash’s assertion and instead blamed Trump.  
 Brimming with rage Pelosi seethed, “Who would have ever suspected that a creature like Donald Trump would become president of the United States, waving a list of judges that he would appoint, therefore getting the support of the far-right, and appointing those anti-just freedom justices to the court?”  
 In that one sentence, Pelosi managed to demonize Trump, demonize Trump voters and delegitimize three sitting justices of the Supreme Court. It bears noting that as Pelosi made these remarks, Democrat activists were staging threatening demonstrations outside the homes of conservative justices.  
 Pelosi’s statement wasn’t an isolated event. It was part of an overall partisan strategy ahead of the Congressional elections in November. President Joe Biden gave voice to it in a speech last Friday where he spoke of “Ultra MAGA Republicans.” Just to make clear what he was talking about, he called Trump “King MAGA.” MAGA, or Make America Great Again, was of course Trump’s election slogan in 2016. Since then, MAGA has become shorthand for Trump supporters.  
 The obvious purpose of Biden’s coinage of “Ultra MAGA” was to link all Republicans to Trump and to make the 2022 elections a referendum on Trump, the demonic “creature” even though Trump isn’t on the ballot and the Democrats control the White House and both houses of Congress.  
 The administration is so excited by the new term their invented that Biden’s spokeswoman bragged that “Ultra MAGA” was the product of six months of market research.  
 Wednesday, Politico reported that the progressive fundraising giant Moveon.org is launching a $30 million “Us vs. MAGA” ad campaign ahead of November. Moveon.org executive director Rahna Epting told the progressive online publication that the purpose of the campaign is to tie Republicans to Trump, who all right-thinking people hate because he threatens the very existence of America.  
 The idea of using demonization as a political tool was most powerfully introduced to radical US politics by political guru Saul Alinsky. Alinsky’s 1971 book *Rules for Radicals*became the political bible for revolutionary leftists in the Democrat Party. There Alinsky warned his disciples that in light of the unpopularity of their America-hating agenda, the way to win is by distracting the public from their actual agenda and to focus their target audience instead of on their political opponents, whom they would defeat by presenting him as the devil.  
 One of Alinsky’s star pupils was a young coed at Wellesley College named Hillary Rodham, better known by her married name Hillary Clinton. Alinsky’s methods were adopted and taught in the 1990s by a community organizer in Chicago named Barack Obama.  
 As the US moves into elections mode, the last thing the Democrats want to talk about is policy. The only issue they may want to run on is abortion, and it’s unclear how popular the issue will be in swing states and districts. The more the US public feels the impacts of the Democrats’ economic, energy, and social policies, the lower the party’s polling numbers drop. Every day another shocking story appears about the fruits of the Democrats’ revolutionary agenda.  
 This week, for instance, the school board in Kiel, Wisconsin, a small town of some 3,000 people decided to charge three middle school boys with sexual harassment.  
 Their crime?  
 They didn’t refer to a girl in their class as “they” or “them” after she said she decided she is no longer willing to be referred to as “her” or “she,” because she no longer considers herself a female.  
 According to Critical Race Theory expert Christopher Rufo, depending on the questions asked, between 60-80% of Americans oppose revolutionary sexual policies. The more stories appear like the one from Kiel, Wisconsin, or even more distressing ones about children given sexual hormones by school officials without their parents’ knowledge or consent, the more voters abandon the Democrat Party in fear.  
 The Democrats’ response to the public’s rejection of their agenda isn’t to move toward the public by ending their support for sex-change operations for minors. They remain stridently committed to their agenda.  
 The Democrats’ response to the public’s rejection of their policies is to castigate the Republicans as the evil acolytes of Trump who share his demonic characteristics – first and foremost, “racism.”  
 Last weekend, an 18-year-old racist antisemite murdered 10 people in a grocery store in Buffalo, New York. Biden, Democrat politicians from coast to coast, the progressive media, and Hollywood stars all rushed to blame Trump, *Fox News,* and the entire Republican Party for the slaughter. Never mind that the same day, a Chinese man motivated by hatred of Taiwanese entered a church attended by Taiwanese immigrants in California and opened fire killing one and wounding four other worshippers. Last December, a black racist mowed down six people, and wounded 77 more, (all white) at a Christmas parade in Waukesha, Wisconsin. Republicans didn’t blame Biden and the Democrats.  
 Tuesday, Democrat advertising executive Donny Deutsch explained the Democrats’ post-Buffalo massacre efforts on *MSNBC*. In Deutsch’s words, the Democrats’ mission post-Buffalo is to, “Brand every Republican,” as the party of “racist, violent replacement theory.”  
 “Take a branding iron, put it on them so any mainstream Republican has to wear that badge.”  
 Notably, the Democrats’ “Ultra-MAGA campaign hasn’t raised any concern among Republicans. Indeed, immediately after Biden launched it, the Republican National Committee began printing “Ultra MAGA” t-shirts to give away to party donors.  
 Some 95% of Republicans voted for Trump in 2016 and in 2020. Despite its near-unanimous support, the Democrats’ demonization of the former president did have an impact at the margins of the party and among independent voters. Members of these groups were convinced that Trump and the Republicans are a demonic force that threatens the soul of America.  
 It wasn’t the likes of Deutsch who convinced them. That job was carried out by a smattering of former Republicans who share the Democrats’ visceral hatred of Trump. In the 2018 Congressional elections, and to an even greater degree in the 2020 presidential race, members of this tiny minority of Republicans appeared nearly around the clock on progressive media organs to castigate Trump and his voters as dangerous, racist and evil. While their overall impact was indiscernible, in all-important swing states where Biden’s margins of victory were miniscule, they appear to have made a difference.  
 Today the same group of former Republicans is working full throttle at the side of the Democrats to prevent their former party from winning the mid-term elections and taking control of Congress.  
 Sitting at Deutsch’s side on the *MSNBC* panel Tuesday was political activist and former Republican Miles Taylor. While serving as a mid-level official in the Department of Homeland Security during the Trump administration, Taylor anonymously published an op-ed in the New York Times and a book where he claimed that many officials inside the administration believed that Trump was a danger to the United States. These officials, he said, were working together to subvert Trump’s policies and save America from its duly elected president. Now Taylor is running a well-funded Super-PAC, where “former Republicans” run campaign ads against Republicans.  
 Taylor explained that the goal is to shame Republicans into leaving the party.  
 “I tried and failed to save the party in my own little way,” he said.  
 “We tried to prevent Trump from rising in 2016. Some of us tried from within to contain his reckless impulses. We thought we beat him in 2020, but we didn’t. Trumpism is alive and it’s well and it’s fueling this so that what conservatives need to do is convince other conservatives to quit the Republican Party.”  
 It’s hard to know what these former Republican conservatives tell themselves when they see empty shelves in supermarkets, $4.00/ gallon gas, cratering stock markets, and boys being persecuted for being boys in schools across America. It’s hard to know what they tell themselves when they see children indoctrinated to reject their biological sex and hate their parents and their country.  
 But what is clear enough is that through their efforts to demonize their fellow conservatives, former party and former president, these Trump-hating former Republicans enable the progressive revolution. Under the mask of anti-Trump paranoia, this revolution rejects the foundations of the United States and seeks to transform the country from the land of the free and the home of the brave into the land of the unfree, and home of the bullied, cowed and socially engineered.  
 [Originally published in Israel Hayom.](https://www.israelhayom.com/2022/05/20/demonization-american-style/)  <https://carolineglick.com/demonization-american-style/>

**Is The Coming Food Shortage Government Engineered?, Part 2** *By* [*Roger Anghis*](https://newswithviews.com/author/roger/)*|May 22nd, 2022* We have seen that the government is playing a big role in the food shortages that they have declared will hit America shortly. If that isn’t bad enough we are also seeing cyber attacks on agricultural cooperatives causing serious problems. These are combined with fires and other disasters that are not uncommon to these facilities but have never happened in the quantities that we are seeing. ***Nearly two dozen food facilities in the US have been burned down in the past 5 months, and now we are getting reports it’s occurring overseas too.  Some have speculated that these are actually targeted drone strikes.  However, in the midst of the push for a cashless society via The Great Reset and the planned starvation of the population to control them, we are hypocritically warned by FBI terrorists, and terrorists is what they are, that there may be targeted cyber attacks on food plants.  This is code for there will be targeted attacks.***  
 [***Zero Hedge***](https://www.activistpost.com/2022/04/fbi-warns-of-targeted-cyber-attacks-on-food-plants-after-mysterious-rash-of-fires.html)***has the story.***  
 ***The FBI’s Cyber Division***[***published***](https://www.ic3.gov/Media/News/2022/220420-2.pdf)***a notice this past week warning about increased cyber-attack threats on agricultural cooperatives, which comes at a time when a curious string of fires and explosions damage major food processing plants across the country.***  
 ***“Ransomware actors may be more likely to attack agricultural cooperatives during critical planting and harvest seasons, disrupting operations, causing financial loss, and negatively impacting the food supply chain,” the notice read, adding 2021 and early 2022 ransomware attacks on farming co-ops could affect the current planting season “by disrupting the supply of seeds and fertilizer.”***  
 ***The agency warned, “A significant disruption of grain production could impact the entire food chain, since grain is not only consumed by humans but also used for animal feed … In addition, a significant disruption of grain and corn production could impact commodities trading and stocks.”***  
 ***The most recent incidents were fires at two Oregon-based food processing plants. The first occurred on Monday night when a fire destroyed Azure Standard’s joint headquarters and warehouse facilities. The second was an explosion on Tuesday at a Shearer’s Foods plant.***  
 ***Internet sleuths pieced together a compilation of headlines showing a spate of fires at food processing plants across the country in the last year or so****.*[1] What we are seeing, in my opinion, is an attempt by elites to totally control the food supply. Greed has no bounds and it doesn’t care who it hurts to get what it wants.  
 We are seeing a very large number of food processing plants, fertilizer plants, and related facilities experience devastating fires, planes flying into them, explosions, and a whole series of other disasters that have hit the food processing industry. There have been, at the time this article was written, 22 plants have been affected. Some have been completely destroyed.  These plants are located all across America.  California, Oregon, New Hampshire, Texas, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Maine just to name a few and all of these have occurred this year. ***Can anyone explain why absolutely massive fires just keep erupting again and again at critical facilities all over America?  The tragic destruction by fire of the headquarters of Azure Standard in Oregon shocked millions of people, and since that news broke quite a few readers have been reaching out to me about the long string of unusual blazes that we have been witnessing from coast to coast in recent months.  I decided to look into this phenomenon for myself, and I am sharing what I have discovered so far in this article.***[***Dr. Benjamin Braddock***](https://twitter.com/GraduatedBen)***and others had already been digging into this, and their research proved quite valuable as I began my investigation.  Some of the incidents that people have reported I was not able to independently verify, and others I felt were too minor to be put on this list.***  
 ***Of course, it is not unusual for there to be fires at food industry facilities, and fire departments are accustomed to responding to such fires and putting them out.***  
 ***But in many of these cases, we are talking about absolutely uncontrollable fires that seemed to erupt very suddenly.***  
 ***And in many of these cases, the firefighters that responded were not able to save the structures because the fires were so enormous***.[2]  
 Try all you want but you’ll never convince me that these are not planned. There is someone or something behind it. A plan is being executed. This is part of Klaus Schwab’s great reset. I believe that it will fail but they are pushing it as hard as they can because they know their time is very short.  If Republicans retake House and Senate they are dead in the water. We still have to resist with all that we have until then.  
 ***The globalists already control the majority of the money, are moving ever so swiftly to convert the energy system over into systems they are all invested in, and have been taking drastic measures to control the food industry while running much of it under the radar. If they control the seeds they control the food, and if they control the food they can use the digital ID to control consumer access to the food. While a rash of fires suddenly destroy food processing, meat, and fertilizer plants, during a time where farmers are hurting and supply chain issues are kicking in, an entire traceable food infrastructure system has already been built in multiple cities and is making its way across the globe.***  
 ***Imagine a day where farmers’ markets no longer exist, you can’t drive over to your local farmer to buy produce or cuts of meat, and the only food growing outside of the globalist secured indoor vertical farming and lab-grown meat facilities, is in your windowsill, garden, or greenhouse***.[2]  
 Again, we have to follow the money. We can look at a few statistics and realize just why they are making this push: ***The indoor vertical farming industry was valued at $5.5 billion in 2020 and is projected to reach $19.86 billion by 2026. Urban indoor farming controlled by the globalists is the future of food they have reimagined, and it’s already in thousands of grocery stores without people realizing it. Whereas the U.S. is leading in this industry, this is a global agenda with vertical farms popping up across the globe.***  
 ***For perspective, Bowery Farming’s new facility in Arlington, TX will be able to serve 16 million people in a 200-mile radius. This is only one of the dozens of vertical farming companies with massive facilities across the country, backed by big investors.***  
 ***AeroFarms, who has the largest indoor vertical farming facility in the world, co-developed the first CRISPR-Cas9 gene-edited produce product, now hundreds are following, while National Geographic believes that gene editing is the next food revolution. AeroFarms also worked on an NIH-sponsored trial to produce proteins for the Covid jabs.***  
 ***The University of California is developing a plant-based mRNA vaccine in the hopes that farms can grow edible vaccine heads of lettuce.***  
 ***Monsanto/Bayer is creating gene-edited seeds for vertical farm companies, while Bill Gates, the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations, and the World Bank control 10% of the world’s germplasms and hold some of the world’s largest seed banks. Bayer and BASF, two of the world’s largest suppliers of seed, are both involved with the vertical farm industry.***  
 ***The USDA and FDA have already approved lab-grown meat, genetically modified cattle, and are funding the globalists to research and develop cellular agriculture as well as indoor growers and genetics companies, while they slack on regulations for gene-edited produce***.[4]  
 Now we are looking at a baby formula shortage and the response from the White House is something out of a mental institution:  
 ***The reporter pressured Psaki for families to take immediate action amid the formula shortage, to which Psaki said, “call their doctor.”***  
 ***“We certainly encourage any parent who is concerned about their child’s health or well-being to call their doctor or pediatrician,” Psaki said***.[5]  
 The worst part of this in my opinion, is the fact the Biden administration knew about it in February but did basically nothing to circumvent it. This seems to be the hallmark of the Biden administration, lack of planning and no foresight at all: ***The Biden administration knew about the baby formula shortage as early as February, the director of the National Economic Council, Brian Deese, told CNN’s “New Day” on Friday morning.***  
 ***Deese said the administration is working around the clock to tackle the issue from every angle possible, noting the administration is trying to give retailers “more flexibility on the types of formulas that they can sell.” Deese did not provide an estimate of how long the administration anticipates the shortage will last, but urged families to call their healthcare provider if they need help***.[6]  
 **[ See the DVD: “**[**Enemies Within: The Church**](https://nwvstore.com/product/enemies-within-the-church/)**“]**  
 Our government is using Orwell’s 1984 as a guideline and we have to put a stop to it. Elections have always had consequences.  Some have been good and some have been bad.  We need to make sure the next few elections are the good ones.  
 Foot Notes  
 [FBI:  terrorists warn of targeted cyber attacks on food plants after mysterious fires take down multiple food facilities-video](https://sonsoflibertymedia.com/fbi-terrorists-warn-of-targeted-cyber-attacks-on-food-plants-after-mysterious-fires-take-down-multiple-food-facilities-video/)  
 [A list of 16 major fires that have occurred at key food industry facilities in the US since the start of 2022](http://theeconomiccollapseblog.com/a-list-of-16-major-fires-that-have-occurred-at-key-food-industry-facilities-in-the-u-s-since-the-start-of-2022/)  
 [New controlled food system is now in place and they will stop at nothing to accelerate their control](https://www.coreysdigs.com/global/new-controlled-food-system-is-now-in-place-and-they-will-stop-at-nothing-to-accelerate-their-control/)  
 [New controlled food system is now in place and they will stop at nothing to accelerate their control](https://www.coreysdigs.com/global/new-controlled-food-system-is-now-in-place-and-they-will-stop-at-nothing-to-accelerate-their-control/)  
 [WH advises worried parents to have their starving babies call their doctor](https://goodwordnews.com/wh-advises-worried-parents-to-have-their-starving-babies-call-their-doctor/)  
 [Biden’s handlers knew in February that baby formula shortage was coming](https://robertspencer.org/2022/05/bidens-handlers-knew-in-february-that-baby-formula-shortage-was-coming)  
<https://newswithviews.com/is-the-coming-food-shortage-government-engineered-part-2/>

**The Biggest Con the World Has Ever Seen**By [Kathleen Marquardt](https://newswithviews.com/author/kathleen-marquardt/)|May 21st, 2022  
 We are at a crucial point right now. I want to say we are at a turning point, but instead, we are approaching the point of no return. For over a century we have been going down the “Fabian Freeway”[[i]](https://newswithviews.com/the-biggest-con-the-world-has-ever-seen/" \l "_edn1). The Great Reset, with its concomitant tools of pandemics, scheme of turning over sovereignty to the genuinely evil World Health Organization (WHO), Artificial Intelligence (which stands for artifice intelligence), and dealing with us “useless eater” along with a plethora of other dastardly deeds, is now driving this.,  
 The Big Con – Agenda 21 (millennial goals, Agenda 2030, Green New Deal, and numerous other re-names) and the Great Reset together truly make up the most monstrous scheme perpetrated in the world – and it’s on the whole world. And we have watched it being designed and executed *and* we did nothing much to stop it. Those foisting this abomination on humanity have *always* told us what they were about to do. Few of us were paying attention, but those who were, were highly vocal, trying to wake up, not only the “silent majority”, but anyone with ears willing to hear.  
 Well before our time, people were exposing the plan to control the entire world like Jo Hindman, [[ii]](https://newswithviews.com/the-biggest-con-the-world-has-ever-seen/" \l "_edn2) Yuri Bezmenov, [[iii]](https://newswithviews.com/the-biggest-con-the-world-has-ever-seen/" \l "_edn3) Rose L. Martin author of *Fabian Freeway,* Edward Cox and the Reece Committee, and even those who were “for” the New World Order (NWO) such as Carroll Quigley in his book *Tragedy and Hope*, the Council on Foreign Relations and the vested foundations *via* their published papers. Then there’s H.G. Wells and Aldous Huxley. But it was all too unfathomable to most, so they ignored the signs and even, the blatant writing on the wall *via* mainstream media. But it is there, all spelled out for even the most superficial reader. For information about the past 100 years of the destruction of America and Christianity, you can go to the American Policy Center website. [[iv]](https://newswithviews.com/the-biggest-con-the-world-has-ever-seen/" \l "_edn4) My focus is on tools of the asymmetric warfare going on right now while most are watching media and unaware of how close they are to being slaves.  
 The Big Con encompasses, among other things, the molding of education into an indoctrination machine that not only changes our children’s attitudes, values, and beliefs, but also selects those who will be allowed to function in the New World Order as useful idiots for the power elite or slaves. The leftovers will be all the useless eaters who will be done away with – one way or another; in the meantime, they will be drudges.  
 You don’t have to take my word for it; here is Yuri Harari, futurist and lead advisor to Klaus Schwab, spelling it out (long but eye-opening):  
 *Again, I think the biggest question in maybe in economics and politics of the coming decades will be what to do with all these useless people?*  
 *The problem is more boredom and how what to do with them and how will they find some sense of meaning in life, when they are basically meaningless, worthless?*  
 *My best guess, at present is a combination of drugs and computer games as a solution for [most]. It’s already happening. Under different titles, different headings, you see more and more people spending more and more time or solving their inner problems with the drugs and computer games, both legal drugs and illegal drugs.*  
 *You look at Japan today, Japan is maybe 20 years ahead of the world in everything. And you see all these new social phenomena of people having relationships with virtual; virtual spouses and you have people who never leave the house and just live through computers.*  
 *I think once you’re superfluous, you don’t have power.*  
 *Again, we are used to the Age of the Masses, of the 19th and 20th centuries…We saw all these successful massive uprisings; revolutions, revolts. So we got used to thinking about the masses as powerful. But this is basically a 19th century and 20th century phenomenon.*  
 *I don’t think that the masses, even if they somehow organize themselves stand much of a chance. We are not in Russia of 1917 or in 19th century Europe.*  
 *What we are talking about now is like a second Industrial Revolution but the product this time will not be textiles or machines or vehicles or even weapons. The product this time will be humans, themselves.*  
 *We are basically learning to produce bodies and minds. Bodies and minds are going to visit, I think the two main products of the next wave of all these changes.*  
 *That is optional. Again, and if you think about it from the viewpoint of the poor, it looks terrible, because throughout history, death was the great equalizer. The big consolation of the poor throughout history was that, “OK, these rich people they have it good but they’re going to die, just like me.”*  
 *But think about the world, say in 50 years, 100 years, where the poor people continue to die but the rich people, in addition to all the other things they get, they also get an exemption from death.*  
 *Once you really solve a problem like direct brain-computer interface; when brains and computers can interact directly; for example – to take just one example – that’s it, that’s the end of history; that’s the end of biology, as we know it. Nobody has a clue when what will happen once you solve this.*  
 *If life can basically break out of the organic realm into the vastness of the inorganic realm, you cannot even begin to imagine what the consequences will be, because your imagination at present is organic.*  
 *So, if there is a point of singularity, as it’s often referred to, by definition, we have no way of even starting to imagine what’s happening beyond that. Looking before the point of singularity just as a trend, it is gathering pace.*  
 *It is the new attitude, I think is to treat old age and death as technical problems, no different, in essence than any other disease. It’s like cancer, it’s like Alzheimer’s, it’s like tuberculosis.*  
 *Maybe we still don’t know all the mechanisms and all the remedies but in principle, people always die for one reason and one reason only – and these are technical reasons, not metaphysical reasons.*  
 *People today actually manage to live – many people – as isolated, alienated individuals.*  
 *In the most advanced societies, many people live as alienated individuals with no community to speak about, with a very small family. It’s no longer the big, extended family, it’s now a very small family; maybe just a spouse; maybe one or two children – and even they might live in a different city, in a different country – and you see them, maybe once in every few months and that’s it.*  
 *After millions of years of evolution, suddenly, within 200 years, the family and the intimate community break; they collapse. Most of the roles filled by the family and by the intimate community for thousands and tens of thousands of years are transferred very quickly to new networks provided by the state and the market.*  
 *You don’t need children, you can have a pension fund. You don’t need somebody to take care of you. You don’t need neighbors and sisters or brothers to take care of you when you’re sick; the state takes care of you, the states provide you with police, with education, with help with everything, in terms of ideas, in terms of religions.*  
 *The most interesting place today in the world in religious terms is Silicon Valley. It’s not the Middle East. This is where the new religions are being created now by people like Ray Kurtzweil and this these are the religions that will take over the world.****[[v]](https://newswithviews.com/the-biggest-con-the-world-has-ever-seen/" \l "_edn5)***  
 *He* didn’t dream this up; earlier futurists did. He just put it out there in plain speak so you can’t say it’s nuanced or we misheard it. It is all in the Feasibility Study: Behavioral Science Teacher Education Program (BSTEP), Final Report. It is 457 pages long. The study was developed in 1968 by Michigan State University at the behest of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for comprehensive elementary teacher education models. It defines *exactly* how planners and planning will replace entrepreneurs, doers, and other self-motivated people. BSTEP even told us that planners would run the world; first, the globalists decide the future they would like to see in 40 years (remember the “visioning” sessions when they were leading consensus meetings in your counties and cities?). Long ago, they conceived how to control us, and then they use planning to bring it to fruition – starting in elementary school with BSTEP. There is to be no individualism, national or personal sovereignty, or free-thinking in the now very near future – thanks to John Dewey, the Frankfurt School, Brock Chisholm – the first director of WHO, and many U.S. presidents starting with Wilson.  
 The BSTEP program shows the connection between futurists, planners, and the education system:  
 *There is little doubt that environments do change. To recognize present and future environments one must know the sources of change which create a new environment. Technology is the major source of change. It opens up possibilities of manipulating, mastering and transforming nature, resources, time, and space. It offers a systematic disciplined approach to objectives, permits precision and measurement and a systems concept that may be quite contrary to traditional religious, esthetic and intuitive modes. Because of technology, decision-making can be based on such techniques as simulation, model construction, linear programming, and operations research. But other sources of change in society exist. These include the diffusion of existing goals and privileges in society, the structural development in society, and the relationship of the United States to the rest of the world. Human capital rather than financial capital is considered urgent; sociological questions about relationships of new technological modes of decision-making to the political structures of society are raised; and there tends to be a shift from the product sector of economy to that of service. Also, the cannon of the Occident replaced by the cannon of the globe. Our image of man is ceasing to assume tacitly that the white man is made peculiarly in the likeness of God.*   
 *.. ;. If we admit that the image of the future can be effectively introduced as the most efficient link in the chain of causability, if we admit that our image of the future is in any way and to any extent our own choice and responsibility, then we have a way of reconciling our belief in determinism and our belief in freedom. Without a doubt, we have a challenge. As we accept the future world, as we frame questions about the society and plan the future, we consciously or unconsciously inject our own values into our answers, values that may be old or new and placed in hierarchial fashion or in a spectrum.*  
 *A typical futurist’s reports reveal that in the future there will be: huge population increases, increases in the size of dependent populations; more protests; worsening race relations; more mass violence; a larger generation gap; more air pollution; more drugs; famines that will kill half a billion people in one year; massive air invasions; career training will not keep up with career roles; essential information about public policy will become secretive and most people not to be able to participate in government; and so on.*  
 *The World of 2100 (conceivable – not predictions) Population: 8 billion Chemical control of aging process may be achieved, raising a person’s life expectancy to over 100 years. … Man-medicine symbiosis may permit a person to raise his intelligence by brain tie-in with computers…, completely automated highway transportation, etc. Adequate provision of life necessities for all people of the earth by international agreements may be a reality* (ed note: Universal Basic Income)*. …. A permanent lunar colony may be established with regularly scheduled commercial traffic between the earth and the moon.*  
 *For those who wish some structure, the following is provided. There are five broad categories with several sub-categories:* (I am showing just a small part, ed.)  
 *Futurism as a social tool and decision making by an elite*  
 *Population factors* (i.e., reduction of)  
 *Population concentrations* (moving people into cities for better control)  
 *Increasing youthfulness of the population and generation gap* (getting rid of elderly)  
 *Biological capabilities*   
 *Biological capabilities in controlling inherited characteristics and potentialities*   
 *Body repair and health improvements*  
 *…*   
 *Shifting social values*   
 *Governance and services by varied agencies, organizations, and enterprises.* (see Reinventing Government)  
 *A controlling elite*   
 *Conflict and cooperation among peoples at home and abroad*   
 *International arrangements and nationalism*   
 *Diffusion of prosperity* (making us all equally poor) *and increased social mobility* (social, i.e., online rather than person-to-person)  
 *Environmental pollution****[[vi]](https://newswithviews.com/the-biggest-con-the-world-has-ever-seen/" \l "_edn6)***  
 Yes, that was 54 years ago, but it told us is *exactly* what would be going on today.  
 We *can* turn this around, but we must eliminate every vestige of the Marxian evil. We can take America back – one town, city, county, state at a time. All we need is awake, aware, and willing to be active patriots who care about the world they, their children, and their grandchildren will be living in.  
 Slavery or Liberty. It’s your choice. <https://newswithviews.com/the-biggest-con-the-world-has-ever-seen/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Jason Greenblatt at Arutz Sheva conference: Visit to eastern Jerusalem? Say no to Biden**

***Greenblatt at Arutz Sheva Jerusalem conference in New York: "Letting the Palestinians feel good - does not promote peace."***

*Yoni Kempinski, New York 22.05.22 23:17*

Former White House Envoy to the White House Jason Greenblatt shared insights on the state of relations between Israel and the United States at the Jerusalem Conference led by Arutz Sheva on Sunday in Manhattan.

Greenblatt began by addressing the Iran Deal that the Biden Administration is currently negotiating. “I am still fearful. The Iran deal is a threat, not just to Israel and its surrounding countries, it is a threat to America. What we should understand from what is happening in Ukraine. Russia is threatening the U.S., its allies and Ukraine with nuclear weapons, imagine if Iran had nuclear weapons.”  
 Regarding Biden’s upcoming trip to the Middle East, he said, “I am not in favor of him visiting the Palestinian hospital unless he is going to visit it under the hospices of the Israeli government. The notion that he would go into parts of Jerusalem, without the Israeli Government, and pretend its Palestinian is a huge mistake.”  
 “He’s messed up the relationship with Saudi Arabia in a huge way. He’s disrespectful to the kingdom, he is disrespectful to the Crown Prince, he said he would make Saudi Arabia the pariah that it is. And now we are begging for their oil.”  
 When it comes to the current status of the Abraham Accords, Greenblatt put forth a plan to strengthen relations in the region. He said, “You cannot fault the UAE for criticizing Israel from time to time. I think it is incumbent on anybody who supports the Abraham Accords and who supports Israel, go to the countries and show them what Israel is about, and what Judaism is about.”  
 “It is incumbent on anybody who supports Israel to shout from the rooftops, ‘Don’t sign this Iran Deal.’” <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/327997>

**Senator Ted Cruz addresses the Jerusalem Conference in New York**

***Republican Senator stresses need to preserve Jerusalem as the "eternal and undivided capital of Israel."***

[Israel National News](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Israel_National_News) 23.05.22 00:10

Texas Senator Ted Cruz addressed the Jerusalem Conference led by Arutz Sheva and the Besheva newspaper in New York Sunday, vowing to ensure that Israel's capital city remain undivided and touting his involvement in the Trump administration's recognition of Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights.

"During the ten years I've served in the Senate, I've resolved to be Israel's strongest defender in the United States Senate," Cruz said. "I'm committed to ensuring that Israel has sovereignty over its territories and I was proud to lead the push to recognize the Golan Heights."

Cruz also stressed the need to support Jerusalem as the "eternal and undivided capital of Israel," amid constant, ceaseless calls to once again divide the city. "Under President Biden [this...] has been a day-to-day and sometimes an hour-to-hour fight," he related. "This administration has expressed the desire to open a Palestinian consulate in Jerusalem which is designed to undermine Israel's sovereignty in Jerusalem and to elevate Palestinian claims to that city."

"I'm honored to stand alongside you in the fight for the U.S.-Israel relationship," Cruz emphasized. "Israel remains strong, as is the unbreakable friendship between us."

"Thank you, and God bless you." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/327982>

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