**06/11/2021 NEWS AM**

**ישתבח שמו ⚡ Yaakov Shwekey**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_hzOuAK5gY>

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| --- | --- |
| Lord of the Worlds  I found two words  That Jews say everywhere  For what already was  Which has not yet happened  It does not matter because it will always be true  We thank him every day  And glorify to heaven | Thank God  For everything he created for me  For everything that happened to me  Thank God  On moments of happiness  About light in the dark  Thank God  Together forever  Thank God |

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| **"The reduction of political discourse to sound bites is one of the worst things that’s happened in American political life." -- John Silber (1926- ) Chancellor, Boston University Source: USA Today, 1 October 1990** |

**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 West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for DH – Mother going into hospice.**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  NOTE: Our prayer list was getting very long and there will little follow up.  If you have people you want to have on the list please resubmit since we are revising it now– rdb]  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 31:13I *am* the God of Bethel, there where you anointed the pillar, where you vowed a vow to Me. Now rise up; go out of this land and go back to the land of your kindred. 14And Rachel and Leah answered and said to him, *Is there* yet to us a portion and an inheritance in the house of our father? 15Are we not counted strangers by him. For he has sold us, and selling he has sold *us* for silver. 16For all the wealth which God has taken from our father, it *is* for us and for our sons. And now all that which God has said to you, do.**

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| **Please note:**  **The news postings will be spotty the next few days. I am preparing for a major family celebration – rdb]** |

**Violence erupts at Old City flashpoint as far right’s Ben Gvir holds protest**

***Controversy-courting lawmaker carries Israeli flag to Damascus Gate after police ban him from marching through Muslim Quarter; at least 5 arrested; Hamas issues warning***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 8:36 pm*

Clashes broke out Thursday afternoon between East Jerusalem protesters and Israel Police, as far-right lawmaker Itamar Ben Gvir marched to the flashpoint Damascus Gate entrance to the Old City. Ben Gvir waved an Israeli flag at the site, in what he said was a personal protest, after police banned him from parading through the Muslim Quarter to reach the Temple Mount.

At least five people were arrested, as hundreds of people were reported to take part in scuffles between Arabs and Ben Gvir’s Jewish supporters. One of those arrested reportedly snatched an Israeli flag from the hands of a Ben Gvir supporter.

Police used riot dispersal means, including flashbangs against protesters. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

Last month, clashes on the Temple Mount and around the Damascus Gate spiraled into a major confrontation between Israel and terror groups in the Gaza Strip. The fighting ended with a fragile ceasefire between Israel and Gaza’s Hamas rulers.

***Far-right Religious Zionism party lawmaker MK Itamar Ben Gvir visits the Damascus Gate of the Old City of Jerusalem, June 10, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)***

After Ben Gvir’s visit, and amid the rioting that followed, the Hamas military wing issued a statement saying that it was watching the developments closely.

“The Al-Qassam Brigades and the leadership of the resistance are closely following the provocative and aggressive actions by the usurpers and their leaders in Jerusalem and the Al-Aqsa Mosque,” the group said in a statement. “They warn against harming Al-Aqsa, and salute her free defenders in Jerusalem for their confrontation and resistance of the desecration of Al-Aqsa and the aggression against it.”

Ben Gvir went to the gate after the High Court of Justice earlier rejected his appeal against a decision by police to stop him from marching through the Muslim Quarter. Police were concerned the march could reignite violence in the city and beyond. Ben Gvir had planned to march in protest of the postponement by authorities of a much larger annual flag march through the Old City by nationalist Jewish groups.

That march had been scheduled for Thursday, and is now expected to take place on Tuesday — as long as organizers and police can agree on its route.



Police seen during clashes with protesters following a visit of right-wing Religious Zionism party lawmaker MK Itamar Ben Gvir at the Damascus Gate of the Old City of Jerusalem, on June 10, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Ben Gvir, of the Religious Zionism party, has repeatedly been accused of deliberately stoking unrest.

Under heavy security from Border Police, Ben Gvir stood at Damascus Gate and demanded that Police Commissioner Kobi Shabtai resign for “surrendering to terror.”

He said he had come to protest the “disgrace” that “a member of the Knesset cannot walk through the Old City” and called the ban against him a “surrender to terror by the police chief, complete subservience.”

Having said that he would not confront the police, Ben Gvir nonetheless slammed the force’s decision to prevent him from heading for the Temple Mount.

“The very fact that an MK in Israel cannot march in the Old City is a surrender to Hamas and terrorism; it is a victory of terrorism,” Ben Gvir charged. “Of course, we will not give up Jerusalem, we will not give up the Old City. “

“These terrorists,” he said as he pointed at Arab protesters who gathered to demonstrate against his visit, “make threats, Israel surrenders, and the person who brought this upon us is the police chief.”

“I will not fold. The police chief is a failure and he needs to go. I will remain in Jerusalem,” Ben Gvir said.

Far-right Religious Zionism party MK Itamar Ben Gvir visits the Damascus Gate of the Old City of Jerusalem, on June 10, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

The [ban against Ben Gvir](https://www.timesofisrael.com/far-right-mk-barred-from-visiting-temple-mount-amid-fears-of-violence/), which Channel 12 news said on Wednesday constituted an unprecedented removal of an MK’s immunity rights, was endorsed by Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit.

Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin (Likud) on Wednesday night asked Mandelblit to reconsider.

The high-level security cabinet on Tuesday evening announced the contentious flag march planned in Jerusalem would be permitted to take place in one week, if police approve the route.

Police had initially refused to authorize the event, which was set to follow a path through the Old City’s Damascus Gate entrance and Muslim Quarter, concerned of the potential for the parade to inflame tensions in the city and spark a fresh wave of unrest there, and potentially in other locations.

The Hamas terror group had warned of “consequences” if the march passed through Damascus Gate.

The original flag march on May 10 was stopped short by rocket fire from Hamas at Jerusalem during the unrest last month, which sparked an 11-day bout of intense fighting.

The Temple Mount is the holiest place in Judaism, as the site of the biblical Temples. It is the site of the third-holiest shrine in Islam, the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and has been a frequent flashpoint of violence.

Israel captured the Temple Mount and Jerusalem’s Old City in the 1967 Six Day War and extended sovereignty throughout Jerusalem. However, it allowed the Jordanian Waqf to continue to maintain religious authority atop the mount, where Jews are allowed to visit under numerous restrictions, but not to pray. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/violence-erupts-at-old-city-flashpoint-as-far-rights-ben-gvir-holds-protest/> [The entire situation is amazing. That a JEW can not go to the most holy site of their religion because of Islamic temper tantrums is ridiculous. Sorry Moshe Dayan but returning the mount to Jordan was a terrible mistake. – rdb]

**Likud promises peaceful transition of power, again accuses Bennett of fraud**

***Party continues to claim Yamina leader ‘hijacked votes from the right,’ falsely compares his actions to US electors switching voters’ choice of president***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *10 June 2021, 10:05 pm*

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s Likud party on Thursday issued a clarification of the premier’s claims of “election fraud” in Israel that made international headlines and drew comparisons to former US president Donald Trump.

In an English tweet thread retweeted by the premier, the party for the first time said that Netanyahu is committed to a “peaceful transition of power.”

However, his office has refused to state whether the prime minister will be attending the traditional handover ceremony of the premiership on Monday, and a transitional briefing with incoming premier Naftali Bennett has not yet been scheduled, with the government swear-in less than three days away.

Bennett is set to become prime minister after he reached a coalition deal with opposition leader Yair Lapid of the Yesh Atid party and a wide array of parties aligned against Netanyahu, ranging from the dovish Meretz to the pro-annexation New Hope and the Islamist party Ra’am. Under the agreement, Bennett will serve as prime minister for two years before handing the office to Lapid for the remainder of the term.

On Sunday, Netanyahu told a Likud faction meeting, “We are witnesses to the greatest election fraud in the history of the country and in my opinion, the history of democracies.” MORE -<https://www.timesofisrael.com/likud-promises-peaceful-transition-of-power-again-accuses-bennett-of-fraud/>

**Israel plans to allow individual tourists back into the country starting July 1**

***With okay already given to groups, interior minister recommends speedy entry process for those inoculated against coronavirus — from certain countries***

*By* [*Stuart Winer*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/stuart-winer/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 11:22 pm*

Israel could ease entry procedures for foreign visitors who have been vaccinated against the coronavirus from the beginning of next month, allowing regular tourists traveling outside organized groups to enter the country for the first time since the start of the pandemic.

International travel to Israel has been greatly limited, due to lockdown restrictions imposed to prevent COVID-19 strains from reaching the country. At times, Israel’s borders were entirely shut to foreigners. Tourists cannot currently travel to the country unless visiting a first-degree relative, and then under restrictive conditions.

Interior Minister Aryeh Deri sent a letter Thursday to Border Authority Director-General Shlomo Mor-Yosef telling him that he had consulted with the Health Ministry Yuli Edelstein, Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi, and professional teams from various ministries on the matter.

As a result, a decision was taken to allow vaccinated visitors from a list of countries that is yet to be determined by the Health Ministry “to enter Israel with a shortened process that will be put together in the coming days.”

He did not explain what the “shortened process” would involve.

Deri told Mor-Yosef that in light of the COVID-19 vaccination programs in other countries, “there is room to broaden the easing of entry to Israel for foreigners and to change the existing methods of approval that put an enormous load on Israel’s representatives abroad and on the Immigration and Population Authority in the country.”

Deri wrote that the target date to start the pilot would be July 1.



Interior Minister Aryeh Deri gives a press statement at the Knesset in Jerusalem, June 8, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/ Flash90)

Tourism Minister Orit Farkash-Hacohen welcomed the move, tweeting that “it is about time that Israel opens up to tourism and takes advantage of being a vaccinated country for the benefit of its economy.”

Farkash-Hacohen said that the changes would apply to individual tourists, rather than groups.

In April, Farkash-Hacohen [unveiled a four-part plan](https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-plans-to-reopen-to-tourists-in-may-eyes-travelers-from-uae/) to restart foreign tourism to Israel in the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic, including a global advertising campaign, flight incentives to Eilat, and the reintroduction of large international events.

Israel recently began accepting organized tour groups back into the country. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-plans-to-allow-individual-tourists-back-into-the-country-starting-july-1/>

**In stunning, revelatory interview, ex-Mossad chief warns Iran, defends Netanyahu**

***Days after stepping down, Yossi Cohen gives specific details of Mossad actions against Tehran nuke program, his role in UAE deal, his Gaza error, and his prime ministerial hopes***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 1:49 am*

Yossi Cohen, who retired as head of the Mossad last week, provided highly specific details of recent Mossad activity against Iran, his interactions with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, his role in Israel’s normalization with the UAE, and his own undercover career in an extraordinary interview on Israeli television broadcast on Thursday night.

Cohen intimated that his agency blew up Iran’s underground centrifuge facility at Natanz, gave a precise description of the 2018 operation in which the Mossad stole Iran’s nuclear archive from safes in a Tehran warehouse, confirmed that Iran’s assassinated top nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh had been in Mossad’s sights for years, and said the regime needs to understand that Israel means what it says when it vows to prevent Iran attaining nuclear weapons.

In what would appear to be the most revelatory interview ever given by a Mossad chief so close to the end of his active service, Cohen, who was appointed by Netanyahu, said he did not rule out seeking to become prime minister one day, though he wasn’t contemplating such an ambition at the moment.

The interview was presumably approved by Israel’s military censors, and Cohen was circumspect on numerous occasions, but nonetheless talked about his career and key operations with an openness and detail radically atypical of spy chiefs, especially those whose service has only recently ended.

Early in the more than an hour of conversations for journalist Ilan Dayan’s “Uvda” (Fact) documentary show on Israel’s Channel 12, Cohen indicated that he was deeply familiar with Iran’s various nuclear sites, and said that, if given the opportunity, he would take Dayan to the underground “celler” at [Natanz](https://www.timesofisrael.com/blast-at-natanz-was-caused-by-bomb-planted-near-main-electric-line-israeli-tv/), where, he said, “the centrifuges used to spin.”

“It no longer looks like it did?” Dayan asked.

“Indeed,” said Cohen.

“Unless they fixed it,” she said.

“It doesn’t look like it used to look,” insisted Cohen.

Cohen did not explicitly confirm responsibility for sabotage at Natanz in the interview, but said more generally: “We say very clearly [to Iran]: We won’t let you get nuclear weapons. What don’t you understand?”

Dayan noted that two major blasts at Natanz were attributed in foreign reports to the Mossad in the past year, and said “a huge quantity of explosives” were built into a marble platform used to balance the centrifuges.

***Watching Fakhrizadeh***

Regarding Fakhrizadeh, identified by Israel as the father of Iran’s rogue nuclear weapons program, who was killed in an ambush near Tehran in November 2020 that has been widely attributed to Israel, Cohen said that he was watched by Mossad for years and that the Mossad was physically close to him before November 2020.

Fakhrizadeh “most troubled us from the point of view of the science, the knowledge, the scientists of the Iranian military nuclear program,” said Cohen, and therefore “he was a target for [intelligence] gathering for many years.”

Interviewer Dayan said of Fakhrizadeh’s killing: “Yossi Cohen cannot take responsibility for this action, but his personal signature is on the entire operation.”

Asked whether he believes killings of potent Israeli enemies are worthwhile, Cohen said: “If the man constitutes a capability that endangers the citizens of Israel, he must stop existing.”

In some cases, however, Cohen said, Israel conveys the message to such a potential target that “if he is prepared to change profession and not harm us any longer, then yes” — implying such a target would be spared.

Did any such people get the hint and become, say, a piano player, Dayan asked?

Yes, said Cohen, and added that this pleased him. Others, however, he said, did not get the message that this was an offer they shouldn’t refuse.

For all the Mossad’s actions, “the Iranians are closer than ever” to the bomb,” Dayan suggested. “Not so,” said Cohen. “That’s not true.”

***7 hours in a Tehran warehouse***

In the interview, Cohen described the planning and execution of the Mossad’s theft of a vast archive of Iranian nuclear documents from a Tehran warehouse on the night of January 31, 2018 — an operation for which Israel has openly taken credit.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-stunning-revelatory-interview-mossad-chief-warns-iran-defends-netanyahu/>

**Hamas honors Al Jazeera for ‘highly professional’ coverage of Gaza conflict**

***On visit to temporary Gaza bureau of Qatar-funded agency after old office was leveled by IDF, terror group officials present certificate, laud outlet’s ‘high level of nationalism’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:27 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/E3YcGMbXIAM1aCg.jpeg)

Hamas officials present Al Jazeera with a certificate after what the terror group called the outlet's 'high level of nationalism' in its coverage of last month's conflict with Israel, June 10, 2021 (via Twitter)

A Hamas delegation paid a visit to the temporary bureau of Al Jazeera in Gaza Thursday, lauding the Qatari news agency for its coverage of the recent conflict between Israel and terror groups in the coastal enclave.

The visit, one of what Hamas said was a series by its officials to honor media outlets for their coverage, featured the presentation to the Al Jazeera team of a certificate marking appreciation for coverage of what Hamas called the “Sword of Jerusalem” battle.

Hamas deputy chief in Gaza Khalil al-Hayya told Al Jazeera reporters that they “demonstrated their belonging to the cause of the oppressed Palestinian people,” according to a statement from the group.  
 “What distinguishes the Palestinian journalist [from others] is that he has a national message,” Hayya said. “We saw a high level of nationalism and a national tone in Al Jazeera’s coverage.”  
 The senior Hamas official also lauded the agency’s “high professionalism” and noted the sacrifice of its reporters, whose office was leveled by the IDF on the fifth day of the 11-day conflict. Israel says Hamas had been using several offices in the al-Jaala media tower, including one where operatives were working on technology that could jam the Iron Dome missile defense system.

בכירי חמאס בעזה מעניקים תעודת הוקרה לערוץ אל-ג'זירה הקטרי על סיקור מופתי של מבצע שומר החומות  
נציג הערוץ בעזה ואיל דחדוח מקבל את התעודה מידי סגנו של יחיא סינוואר, ח'ליל אל-חיה[#קטר\_זה\_רעל](https://twitter.com/hashtag/%D7%A7%D7%98%D7%A8_%D7%96%D7%94_%D7%A8%D7%A2%D7%9C?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [pic.twitter.com/5w8qw2L8p0](https://t.co/5w8qw2L8p0)  
 — Gal Berger גל ברגר (@galberger) [June 8, 2021](https://twitter.com/galberger/status/1402339837609394183?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

The Associated Press also worked from the building, the destruction of which led to intense international criticism.   
 All occupants were warned by Israel to evacuate ahead of time, and no one was hurt.  
 Hayya also used the opportunity to praise Al Jazeera journalist Givara Budeiri, who was detained by Israeli forces last week while covering protests in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood of East Jerusalem, where Palestinian families are under threat of eviction. Police said Budeiri participated in riots at the scene, though he denied the claim.  
 Separately on Wednesday, Al Jazeera announced that it had been targeted in successive hacking attempts over the past several days, adding that it managed to fend them off.  
 Al Jazeera’s websites and platforms experienced “continued electronic attacks aimed at accessing, disrupting and controlling some of the news platforms” from Saturday to Tuesday, the network said in a statement picked up by Reuters.  
 “Al Jazeera’s service provider was able to monitor and fend off all the hacking attacks and prevent them from achieving their goal,” the network added.  
 It claimed that the cyberattacks peaked on Sunday ahead of the premiere of a documentary detailing indirect negotiations taking place between Israel and Hamas, including [a voice recording](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-issues-footage-of-shalit-in-captivity-voice-of-another-captured-soldier/) purportedly of an Israeli soldier held prisoner in Gaza, which was widely regarded as fake.  
 The Qatari news agency has long been accused of having an anti-Israeli, anti-American slant in its coverage. [*https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-hands-al-jazeera-award-for-highly-professional-coverage-of-gaza-conflict/*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-hands-al-jazeera-award-for-highly-professional-coverage-of-gaza-conflict/)   
**Iran rejects UN report it is stalling on answering queries on nuclear sites  
*Tehran’s envoy to International Atomic Energy Agency says claim is ‘counterproductive’ and ‘deeply disappointing,’ warns attitude could become an ‘obstacle’ in negotiations****By* [*AFP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/afp/) *Today, 9:08 pm* VIENNA, Austria — Iran accused the UN nuclear agency on Thursday of having taken “a counterproductive approach” after its head said Tehran had not clarified queries over possible undeclared nuclear activity.  
 Last week, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) voiced concern in a report to its members that Iran had not clarified the long-outstanding queries.  
 The regular report comes at a delicate time when world powers are meeting to bring the US back to the Iran nuclear deal and Tehran back into compliance with it.  
 The 2015 landmark accord has been hanging by a thread since the US left it in 2018 and re-imposed sanctions, leading Tehran to step up its nuclear activities long curtailed by the deal.  
 Iran Ambassador Kazem Gharib Abadi told the IAEA’s board of governors’ meeting that the latest agency report is “not credible,” calling it “deeply disappointing.”  
 Iran insists that it is cooperating with the IAEA as it seeks clarity on several undeclared Iranian sites where nuclear activity may have taken place, mostly in the early 2000s.  
 “The secretariat has taken a counterproductive approach at the expense of its own credibility,” he said, warning that this “could turn into an obstacle for future goodwill interactions between the two sides.”  
 IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi [told reporters on Monday](https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-failed-to-answer-questions-on-uranium-find-says-iaea-head/) that it was “becoming increasingly difficult” to extend a temporary inspections arrangement with Iran.  
 In February, Tehran suspended some IAEA inspections, leading the agency to negotiate continued, though reduced access.  
 The latest understanding runs out on June 24.  
 A joint statement by France, Germany, and the UK to the board of governors on Wednesday supported the IAEA’s work.  
 “In limiting IAEA access, Iran makes it harder for the international community to assure themselves that Iran’s activities remain exclusively peaceful,” it said.  
 The US also urged Iran in a statement to the board to “fully cooperate.”  
 Negotiators are expected to resume their talks in two downtown Vienna luxury hotels on Saturday to revive the 2015 accord, according to diplomats.  
 Representatives from Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia, and Iran — all party to the deal — have been meeting since early April.  
 Negotiators from the US are also taking part indirectly in the EU-chaired discussions.  
 Diplomats are hoping to conclude the negotiations before Iran’s presidential election on June 18. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-rejects-un-report-it-is-stalling-on-answering-queries-on-nuclear-sites/>

**Russia said providing Iran advanced spy satellite to surveil military targets**

***Officials say satellite would be a major upgrade to Iranian capabilities, letting Tehran continuously photograph Israeli and US bases in Mideast and share data with terror groups***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *and* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *Today, 6:22 am*

Russia is set to provide Iran with an advanced satellite that officials say can be used to track military targets across the Middle East and would significantly boost Tehran’s intelligence-gathering ability, the [Washington Post reported](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/iran-russia-satellite/2021/06/10/d28978f0-c9ab-11eb-81b1-34796c7393af_story.html) Thursday.  
 The report, citing three current and former US and Middle Eastern officials, said Russia will supply Iran with a Russian-made Kanopus-V satellite equipped with a high-resolution camera.  
 While technically a civilian satellite, it would give Iran the ability to continuously monitor sites ranging from Israeli army facilities to US military bases to Saudi oil refineries, the officials said.  
 Iran has stepped up its attempts at a satellite program in recent years. In April 2020 Iran’s Revolutionary Guard launched their first satellite into space, dramatically revealing what experts described as a secret military space program.  
 However, Pentagon officials derided the “Noor” satellite as little more than a “rotating webcam” and Israel’s Foreign Ministry described the launch as a “façade for Iran’s continuous development of advanced missile technology.”  
 [Get The Times of Israel's Daily Edition by email and never miss our top stories Free Sign Up](https://www.timesofisrael.com/signup/?utm_source=toi-articles&utm_medium=middle-link&utm_campaign=signup-buttons)   
 But it appears Iran’s military is also actively pursuing advanced surveillance capabilities.  
 The Washington Post said that senior Revolutionary Guards officials have made multiple trips to Russia since 2018 to help negotiate the terms of the agreement to purchase the satellite, while Russian experts were in Iran to help train ground crews that would operate the satellite from a newly built facility near the northern city of Karaj.  
 The Guard, which operates its own military infrastructure parallel to Iran’s regular armed forces, is a hardline force answerable only to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.  
 The satellite would be supplied in the next few months and be launched by Russia, the report said, noting that Russia declined to comment.  
 A Middle Eastern official told the Post that the Kanopus-V would feature Russian hardware, including a camera with a resolution of 1.2 meters — a significant improvement over Iran’s current capabilities, though still far short of the quality achieved by US spy satellites or high-end commercial satellite imagery providers.  
 Iran would be able to “task” the new satellite to spy on locations of its choosing, and as often as it wished, the officials said.  
 “It’s not the best in the world, but it’s high-resolution and very good for military aims,” the Middle Eastern official told the Post. “This capability will allow Iran to maintain an accurate target bank, and to update that target bank within a few hours” every day.  
 The official also said that Iran would be able share the images with its terror proxies across the region, like Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Huthis in Yemen, and militias operating in Iraq.  
 The report comes as the US is involved in indirect talks with Tehran to [reenter the Iran nuclear deal,](https://www.timesofisrael.com/blinken-iran-may-cut-nuclear-breakout-time-to-weeks-if-it-keeps-breaching-deal/) and ahead of a meeting between US President Joe Biden and Russian leader Vladimir Putin.  
 In the past, the US and Israel have condemned Iran’s satellite efforts as defying a UN Security Council resolution calling on Iran to undertake no activity related to ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons.  
 Iran, which long has said it does not seek nuclear weapons, previously maintained its satellite launches and rocket tests do not have a military component. The Guard launching its own satellite calls that into question.  
 Russia has also defended Iran’s right to launch satellites.  
 Months after the launch of the Noor, [Russia defended Iran’s right](https://www.timesofisrael.com/russia-defends-iran-satellite-launch-against-us-opposition/) to launch a satellite, dismissing US claims that Tehran was defying the UN resolution endorsing the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and six major powers by sending it into space.  
 Russia’s UN ambassador, Vassily Nebenzia, said that “the ongoing attempts of the United States side to deprive Iran of the right to reap the benefits of peaceful space technology under false pretexts are a cause for serious concern and profound regret.”  
 [Iran has suffered several failed satellite launches in recent years](https://apnews.com/7c8247674c294c23d408b034e9d4ee5a). A fire at the Imam Khomeini Space Center in February 2019 killed three researchers, authorities said at the time.  
 A rocket explosion last August drew even the attention of then-US president Donald Trump, [who tweeted what appeared to be a classified surveillance image of the launch failure](https://apnews.com/ab9a3c287e054a7b9b4734938d1ae587). The successive failures raised suspicion of outside interference in Iran’s program, something Trump himself hinted at by tweeting at the time that the US “was not involved in the catastrophic accident.”



This Jan. 26, 2020, satellite image from Planet Labs Inc. that has been annotated by experts at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies at Middlebury Institute of International Studies shows preparations at a rocket launch pad at the Imam Khomeini Space Center in Iran’s Semnan province. (Planet Labs Inc, Middlebury Institute of International Studies via AP)

Over the past decade, Iran has sent several short-lived satellites into orbit and in 2013 launched a monkey into space.

Experts told the Post that Iran previously managed to acquire high-resolution images by purchasing them from commercial satellite companies, however, their ability to obtain real-time data about potential military targets was limited.

“A domestic capability to take those pictures is something the military wants, because it’s valuable to them,” Jeffrey Lewis, a nonproliferation expert and professor at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey, Calif told the Post. He added that acquiring Russian technology essentially would allow the Iranians a faster path to a capability they would have acquired on their own, given enough time.

“Is Iran’s military delighted? Yes, it is, and this is a real change,” Lewis said. “But it was going to happen sooner or later.” <https://www.timesofisrael.com/russia-said-providing-iran-advanced-spy-satellite-to-surveil-military-targets/>

**New study supports 'Trump drug' as COVID treatment  
*Increased survival rate of severely ill patients nearly 3 times****By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published June 10, 2021 at 7:19pm* Yet another study has supported former President Trump's suggestion that the common malaria drug hydroxychloroquine is an effective treatment for COVID-19.  
 This time, [a study on 255 patients by St Barnabas Medical Center in New Jersey](https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.05.28.21258012v1) found that when used in a high dosage and with zinc, the drug increased survival rates nearly three times for severe cases in which patients were on ventilators.  
 Establishment media mocked Trump in April 2020 when he said hydroxychloroquine is a "powerful drug on malaria, and there are signs that it works on [the coronavirus], some very strong signs."  
 A month later, he told attendees during a roundtable event at the White House that he "happen to be taking it" as a preventative.  
 "A lot of good things have come out. You'd be surprised at how many people are taking it, especially the front-line workers," he said. "Before you catch it. The front-line workers, many, many are taking it."  
 In March, the World Health Organization [issued a warning against using the drug to treat COVID-19](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/who-against-hqc-to-prevent-covid). And last month, [the Canadian Global Television Network called](https://globalnews.ca/news/7823555/online-pharmacies-unlicensed-covid19-treatments-canada/) hydrochloroquine and ivermectin "two drugs that conspiracy theorists say cure COVID-19 and that scientists say are useless at treating the disease."  
 But there are 219 peer-reviewed studies indicating the effectiveness of hydroxychloroquine as a treatment and prophylaxis against COVID-19. And 54 peer-reviewed studies show the effectiveness of ivermectin.  
 A study by International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents published in December found hospitalizations were reduced 84% when COVID patients were treated with hydroxychloroquine.Bottom of Form

In the last week alone, we’ve learned that the media, so-called fact checkers and their Big Tech enforcers lied to us about the lab-leak theory, Hydroxychloroquine and the clearing of Lafayette Square.  
 All to hurt Donald Trump.  
 What else are they lying about?  
 — Donald Trump Jr. (@DonaldJTrumpJr) [June 10, 2021](https://twitter.com/DonaldJTrumpJr/status/1402793169067155456)  
 Remember when the media mocked and derided Trump for mentioning hydroxychloroquine?  
 I DO! <https://t.co/nteB58CCOk>  
 — Kayleigh McEnany (@kayleighmcenany) [June 10, 2021](https://twitter.com/kayleighmcenany/status/1402973105102983168)  
 Will Fauci & Friends ever admit error? Nah, that’s what independent scientists and media would do: Hydroxychloroquine and zinc could increase some COVID survival by 200% <https://t.co/8SjfOtCo84> via [@MailOnline](https://twitter.com/MailOnline)  
 — Laura Ingraham (@IngrahamAngle) [June 10, 2021](https://twitter.com/IngrahamAngle/status/1402949594825347073)  
 Last November, [renowned cardiologist Dr. Peter McCullough was among the physicians who in Senate testimony](https://www.wnd.com/2020/11/4871336/) decried the politicization of hydroxychloroquine, invermectin and other drugs as COVID treatments.  
 In [an interview last month](https://www.wnd.com/2021/05/top-doc-feds-demonizing-covid-19-treatments-order-promote-vaccine/), McCullough told Fox News' Tucker Carlson that "something has gone off the rails" in the world's approach to the novel coronavirus pandemic, with health authorities in the U.S. and abroad suppressing safe, cheap and effective treatments while promoting experimental vaccines that have received only emergency use authorization.<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/4922409/>   
   
**German vaccine panel advises against giving COVID shot to youths  
Recommended only for those with risky medical conditions***By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published June 10, 2021 at 7:38pm* Germany's scientific advisory committee on vaccinations recommended Thursday that young people under age 18 not receive COVID shots unless they have serious medical conditions that could make the disease riskier to them.  
 [Reuters reported](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-germany-biontech/german-panel-gives-limited-approval-for-covid-19-shot-for-adolescents-idUSKCN2DM1TB) the committee, known as STIKO, was weighing in on the vaccine produced by Pfizer and partner BioNTech.  
 In a statement, STIKO said it recommends a vaccination only for children and youth with an illness that poses a risk if they contract the novel coronavirus.  
 The German government has said it plans to offer shots to children as young as 12 in June. The European health regulator authorized the vaccine for use in adolescents last month. However, STIKO committee member Ruediger von Kriess, a pediatrics professor, has urged caution because of the lack of data on long-term effects. He believes children should get the shots only if they have risk factors.  
**To risky for someone with 99.997% survival rate**  
 Dr. Peter McCullough, a prominent cardiologist, internist and professor of medicine who has testified to the U.S. Senate, said recently that with increasing reports of adverse effects, [it's too risky for people who have a more than 99% survival rate to receive one of the experimental vaccines](https://www.wnd.com/2021/05/prominent-physician-dont-get-covid-shot/).  
 According to the CDC, the survival rate for people from birth to age 19 who contract COVID-19 is 99.997%.   
 Bottom of Form

"Based on the safety data now, I can no longer recommend it," he said in an interview with journalist and author John Leake.  
 "There are over 4,000 dead Americans, there are over 10,000 in Europe that die on days one, two and three after the vaccine," said McCullough.  
 The figure for the United States comes from reports submitted to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, or VAERS. Between Dec. 14, 2020 and May 7, 2021, more than 190,000 adverse events were reported, with 4,057 deaths.  
 VAERS includes a disclaimer that says the reports "may contain information that is incomplete, inaccurate, coincidental, or unverifiable."  
 But health care professionals who are concerned about the COVID shots point out the reports suggest the number of adverse events is exponentially higher than for previous vaccines. They note that the Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson shots are being administered under emergency use authorization by the FDA while they continue in trials expected to last another two and a half years, until Dec. 31, 2023.  
 "Why are we pushing this in a way where people's jobs and education and livelihoods [rely] on a decision that could be potentially fatal?" McCullough asked.  
 He [testified to the U.S. Senate last November](https://www.wnd.com/2020/11/4871336/) against what he described as the federal government's politicization of health care during the pandemic, curbing or blocking the availability of cheap, effective treatments for COVID-19 such as hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin.  
 In his interview with Leake, he said "the tension is high" as colleges and universities announce students who want to return to campus in the fall must be vaccinated.  
 "There are parents who say, 'I want my kid to go to college this year, but I don't want to lose 'em to the vaccine,'" McCullough said.  
 "They know what's going on. The internet is full of these cases -- blood clots, strokes, immediate death."  
 McCullough has 600 peer-reviewed publications to his name. Many have appeared in top-tier journals such as the New England Journal of Medicine, Journal of the American Medical Association and The Lancet. He is the president of the Cardiorenal Society of America, the co-editor of Reviews in Cardiovascular Medicine and associate editor of the American Journal of Cardiology and Cardiorenal Medicine. He has led monitoring safety boards in major drug trials.  
 *See Dr. Peter McCullough's remarks*:  
 Peter McCullough, MD [pic.twitter.com/3IaKhEk8Gq](https://t.co/3IaKhEk8Gq)  
 — Anna Brees (@BreesAnna) [May 25, 2021](https://twitter.com/BreesAnna/status/1397201913985355776)  
 *See the full interview:*  
 McCullough said in an [interview in May with the Fox Nation show "Tucker Carlson Today"](https://www.wnd.com/2021/05/top-doc-feds-demonizing-covid-19-treatments-order-promote-vaccine/) that pregnant women and others excluded from the trials should not get a COVID-19 vaccine.  
 "We never let anything pathogenic into a woman's body who's pregnant," he said.  
 All of the vaccines produce a viral spike protein that is pathogenic and can cause blood clotting and damage blood vessels, he explained. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/4922419/>   
  
**Pentagon chief ‘absolutely concerned’ about Iranian ships crossing Atlantic & ‘proliferation of weapons in our neighborhood’***11 Jun, 2021 00:59* Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said two Iranian vessels transiting the Atlantic toward Latin America are a “great concern,” despite reports that the Pentagon has no plans to intercept the ships or even monitor them more closely.   
 Asked about the two Iranian ships, which US officials allege are headed for Venezuela to fulfill a weapons sale inked last year, Austin told lawmakers that he shares their concerns, suggesting they pose a proliferation threat in the Western Hemisphere.   
 *“I am absolutely concerned about the proliferation of weapons, any type of weapons, in our neighborhood,”* he said during a Senate Armed Services Committee [hearing](https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/department-of-defense-budget-posture-in-review-of-the-defense-authorization-request-for-fiscal-year-2022). *“The precedent of allowing Iran to provide weapons to the region causes me great concern.”*  
 The ships’ voyage marks the first time the Iranian Navy has entered the Atlantic successfully, reaching the ocean after a 30-day journey.   
 Austin declined to say what weapons they might be carrying, telling Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-Connecticut) he would have to field that question in *“another forum,”* off the record.   
 A Wednesday [report](https://www.politico.com/news/2021/06/09/venezuela-cuba-iran-ships-492602) in Politico said one of the vessels is likely loaded with fast-attack boats destined for Venezuela, citing anonymous intelligence officials. The outlet also suggested they could carry long-range missiles based on [previous claims](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/us-threatens-to-destroy-iranian-missiles-shipped-to-venezuela) by the Donald Trump administration about a planned sale last summer, though the officials cited no evidence at the time.   
 While the Pentagon head voiced grave concerns about the Iranian ships, another unnamed defense official indicated a lack of urgency among the military, [telling](https://www.politico.com/news/2021/06/10/defense-iranian-ships-venezuela-493189) Politico on Thursday that there are currently no plans to *“conduct an intercept in international waters,”* nor to even *“monitor the ships more closely.”*    
 Nonetheless, senior Pentagon figures said the delivery of weapons to Venezuela would be a *“provocative act”* and a *“threat to our partners in the Western Hemisphere,”* claiming Washington reserves *“the right to take appropriate measures”* to stop the alleged arms sale.  
 [Also on rt.com Iran’s Revolutionary Guard blames Washington for Gulf incident that saw US ship firing warning shots at its gunboats](https://www.rt.com/news/523457-iran-us-persian-gulf/)   
 Top lawmakers have taken much the same stance, with Senator Marco Rubio (R-Florida), vice chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee, insisting Venezuela should *“unconditionally turn [the ships] around, or we should force them to turn around.”*  
 After questioning Austin, Senator Blumenthal said an Iranian arms sale would set a *“pretty alarming”* precedent, adding it could be a *“first testing blow”* by the Islamic Republic *“as to whether they can get away with it and make mischief.”*  
 Throughout the Trump administration, officials repeatedly singled out Iranian fuel shipments to Venezuela, with the military even [seizing four tankers](https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/largest-us-seizure-iranian-fuel-four-tankers) bound for the Latin American nation last year. As both countries remain heavily sanctioned by Washington, President Joe Biden has also apparently taken interest in the petroleum sales, with his State Department [saying](https://www.voanews.com/usa/us-monitoring-iran-sends-fuel-tankers-venezuela-defiance-sanctions) it is *“aware”* of the shipments and would *“continue to monitor the situation”* earlier this year. The department, however, declined to say at the time whether it would carry out another seizure in the future.

https://www.rt.com/usa/526259-pentagon-concern-iran-atlantic/

**Commentary:**

**Is COVID a Bioweapon?**

[Dinesh D'Souza](https://townhall.com/columnists/dineshdsouza/) Posted: Jun 09, 2021 3:50 PM

Is COVID-19 a bioweapon? Is it a biological weapon deliberately released by the Chinese government and the Chinese Communist Party in order to achieve its global objectives? The debate hasn't really gone there. But I think it needs to. Why not?  
 If the virus leaked out of the Wuhan lab, there are two ways that could happen. The first one, of course, is an accidental leak; oops, the virus got out. But the other is they wanted the virus to get out. And that cannot be written off without looking into it. That's what I'm calling for.  
 Early in 2020, almost a year and a half ago, Debbie and I were on a long plane flight from California, I believe, to Texas after doing a speaking event. And Debbie was on the WiFi, and she said, "Hey, take a look at this!" And she showed me a video. This was really before the lockdowns, before the global awareness of COVID. But it was a scene in China, and you saw a group of Chinese people in full hazmat suits. And they were going into the apartments of Chinese families and dragging people out by force. Those people were screaming, "Please, please!" One guy was holding onto one leg, another guy to another leg; they were pulling these people out and tossing them into vans. And then you would see these same Chinese guys in hazmat suits walking through the streets with huge, it seemed like leaf blowers, but they were fumigating the streets.   
 It was an eerie scene; it's a scene out of "Apocalypse Now." And Debbie was discombobulated and disturbed by this. And she asked, "What's going on? This is not normal." And I agreed, but I didn't really make too much of it. But I'm thinking about that scene, one of the most, to me, arresting images, of COVID in retrospect, because it almost seems like, at a time when the world didn't know much about COVID (it knew about it but didn't know much about it, there was no talk at that time of a global pandemic), it seems like the Chinese knew what they had on their hands. They knew what they were dealing with.   
 This, of course, raises the question, was this part of something that they orchestrated or planned? When I look at all the talk surrounding the investigations of the origin of COVID-19 now, it seems that there are two possibilities: either this emerged naturally out of a wet market, or it leaked accidentally out of the Wuhan lab. Those are the two options.   
 Here is the important article I've cited before by the two leading scientists Steven Quay and Richard Muller from The Wall Street Journal – "[The Science Suggests a Wuhan Lab Leak](https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-science-suggests-a-wuhan-lab-leak-11622995184)." And think of that title, "The Science Suggests a Wuhan Lab Leak." They go on to point out that the virus looks to be manmade. But they seem to assume that if it was manmade, it is a *leak*. In other words, it came out inadvertently. They don't even seem to consider the possibility that this could have been done deliberately.   
 Now, why do people make deadly viruses? Well, I can think of three reasons.  
 One, they're doing it to find cures for disease. Two, they're doing it because they can, out of you may say, the kind of idle scientific curiosity that proverbially killed the cat. We can do it. So, let's do it. We'll worry about the risks later. Or three, as a bioweapon.  
 The Chinese have had, no one denies, a biological weapons program. In fact, they've had one since the mid-1980s. The New York Times published an article in 1993 talking about how China is building up its bioweapons program, a highly clandestine program initiated by the Communist Party and its leadership.   
 So, we have to look at the two competing theories. Either it was an accidental leak, or it was a bioweapon. It seems to me that the best argument for a leak is the idea that the virus got out in Wuhan. That would seem to suggest a leak; why? Because if it were really deliberate if it was a bioweapon, why release it in your own country? We seem to mean that the Chinese would be more likely to say, "Hey, listen, let's take this over and release it in the Netherlands. It'll get out over there and spread from there, and it'll be more difficult to trace to us."  
 But I think that this way of thinking, although it seems plausible, is actually a little bit naive. Why? Because it now turns out that you can look at the virus itself and see inside of the genetic code of the virus, a signature that suggests it's manmade. So the Chinese, if this were a bioweapon, would know this. And they would know that if they release it in the Netherlands, people would say, "Whoa, wait a minute, this was a manmade virus! Well, who's making these deadly viruses? The leading place in the world: Wuhan, China!" So, in other words, then you would know it was released deliberately.   
 Now, here's the advantage of having it released in Wuhan, from the Chinese point of view. You can make a deliberate release of the virus look like a leak. If the virus got out in Wuhan, if it kills a bunch of Chinese, people are going to say, "Well, gee, obviously it leaked out. There was some kind of negligence." So even though China is responsible, it's one thing to be responsible for negligence. It's a whole other thing to be responsible for something deliberate.   
 Here's the point.   
 It's a little hard for many people to believe. In fact, Fauci said recently, I'm paraphrasing, "The Chinese have every interest in cooperating. They have every interest in disclosing what happened here." He's assuming that they wouldn't dream of releasing this virus deliberately. But I think that is Fauci naivete, Fauci stupidity.   
 Why? Because communist governments have never hesitated to kill a whole bunch of their own people. They mainly kill their own people. Even if you look at the socialist government in Nazi Germany, the National Socialists, and you think of the Jews, the other Jews were seen by Hitler as not, you know, "they're aliens," but they were Germans. Stalin killed millions of his own people, millions of Russians. Mao killed millions of Chinese. So this idea that "the Chinese would never dream of killing some of their own people," they certainly would if their leadership was inoculated. If the leadership had the vaccine in advance, if the leadership had a way of protecting them, that's who they care about. This was also true in the Soviet Union. They cared about their own inner circle, their own nomenklatura; they didn't care about anyone else.   
 It would seem to me that there are three good reasons for the Chinese to want to use COVID-19 as a bioweapon if they could.  
 One, to get rid of Trump. Trump was a menace as far as the Chinese were concerned. Look at the timing of the virus. It was almost like a political and scientific nuclear bomb dropped in the middle of the 2020 election year.   
 Two, to deliver a body blow to the world economy, and particularly to the U.S. economy. The U.S. has been essentially the world's superpower, but think of what happens if the U.S. is essentially blown up from within. And if the Chinese are able to take a blow but recover much more quickly. That is, in fact, what has been the case.   
 And the third is to thin out the Chinese population. The Chinese don't exactly have a shortage of people. This is a virus that disproportionately affects old people who would otherwise be wards of the state.   
 So, if you think this kind of diabolical reasoning is impossible for a socialist government, impossible for a communist party, well, it's time to learn a little bit of history.  <https://townhall.com/columnists/dineshdsouza/2021/06/09/is-covid-a-bioweapon-n2590750>

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**Itzik Orlev Bo Nadlik T'Esh Official Music Video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QaZr_hHaHI4>

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| Walking Through The World, Everything Here's Sophisticated  Just The Happiness That Is Gone Mmmm  Inside Of Me There's A Melody  That Is Bursting And Rising…La…La  Let's Light The Fire A Rhythm That Conquers Exciting Night  It Carries Me Away YEAH YEAH  Let's Light The Fire A Rhythm That Conquers  So Let's Light It Up  It's Gonna Gonna Be Fun Here YEAH YEAH | No Way We're Just Gonna Dream  Let's Leave The Yesterday  Let's Get Happy Big Time Mmmm  Let's Light the spark  Give me a rhythm, Let's Jump More And More  Oh Oh Oh Oh – Raise Your Hands Up  Oh Oh Oh Oh- Revolution Tonight  Oh Oh Oh Oh - Let's Always Be Happy Lnshallah  Oh Oh Oh Oh - Come On Yallah Yallah". |

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| **"The devil’s best trick is to persuade you that he doesn’t exist!" -- Charles Baudelaire (1821-1867) French poet, critic and translator Source:  in his 1864 short story, “The Generous Gambler”** |

**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 West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for DH – Mother going into hospice.**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  NOTE: Our prayer list was getting very long and there will little follow up.  If you have people you want to have on the list please resubmit since we are revising it now– rdb]  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 31:9And God has taken away the livestock of your father and has given to me. 10And it happened at the time the flock was in heat, I lifted up my eyes and saw in a dream: And behold! The rams leaping on the flock were striped, speckled, and spotted. 11And the Angel of God spoke to me in a dream, Jacob! And I said, Behold me. 12And He said, Lift up your eyes and see all the rams leaping on the flock; *they are* striped, speckled and spotted. For I have seen all that Laban is doing to you.**

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| **Please note:**  **The news postings will be spotty the next few days. I am preparing for a major family celebration – rdb]** |

**Huge forest fires near Jerusalem contained as terror suspicions mount**

***Authorities believe blazes were deliberately set — likely as nationalistic attacks by West Bank Palestinians; 2,650 dunams scorched; dozens evacuated***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 11:04 pm*

Fire authorities increasingly believe several large wildfires that broke out on the outskirts of Jerusalem and in the West Bank were deliberate acts of arson, likely set by Palestinians, Hebrew media reported on Wednesday night.

Blazes that broke out in forested areas west of Jerusalem during the afternoon prompted the Israel Fire and Rescue Services to evacuate dozens of residents in the area.

Later in the afternoon, several more fires were ignited in the northern West Bank, including large blazes near the settlements of Ariel and Shavei Shomron.

By the evening, the fires were brought under control, although firefighting units were to remain on the ground throughout the night in case the flames restarted, Channel 13 reported.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage to property in the fires. An initial estimate put the area of scorched forest at 2,650 dunams (655 acres).

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| [View of a forest fire raging in Lifta at the entrance to Jerusalem, on June 07, 2021. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/F210607OF2008.jpg)  View of a forest fire raging in Lifta at the entrance to Jerusalem, on June 07, 2021. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90) | A firefighting plane works on extinguishing a forest fire raging in the area of the Arab-Israeli village of Abu Ghosh near Jerusalem, on June 9, 2021. (Photo by Ahmad GHARABLI / AFP) |

Investigators were gathering footage from security cameras to learn more about the cause.

Though officials were not giving a verdict, deliberate arson is being considered because the area where the fires broke out is close to Israel’s security barrier with the West Bank, the Kan public broadcaster reported.

Last month, when violent Palestinian rioting in East Jerusalem spread to mixed Jewish-Arab cities in Israel, several fires were started in the same area by West Bank Palestinians who threw Molotov cocktails over the barrier, the station said.

“We still haven’t come to a conclusion about the cause of the fire,” Jerusalem Fire and Rescue Services District Commander Nissim Twito told Channel 13. “We are in the middle of the investigation.” “Based on the history of the area and the tension, it could be that the reason is nationalistic. At the moment, we don’t have an indication to say for certain that is the reason,” he said.

“At the moment I don’t know if this was arson. There is no doubt that this incident is a little complicated and strange” in that all the fires happened at the same time, Fire and Rescue Commissioner Dedi Simchi told Channel 12 News.

Earlier, Simchi said he was sure that the fires were manmade, but could not say if it was deliberate or negligence.

According to the fire services, the Jerusalem-area fire broke out on Mount Haruah in the Jerusalem hills, near the Neve Ilan moshav.

Later in the afternoon, 29 teams of firefighters and 10 planes joined the effort to extinguish the massive blaze. Firefighting forces from other areas of Israel were also called in to assist in tackling the flames.

The fire services later ordered the evacuation of all residents of Kibbutz Ma’ale Hahamisha in the Judean hills. A second blaze reportedly broke out on the nearby Mount Eitan.

Residents were later able to return to their homes.

ירושלים – שריפה גדולה בהר הרוח בסמוך לנווה אילן.

האש מתקרבת לקווי הבתים ביד השמונה ואבו גוש.  
צוותי כיבוי רבים פועלים במקום תוך סיוע של ארבעה מטוסי כיבוי. על מנת למנוע מהאש להגיע לקו הבתים. [pic.twitter.com/peVY3argfG](https://t.co/peVY3argfG)

— כבאות והצלה לישראל (@102\_IL) [June 9, 2021](https://twitter.com/102_IL/status/1402570935320858626?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Roads and highways in the area were also briefly shut, including a portion of Route 1, the main highway connecting Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

At 2 p.m., the Israel Railways announced that it was halting trains on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv line due to the fire. The trains resumed several hours later.

The ongoing corruption trial of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem was halted shortly before 3 p.m. due to the blaze.

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| View of a large fire that broke near Neve Ilan, outside Jerusalem on June 09, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90) | Smoke rises from the site of a wildfire behind the village of Abu Gosh near Jerusalem, Wednesday, June 9, 2021. (AP Photo/Oded Balilty) |

A heavy pall of smoke hung over the Jerusalem area and the Environmental Protection Ministry recommended that people suffering from heart and lung disease, the elderly, children, and pregnant women remain indoors and avoid going outside unless absolutely necessary. It also recommended that the rest of the population limit outdoor physical activity, close windows, and use air conditioners.

Large teams of firefighters and volunteers also worked frantically to put out the fires in the West Bank.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/huge-forest-fires-near-jerusalem-contained-as-terror-suspicions-mount/> [This issue of terrorist set fires is not an uncommon event. I wouldn’t be surprised if a number of the US fires were not intentionally set. – rdb]

**Likud MK: I can’t see any way to prevent ‘change government,’ Netanyahu’s ouster**

***‘Parasites,’ ‘swindlers’ helped by ‘deep state’: pro-Netanyahu MKs opposed to incoming coalition lash out against its leaders, particularly PM-designate Bennett***

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

Likud MK Miki Zohar, the outgoing coalition chairman, on Wednesday said he doesn’t believe Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu can thwart his rivals from forming a “change government” that will see the long-time premier removed from power.  
 In a Channel 12 interview, Zohar was asked if Netanyahu and Likud have any political tricks up their sleeve to prevent the establishment of the coalition led by Yamina’s Naftali Bennett and Yesh Atid’s Yair Lapid, which is due to be sworn in on Sunday.  
 “No. I don’t think so,” Zohar replied, adding that Bennett and New Hope leader Gideon Sa’ar have gone too far to turn back now.  
 “Bennett understands that he’s lost all his supporters [were he to face the electorate again in another election]. [Former Likud MK] Gideon Sa’ar has completely given up on his right-wing ideology in order to achieve his personal, childish revenge against Netanyahu,” said Zohar. “And therefore I can’t see any situation where they’ll change course or mess up at the last minute. They’ve made their decision [to push out Netanyahu], including the huge price they’ll pay for it.” [I am not so sure that Zohar’s assessment is correct. There has been a huge amount of negative feelings in Israel over Bibi and even though Bennett is considered part of the right there are many in that camp that Bibi has estranged. – rdb]  
 Netanyahu and his allies have been working intensively to foil the coalition by convincing some of its member lawmakers to drop their support.  
 But Zohar said Likud’s decision Tuesday to reserve three spots on its electoral list for any eleventh-hour defectors “was a kind of late-minute effort, pretty late, and pretty unlikely to succeed, in all honesty.”  
 “I of course voted in favor of the move in order to keep that chance alive, but it was plainly too late,” he continued. “Things over there [in the change bloc] have been worked out and sealed, and will lead to a [change bloc] government.”  
 He also voiced support for Netanyahu staying on as Likud chairman to lead the party from the opposition benches “until we can bring down this lousy government that has been formed.” “The moment this government falls and we head to elections, we can have leadership primaries [in Likud]… and Netanyahu will be chosen again,” Zohar said, though he stressed that, in his opinion, there is no need for Likud primaries as Netanyahu is the party’s chosen leader.  


***Likud MKs Shlomo Karhi (L) and Galit Distel attend a meeting of the Arrangements Committee at the Knesset, in Jerusalem, on June 9, 2021. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)***

Zohar’s remarks came as a heated meeting of the Knesset Arrangements Committee approved a swearing-in for the emerging government on Sunday at 4 p.m. after the date was set by Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin of Likud.

Members of pro-Netanyahu parties that are part of the outgoing government harshly attacked the incoming coalition, prompting committee chair MK Karine Elharrar of Yesh Atid to ask them to tone down their remarks.

“This government is being formed with the tremendous support of the prosecution, that has carried out a process, a process of the deep state, that is at the moment becoming clear in the court,” Likud MK Galit Distel Atbaryan said according to Channel 12 News. She was apparently referring to Netanyahu’s ongoing corruption trial which the prime minister and his supporters have accused as being a conspiracy by the prosecution, police and media to oust the premier.

Netanyahu himself also said this week the [potential incoming government was in league](https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-claims-habitual-liar-bennetts-coalition-in-league-with-deep-state/) with the so-called “deep state.”

Accusing the emerging coalition of having the backing of the state prosecution and the media, Distel Atbaryan called Sa’ar and Bennett “opportunists” who are “like parasites on an organism, who misappropriated the public trust and went and took votes from the right to the left. So your victory is a sad one, weak and unreal.”

Addressing lawmakers of the change coalition, Likud MK Shlomo Karhi said: “The government that you are going to set up is a government that not be established on a mandate for the people, but on a mandate that was stolen from the people.”

MK Michael Michaeli of the ultra-Orthodox Shas party, which is allied with Netanyahu’s Likud, said that whereas in the past children could be taught that the path to becoming prime minister is by leading the largest party in the Knesset and earning public trust, from now on  the lesson will be “that more of a swindler and liar you are the more chance you have of more quickly becoming the prime minister.” Michaeli was referring to Bennett becoming prime minister with just six Knesset seats.

Bennett, he accused, is “a con man who lied to his voters and the Israeli people — and we will need to tell our children that this swindler is the prime minister because he cheated everybody.”



Shas MK Michael Michaeli reacts during a meeting of the Arrangements Committee at the Knesset, in Jerusalem, on June 9, 2021. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

Committee chair Elharrar reprimanded the lawmakers. While acknowledging that criticism is welcome, she said “this is the Israeli Knesset, let us try to ensure that the criticism is in the proper language. Calling people derogatory names is not appropriate in my view.”

More criticism came from Likud Minister David Amsalem who spoke in the Knesset plenum during a Wednesday session, telling lawmakers that he doesn’t believe that Bennett, an Orthodox Jews, is really religious.

“What desecration of God’s name are you committing,” Amsalem said. “I never believed he was religious.”

Amsalem called the “unity government” a group of “elitist Ashkenazis” who only held sway in north Tel Aviv and Ra’anana.

“The only unity there is with (Ra’am leader) Mansour Abbas, the only Mizrahi there. It is actually a government of hate and poison,” Amsalem said.

He accused Bennett of destroying Israeli democracy and said Abbas would actually be running the government.

“I’ll tell you why. Each morning Bennett and Lapid will call him, to see how he feels, if he is sick, does he want a massage, maybe some more money, a few more communities for the Bedouins,” he said to catcalls from the Knesset plenum. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/likud-mk-i-cant-see-any-way-to-prevent-change-government-netanyahus-ouster/> [These people are going stark raving mad much like the demon-rats did when The Donald was elected. These are people who have been in power for about 12 years and have been clinging on to their power by the skin of their teeth for the past 3 years. Bibi had been less than kind to anyone who disagrees with him or challenges his decisions. He has literally reigned with an iron hand like a dictator even though he has lots of committees, their recommendations hold little water if he doesn’t agree. Few have burned as many bridges as he has. – rdb]

**IDF chief reprimands brigadier general for unapproved call with Bennett**

***Brig. Gen. Ofer Winter formally chastised for the illicit conversation with the presumed PM-to-be, to whom he’s been accused of leaking military information in the past***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 10:33 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2019/07/F181022MA06.jpg)

Brig. Gen. Ofer Winter attends a Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee meeting at the Knesset, on October 22, 2018. (Miriam Alster/Flash90)

IDF Chief of Staff Aviv Kohavi formally reprimanded a top officer on Wednesday after he spoke with Yamina party leader and presumptive prime minister-to-be Naftali Bennett without permission.

The unauthorized conversation between Bennett and Brig. Gen. Ofer Winter, commander of the 98th Division, was first revealed in an article in the Israel Hayom newspaper on Tuesday. After the story was published, the Israel Defense Forces said it would investigate.

Under military protocol, officers are forbidden from communicating with elected officials without approval from their commanding officers. This is meant to prevent potentially involving the military in partisan fights.

On Wednesday, the head of the IDF Central Command Maj. Gen. Tamir Yadai — Winter’s commanding officer — presented his findings of the incident to Kohavi, confirming that the conversation took place.

“The chief of staff called the officer for a clarification conversation and decided to give him a formal reprimand in light of the restriction on direct contacts between service members and elected officials,” the IDF said in a statement.

This was not the first time that Winter has been accused of illicitly coordinating with Bennett. He also did so [during the 2014 Gaza war](https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-officers-said-to-leak-intel-to-bennett-during-2014-gaza-war/) when he was the commander of the Givati Brigade and Bennett was education minister. At the time, Winter was accused of providing Bennett with sensitive military information during a meeting, bypassing the proper Defense Ministry channels. Bennett and Winter have been friends for decades and served together in the military.

Winter also served as military secretary to Bennett when he was defense minister, as well as to his predecessor Avigdor Liberman and for a short time to his successor Benny Gantz.

He has been reportedly considered for the role of military secretary to Bennett should the Yamina leader indeed become prime minister as he is slated to do next week following a confidence vote in the Knesset scheduled for Sunday. It is not clear, however, if Winter — who fought to become a field commander after a number of staff roles — will agree to return to a government office. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-chief-reprimands-brigadier-general-for-unapproved-meeting-with-bennett/>

**Ben Gvir barred from Muslim Quarter march, Temple Mt. visit, amid violence fears**

***Far-right MK describes police decision to limit his parliamentary rights as ‘end of democracy’; cops question far-right activists Gopstein and Marzel for inciting racism***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:46 pm*

Police on Wednesday barred far-right Religious Zionism MK Itamar Ben Gvir from a planned march Thursday with the Israeli flag through the Muslim Quarter of the Old City, and a visit to the Temple Mount, amid fears he could reignite violence in the city and beyond.

The Knesset Guard informed Ben Gvir that Police Commissioner Kobi Shabtai had decided to prevent his visit, intended to protest the [postponement of a flag march](https://www.timesofisrael.com/jerusalem-flag-march-to-be-held-next-tuesday-2-days-after-vote-on-new-coalition/) through the city by nationalist Jewish groups and a refusal to let them march through the Damascus Gate and Muslim Quarter.

“Ben Gvir’s intended march is almost certain to cause serious harm to public order, to the point of harming national security,” Shabtai stated. The move, which Channel 12 news said constituted an unprecedented removal of an MK’s immunity rights, was endorsed by Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit.

Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin (Likud) on Wednesday night asked Mandelblit to reconsider.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz endorsed the ban on Ben Gvir visiting Temple Mount, Channel 12 said, though Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had yet to take a position on it.

“It’s the end of democracy,” Ben Gvir said, referring to the ban on his march through the Muslim Quarter. “They are harming the immunity of members of Knesset.”

Ben Gvir said Shabtai “failed to quell the rioting in Lod, in the south, and on the Temple Mount, and now with an unprecedented decision is harming my immunity,” referring to Jewish-Arab riots last month amid the 11-day Gaza conflict.

Ben Gvir called on Netanyahu to overturn the decision.

Channel 13 news said he nonetheless intended to march with the flag unless or until he was stopped by police.

Also Wednesday, police questioned two prominent right-wing Jewish extremists, allies of Ben Gvir, on suspicion of racist incitement over social media posts they made against Jews assimilating with non-Jews.

Ben Gvir and Yamina MK Amichai Chikli were [turned away from the Temple Mount](https://www.timesofisrael.com/rights-ben-gvir-chikli-blocked-from-temple-mount-did-not-coordinate-visit/) Tuesday after failing to coordinate their visits with the Knesset Guard and the Shin Bet security service.



Religious Zionism MK Itamar Ben Gvir is blocked by Israel Police as he tries to go up to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem’s Old City, June 8, 2021. (Olivier Fitoussi/FLASH90)

Lawmakers are required to notify of planned visits to the Jerusalem holy site 24 hours in advance.

The Temple Mount is the holiest place in Judaism, as the site of the biblical Temples. It is the site of the third-holiest shrine in Islam, the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and has been a frequent flashpoint of violence.

I srael captured the Temple Mount and Jerusalem’s Old City in the 1967 Six Day War and extended sovereignty throughout Jerusalem. However, it allowed the Jordanian Waqf to continue to maintain religious authority atop the mount, where Jews are allowed to visit under numerous restrictions, but not to pray. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/far-right-mk-barred-from-visiting-temple-mount-amid-fears-of-violence/> [Think about this article just a bit. In the USA there is a tremendous push for and confidence in the Freedom of Speech. Unless you are opening threatening or inciting a major problem by constitutional authority you can do that. In the rest of the world that freedom is significantly limited. This is true in Israel and most of the EU and other countries of the world. The open and even very controversial peaceful exchange of thought is supposed to be inviable. That is exactly what big tech and the demon-rats are trying to and have been limiting. – rdb]

**Israeli scientists move closer to averting deadly immune overreaction to COVID**

***Technion team says it has identified the T-cell mechanism that launches ‘cytokine storms,’ which have caused many coronavirus deaths***

*By* [*Nathan Jeffay*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/nathan-jeffay/) *Today, 5:28 pm*

Israeli researchers say they have identified a possible method to stop the immune system overreaction that has been linked to many deaths from COVID-19, as well as other diseases.

The body’s T cells normally protect it against disease, but they can cause serious health problems when they become overactive. These include cytokine storms, the immune reaction that causes major inflammation and is believed to be behind many of the deaths among COVID-19 patients. The cytokine storms also harm many people suffering from autoimmune diseases.

But researchers at the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology think they have identified a possible route for stopping this overreaction. They have pinpointed a “regulatory site” in a protein within T cells which decides whether or not to launch immune reactions.

Prof. Debbie Yablonski and her team believe it’ll someday be possible to “dial down” the reaction through medication.

They have published their research in the [peer-reviewed Journal of Immunology,](https://www.jimmunol.org/content/206/10/2322) where it was recommended by the editorial board as a top read, and are now trying to work out how to harness the knowledge to actually halt cytokine storms. The team is already working on identifying drugs that may have that desired effect.

“Sometimes the immune system gets revved up too much and produces a cytokine storm, and following our findings we believe that, in the future, we will be able to fine-tune the level of immune response using drugs,” Yablonski told The Times of Israel.

T cells, a central element of the immune system, can only spring into action once there are two indications that the body is facing a problem, like a tumor or a virus.

“They are like the safety mechanism on a coffee machine which checks that two buttons are being pressed to ensure it’s an adult asking for a drink and not a toddler playing with the machine,” Yablonski said.

One signal is generated as the T cells recognize a specific threat, like a virus. Another, the so-called co-stimulatory signal, is a general signal that confirms there is a problem in the body.

This much is well known, but what Yablonski has discovered is the exact mechanism that first determines whether an individual T cell will initiate an immune response or whether it will refrain.

The ability of T cells to correctly make this decision is important because too little responsiveness would impair immunity to pathogens; however, if the response is triggered too easily, this can have deleterious consequences such as autoimmunity or perhaps a cytokine storm.

“The question is how, exactly, do T cells know that both signs of infection are provided,” Yablonski said. ”And what we have identified is the very mechanism that the cells use to first do this.”



Professor Debbie Yablonski of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology (courtesy of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology)

Yablonski said the mechanism — which relies on a protein contained within T cells — verifies the proofs, akin to a bank clerk verifying that two signatures are present on checks from a joint account before authorizing payment.

Her hope now is that, with the mechanism identified, it will be possible to identify ways to manipulate it and tone down the immune response when there is danger of a cytokine storm.

Yablonski’s lab has patented this approach for addressing the problem of immune overreaction — and she believes that finding the right drug for the job can happen within a few years.

“We are at the very early stages, and I’m very hopeful about finding inhibitors that could be very useful for modulating cells,” she said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-scientists-move-closer-to-averting-deadly-immune-overreaction-to-covid/>

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2013/08/f130313ns42-e1377203580247.jpg)**PETA hails Israel as first country to ban fur, but major exceptions remain**

***Legislation still allows imports of sable shtreimels, worn by many Haredi men on Shabbat and holidays, which makes up majority of fur worn in temperate Middle Eastern country***

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

Illustrative photo of a man trying on a shtreimel in the ultra-Orthodox neighborhood of Mea Shearim, Jerusalem. (photo credit: Nati Shohat/Flash90)

Animal rights group PETA on Wednesday hailed Israel as “the first country in the world to ban the sale of fur” after Environmental Protection Minister Gila Gamliel signed the move into law.

“This historic victory will protect countless foxes, minks, rabbits and other animals from being violently killed for their skin,” the statement said.

“For decades, PETA and our international affiliates have exposed horrific cruelty on fur farms, demonstrating that animals spend their entire lives confined to cramped, filthy wire cages. Fur farmers use the cheapest killing methods available, including neck-breaking, suffocation, poisoning and genital electrocution,” PETA said.

Despite the accolades, critics say the new law is mostly toothless, as it continues to allow the import of fur for religious reasons, their main use in Israel.

PETA said efforts to bring about the ban were the fruit of years of lobbying by animal rights activists, including PETA Honorary Director Pamela Anderson, who had personally appealed to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

PETA thanked Gamliel, who responded by saying: “Proud to be the first country in the world to ban the sale of fur.” “Now the whole world knows we made history today, fur is no longer in fashion,” she tweeted.

However, the new law appears to be largely symbolic.

The authority to issue permits for the import and export of wild animal fur lies with the director of the Israel Nature and Parks Authority.

The amendment to 1976 regulations passed within the framework of the Wildlife Protection Law, which Gamliel signed Wednesday, limits the INPA director’s room for maneuver but allows him to continue issuing permits if the pelts are to be used for “religion, religious tradition, scientific research, education or teaching.”

This loophole exempts ultra-Orthodox Jews, who often wear cake-shaped sable hats known as shtreimels on Shabbat and holidays, although importers will now need to apply for special permits.

 Made from the tails of sables and foxes, the hats can cost as much as $5,000. They are pretty much the only widespread users of fur in Israel, with its warm Mediterranean climate.

Illustrative: Hasidic men wearing fur shtreimels reading from the Book of Esther on the Purim holiday. (Illustrative photo: Dror Garti/Flash90)

According to the [Humane Society](https://www.hsi.org/news-media/fur-trade/), every year around one hundred million animals are farmed and killed on intensive fur farms to supply the fashion industry while unknown millions are trapped and killed for their fur in the wild, mainly in the USA, Canada and Russia.

Beyond the cruelty issue, PETA said fur farms should be banned, noting the recent outbreaks of [coronavirus in mink farms](https://www.timesofisrael.com/6-countries-find-coronavirus-at-mink-farms-fears-mutation-could-hinder-vaccine/). MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/peta-hails-israel-as-first-country-to-ban-fur-but-major-exceptions-remain/>

**2 PA security officers, terror suspect shot dead in clash with Israeli troops**

***Israeli forces operating out of civilian car said to return fire at Palestinian officers during arrest raid outside PA Military Intel HQ in Jenin***

By [TOI staff](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) Today, 4:53 am

Two officers in the Palestinian Authority’s security service were shot dead Wednesday night in an exchange of fire with Israeli forces operating in the northern West Bank. A third Palestinian, a suspected member of the Islamic Jihad terror group who was the target of an Israeli arrest operation, was also killed in the firefight.

According to Palestinian media, the exchange of fire began when officers in the Border Police’s counterterrorism-focused Special Police Unit, known by its Hebrew acronym Yamam, sought to arrest two Palestinian terror suspects following a manhunt outside the headquarters of the PA Military Intelligence Unit headquarters in Jenin.

Two Palestinian Military Intelligence officers on guard duty noticed the arrest operation taking place, with the undercover Israeli forces operating out of a civilian vehicle, and chose to engage, likely not realizing that this was an Israeli raid.

1. תקרית חריגה הלילה בג'נין: כוח מסתערבים נכנס לעיר כדי לתפוס שני מבוקשים שלפחות אחד מהם מזוהה עם הג'יהאד האיסלאמי. המבוקשים הם ג'מיל אל-עאמורי איש גא"פ והשני ויסאם אבו זיד. השניים הסתתרו ליד מבנה השייך למודיעין הצבאי הפלסטיני (אחד מגופי המנגנונים הפלסטינים).  
המשך בציוץ הבא ⬇️⬇️ [pic.twitter.com/GVjSHeJ6OF](https://t.co/GVjSHeJ6OF)

— Elior Levy • אליאור לוי (@eliorlevy) [June 10, 2021](https://twitter.com/eliorlevy/status/1402837534019883011?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

According to Israel’s Border Police, the arrest operation targeted two suspects from the Palestinian Islamic Jihad terror group who were believed to be behind a series of shooting attacks against Israeli security forces in recent weeks who were hiding in the building adjacent to the PA Military Intelligence compound.

The two PA security officers killed in the exchange were identified by the Palestinian Authority as Lieutenant Adham Aliwi, 23, from the village of Zawata near Nablus, and Captain Taysir Issa, 33, of the town of Sanur near Jenin.

The third man killed was one of targets of the operation, Jamil Al-Amouri. The second suspect, Wisam Abu Zeid, was wounded and arrested.



Lieutenant Adham Aliwi, 23, from the village of Zawata near Nablus, is at left, and Captain Taysir Issa, 33, of the town of Sanur near Jenin, is at right, in a poster released by the Palestinian Authority’s Military Intelligence service on June 10, 2021, after the two officers were killed the previous night in an exchange of fire with Israeli forces in Jenin.

No Israeli troops were injured in the incident.

Unconfirmed reports said Israeli forces arrested two other people during the operation. It was not clear if the surviving suspect, Abu Zeid, was one of them.

A senior commander in the PA security forces told the Palestinian Al Quds news site that the IDF did not warn his soldiers of their Jenin arrest operation ahead of time.

Online video appeared to show Palestinian officers taking cover behind a vehicle as gunshots are heard in the background. One shouts that they are exchanging fire with Israeli “undercover” forces. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/2-pa-security-force-officers-reportedly-shot-dead-in-clashes-with-israeli-troops/>

**EU study finds incitement in Palestinian textbooks, kept from public**

***The 200-page report, commissioned by then EU foreign affairs representative Federica Mogherini, examined 156 textbooks and 16 teaching curriculums issued by the PA between 2017-2019.***

*By* [*LAHAV HARKOV*](https://www.jpost.com/author/lahav-harkov)*,* [*TOBIAS SIEGAL*](https://www.jpost.com/author/tobias-siegal) *JUNE 9, 2021 21:30*

Palestinian Authority textbooks encourage violence against Israelis and include antisemitic messages, according to an unpublished report commissioned by the European Union in 2019 and obtained by The Jerusalem *Post*.

The European Commission kept the report under wraps after receiving it from the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research earlier this year. Brussels directly funds the salaries of teachers and the publishers of textbooks, which, the report indicates, encourage and glorify violence against Israelis and Jews.

The report, which is almost 200 pages long, examines 156 textbooks and 16 teachers’ guides. The texts are mostly from 2017-2019 but 18 are from 2020. Excerpts from the report were published in German newspaper [*Bild*](https://www.bild.de/politik/ausland/politik-ausland/eu-bericht-palaestinensische-schulbuecher-hetzen-kinder-auf-76662574.bild.html) earlier this week.  
 The report’s executive summary glosses over the many examples of antisemitism and incitement in the textbooks, claiming that they “adhere to UNESCO standards” though they “express a narrative of resistance within the context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and they display an antagonism towards Israel.”  
 However, the report includes dozens of examples of encouragement of violence and demonization of Israel and of Jews.  
 The report says the textbooks present “ambivalent – sometimes hostile – attitudes towards Jews and the characteristics they attribute to the Jewish people.... Frequent use of negative attributions in relation to the Jewish people... suggest a conscious perpetuation of anti-Jewish prejudice, especially when embedded in the current political context.”  
 An exercise in one religious studies textbook asks students to discuss the “repeated attempts by the Jews to kill the prophet” Muhammad and asks who are “other enemies of Islam.”

One textbook promotes a conspiracy theory that Israel removed the original stones of ancient sites in Jerusalem and replaced them with ones bearing “Zionist drawings and shapes.” [pic.twitter.com/ggsTS76R1l](https://t.co/ggsTS76R1l)  
 — Lahav Harkov (@LahavHarkov) [June 9, 2021](https://twitter.com/LahavHarkov/status/1402639756593446912?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)  
    
 “It is not so much the sufferings of the Prophet or the actions of the companions that appear to be the focus of this teaching unit but, rather, the alleged perniciousness of the Jews,” the report states.  
 The report identifies “the creation of a connection between the stated deception of the ‘Jews’ in the early days of Islam and the insinuated behavior of Jews today,” calling it “extremely escalatory.” One textbook ties Muhammad’s aunt who clubbed a Jew to death to a question about Palestinian women’s steadfastness in the face of “Jewish Zionistic occupation.”  
 One textbook promotes a conspiracy theory that Israel removed the original stones of ancient sites in Jerusalem and replaced them with ones bearing “Zionist drawings and shapes.”  
 The concept of “resistance” is a recurring theme in the textbooks studied, along with calls for the Palestinians to be liberated via a revolution. To clarify the concept, one textbook has a photo with the caption “Palestinian revolutionaries” featuring five masked men toting machine guns.  
 Glorification and praise of terrorists who attacked Israelis can be found not only in history or social studies books, but also in science and math books, such as one that mentions a school named after the “shahid” (martyr) Abu Jihad, a leader of the First Intifada. A demonstration of Newton’s second law includes Palestinians using slingshots to strike at Israeli soldiers.  
 Dalal al-Mughrabi was a Palestinian woman involved in a 1978 bus hijacking in which she and her accomplices murdered 38 Israelis, including 13 children. She is a much-admired figure in Palestinian society. Textbooks repeatedly refer to her in the context of female empowerment. The report says there are “no further portraits of significant female figures in Palestinian history,” implying that “the path of violence [is] the only option for women to demonstrate an outstanding commitment to their people and country.”  
   
 Dalal al-Mughrabi helped kill 38 Israelis, incl. 13 children...The report says there are “no further portraits of significant female figures in Palestinian history,” implying that “violence [is] the only option for women to demonstrate an outstanding commitment to their people." [pic.twitter.com/lUMWfQaAFV](https://t.co/lUMWfQaAFV)  
 — Lahav Harkov (@LahavHarkov) [June 9, 2021](https://twitter.com/LahavHarkov/status/1402639764378038275?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)  
    
 In addition, most maps erase the State of Israel entirely, portraying the land between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea as Palestine, and the term “Zionist occupation” is used to refer to Israel.  
 The European Commission said that it "takes this study seriously and will act on its findings as appropriate, with a view to bring about the full adherence to UNESCO standards in all Palestinian education materials."  
 They plan to work with the PA to promote compliance with the UNESCO standards on peace, tolerance and nonviolence, which the commission said are nonnegotiable. [That is a total delusion on the part of the EU. – rdb]  
 The commission also "reiterates its unequivocal commitment to the fight against anti-Semitism."  
 As for the report's publication, the European Commission said it will be presented to the European Parliament and other stakeholders "shortly."   
 THE FOREIGN MINISTRY responded to the leaked report, saying that the research “proves Israel’s consistent claim that incitement is constantly present in Palestinian Authority textbooks. This is a claim that Israel has raised with the EU and its member states for many years....  
 “The research findings also prove that the EU, even at this very moment, is continuing to invest millions in the funding of the Palestinian Authority’s educational system... with no monitoring of the content that appears in the textbooks, and without demanding that the Palestinian Authority immediately stop indoctrinating its children to hate and kill.”  
 As such, “the EU’s policy harms the chances of promoting coexistence and contradicts the EU’s stated commitment to combating antisemitism and incitement and promoting the principles of peace, tolerance, and coexistence.”  
 The Foreign Ministry called on the EU to demand that the PA remove incitement from its textbooks.  
 The American Jewish Committee’s Brussels-based Transatlantic Institute said that the EU “must finally act.”  
 “It is difficult to imagine a policy more at odds with EU values and the stated goal of achieving peace between Israelis and Palestinians than poisoning the minds of children in this conflict.  
 “As the EU is ultimately financing this incitement – the textbooks are drafted and taught by civil servants and teachers whose salaries are paid directly by Brussels – the Commission must act now to help preserve both the possibility of a negotiated two-state solution and the EU’s own standing as an honest broker,” Transatlantic Institute director Daniel Schwammenthal said.  
 Following *Bild’*s report, [IMPACT-se](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-using-yemens-education-system-to-glorify-jihad-impact-se-663547), which monitors textbooks in the Middle East, released a statement reiterating what it has been claiming for years.  
 “This report confirms the findings published by IMPACT-se over the last five years,” IMPACT-se CEO Marcus Sheff said. “The question is, will EU policy-makers finally take action to condition EU funding to the PA on positive reforms to the curriculum as the European Parliament has demanded on several occasions.”  
 Also Tuesday, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the State Department would be “looking very, very carefully” at how UNRWA, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees and their descendants, addresses hateful messages in its textbooks.  
 “We’re also determined that UNRWA pursue very necessary reforms in terms of some of the abuses of the system that have taken place in the past, particularly the challenge that we’ve seen in disseminating in its educational products antisemitic or anti-Israel information, so we’re very focused on that,” Blinken said.  
 Earlier this year, the US announced that it would contribute $150 million to UNRWA.

IMPACT-se released two reports this year finding that UNRWA created, printed and distributed material rejecting peace, glorifying terrorism and inciting violence. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/eu-study-finds-incitement-in-palestinian-textbooks-remains-unpublished-670505> [If you really think and consider this report you have to understand that until an entire generation is changed and the indoctrination is eliminated, there is no way there can ever be a peaceful resolution to the problems in the ME. It would be interesting to look at the textbooks in other ME lands like Saudi, Iraq, Iran, Egypt and Jordan. I would suggest that they are probably similar in character. – rdb]

**Resigned to a nuclear deal revival, Saudi, UAE engage with foe Iran**

***Gulf States have stated repeatedly in the past that the 2015 accord was inadequate as it ignored Islamic Republic's missile exports and support for regional proxy fighters***

*Reuters | Published: 06.09.21 , 22:30*

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, resigned to the revival of a nuclear pact with Iran they always opposed, are engaging with Tehran to contain tensions while lobbying for future talks to take their security concerns into account.

World powers have been negotiating in Vienna with Iran and the United States to revive the 2015 deal, under which Tehran agreed to curbs on its nuclear program in return for the lifting of international sanctions.

The new U.S. administration of President Joe Biden wants to restore the deal, which Washington abandoned under his predecessor, Donald Trump. But Washington's Gulf allies have always said the deal was inadequate because it ignored other issues, such as Iran's missile exports and support for regional proxy fighters.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken made clear on Monday that Washington's priority was to get the deal "back in the box" and then use it as a platform to address other questions.

But with Saudi Arabia embroiled in a costly war in Yemen and facing repeated missile and drone attacks on its oil infrastructure which it blames on Iran and its allies, the Gulf States say the wider issues must not be set aside.

"The Gulf countries have said 'fine the U.S. can go back to (the nuclear deal), this is their decision we cannot change it, but...we need everybody to take into account regional security concerns'," Gulf Research Center's Abdulaziz Sager, who has been active in past unofficial Saudi-Iran dialogue, said this week.

Gulf officials worry that they lack the same clout with the Biden administration that they had under Trump. They lobbied to join the Vienna talks, but were rebuffed.

Rather than wait for the outcome in Vienna, Riyadh accepted Iraqi overtures in April to host talks between Saudi and Iranian officials, two sources familiar with the matter said.

***‘We need to live with them’***

As the foes suss each other out, Riyadh has said it wants to see “verifiable deeds”.

Iran holds a number of cards, not least its support for the Houthi movement in Yemen, which the Saudis have failed to defeat after six years of war that exhausted Washington's patience.

"Yemen is a cheap course for Iran and a very expensive one for Saudi Arabia. This gives Iran a strong bargaining position," Sager said.

The UAE, for its part, has already been in regular contact with Iran trying to de-escalate, notably since tankers were attacked off its coast in 2019, a third regional source said.

The priority now for Gulf states is to focus on their economies following COVID-19. But security assurances are an important part of that recovery.

"A (nuclear) deal is better than no deal, but how can you convince the world -- and investors -- that this is a real deal that can stand the test of time?" the third source told Reuters.

Gulf states hope Washington maintains leverage over Tehran by keeping some sanctions, including those designed to punish foreign actors for supporting terrorism or weapons proliferation.

Blinken told a congressional committee hearing that a deal could be used "as a platform both to look at whether the agreement itself can be lengthened and if necessary strengthened and also to capture" regional concerns.

The Gulf States remain skeptical. UAE envoy to Washington Yousef Al Otaiba said in April he saw no evidence the nuclear deal would become "a tool where moderates are empowered" in Iran, which holds presidential elections this month dominated by hardliners.

“But we need to live with them in peace,” Otaiba said. “We want non-interference, no missiles, no proxies.”

<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/HkVsFB0900> [If in fact the ‘breakout” to nuclear is literally weeks away this is way too late for anything to happen. These folks are living a dream (which may be a real nightmare). – rdb]

**Shocking claim: Anonymous remote login impacted election system after vote done**

***'We were told this was human error. All lies. This is fraud'***

By [Bob Unruh](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) Published June 9, 2021 at 4:34pm

A lawyer who has been fighting for an accurate review of the 2020 presidential election results in Antrim County, Michigan, went on social media this week to charge the election system there was accessed by an anonymous user – remotely – days after the election.

Lawyer Matthew DePerno previously said the evidence appears to show the machines could have been accessed remotely through the internet, and there existed software in the machines that would have allowed manipulation of the results.  
 The county was where suspicions of vote interference were raised immediately because the GOP-leaning district was declared to have voted for Joe Biden last November. Officials later said there was human error and President Trump actually won.  
 But it became representative of shady actions or results across the country. Further, Michigan was one of six battleground states that drew charges of election fraud. Several states suspended counting on Election Night with Trump leading. Hours later, after massive ballot dumps that were nearly 100% for Biden, the Democrat took the lead when counting resumed.  
 DePerno's lawsuit was dismissed but actions are on hold because the judge said he expects an appeal, which DePerno confirmed he will pursue.  
 Now DePerno has posted on social media:  
 "1. We have been lied to. The Antrim County election management system (EMS) was REMOTELY and successfully logged into anonymously on 11/05/2020 at 5:55 PM and again on 11/17/2020 at 5:16 PM. Yes, that is correct … REMOTELY.

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"2. Those dates are significant because they correspond directly to the dates the county and SOS were trying to correct the intentional computer problems that subverted the election. These logons appear to have escalated privileges at the time of logon. Again .. REMOTELY."  
 He continued, "3. But we were told there was no internet connection. In an accredited system, an anonymous user should not be authorized by the accreditation authority, but would instead be required to enter a specific user name and password to utilize the system. 4. We were told there was no internet connection. We were told there was no remote access. We were told this was human error. All lies. This is fraud. This decertifies the Antrim County election. SOS Benson should resign or be impeached."  
 2. Those dates are significant because they correspond directly to the dates the county and SOS were trying to correct the intentional computer problems that subverted the election.  
 These logons appear to have escalated privileges at the time of logon.  
 Again . . . REMOTELY  
 — Matthew S. DePerno, Esq. (@mdeperno) [June 9, 2021](https://twitter.com/mdeperno/status/1402508091548213249)  
 4. We were told there was no internet connection. We were told there was no remote access. We were told this was human error. All lies.  
 This is fraud. This decertifies the Antrim County election.  
 SOS Benson should resign or be impeached.  
 — Matthew S. DePerno, Esq. (@mdeperno) [June 9, 2021](https://twitter.com/mdeperno/status/1402508093746040834)  
 The [Gateway Pundit](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2021/06/antrim-county-attorney-deperno-releases-bombshell-report-claims-county-voting-machines-remotely-logged-decertifies-entire-antrim-election/) called it a "BOMBSHELL report."  
 DePerno's social media statements did not include the documentation about the incident of the machines being accessed remotely. But that evidence presumably would be reviewed in his case challenging the integrity of the election in November 2020.  
 He had reported earlier that the machines could be reopened after an election was finished. "The machines can then run more ballots through the tabulator, print off new tabulator tape with new ballots, and then backdate that tape to November," he said.  
 His lawsuit was dismissed partly because the judge said state officials said they already had audited the outcome. But the judge said he expected an appeal and DePerno confirmed it will be pursued.  
 DePerno also noted during an interview that his investigation into voting machines used in the November election now is not limited to the state of Michigan.  
 DePerno is fighting the case on behalf of Antrim resident William Bailey.  
 13th Circuit Court Judge Kevin Elsenheimer said, "By deciding this motion, the court is not saying that there were no problems in the way that Antrim County conducting its November 2020 elections. The clerk has admitted that there were challenges and problems in the elections, although the hand count ultimately of the presidential election showed the results were largely consistent with the canvas totals that were entered by the state and reported by the county. Nor am I saying that the processing of election data here wasn't corrupted or corruptible. I don't have the facts to make that determination."  
 He added, ""The plaintiff's reports and news of the day, including a computer hack recently of a main petro fuel pipeline on the East Coast might well suggest that this is something that policymakers should be looking into in the future. If election results were to be held for ransom in the future, one could only imagine what would happen. I am saying that as pled, the plaintiffs' request for an audit is not available. Anticipating the possibility of appeal, this court will take all pending motions under advisement."  
 The fight in Michigan is one of several that have been stirring up "fact-checkers" across the political spectrum in recent weeks. They insist that the claims made by DePerno are "in dispute."  
 That's because, they say, government officials have claimed there are "safeguards" in place to protect "against fraud, including hand counts and audits."  
 Just days ago, DePerno explained, "And I'll tell you something we discovered this weekend. We can now show that after the election is done, someone, anyone really who has access to those tabulators, can reopen the election, run more ballots through the tabulator, print off new tabulator tape with a new balance and backdate that tape to November 3rd."  
 Fact-checkers explain Michigan uses paper ballots and they have been preserved, meaning the accuracy of voting machines can be verified.  
 DePerno earlier said his investigation had revealed that the voting machines there contained a software program that could have been used to manipulate vote totals.  
 In fact, DePerno said in a podcast interview that with the MySQL program installed on the machines, and them all being linked, someone with access could "do whatever you want."  
 Fact-checkers objected to his opinion, stating that many audits done in Michigan of elections all show they've been accurate.  
 DePerno also said recently in a court hearing that there were 1,061 "phantom votes" in the county during the 2020 presidential election, because while a recount of ballots tallied 15,962, the Michigan secretary of state's database showed only 14,901 votes were cast. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/shocking-claim-anonymous-remote-login-impacted-election-system-vote-done/> [Hopefully this fellow will be able to make some legal headway but I am still not sure what can happen even if they adjudicate that the election was fraudulent and the ‘seated trolls’ shouldn’t be there. They really also need to look at the results for the house and the senate to make sure they were accurate. – rdb]

**U.S. senator urges: Make China pay for COVID-19 'right now'**

***Chances of Beijing 'conceding that they're responsible for this virus is zero'***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published June 9, 2021 at 3:24pm*

While the Washington Post is reporting the Biden administration has no real plans to hold China accountable for the COVID-19 pandemic, a leading Republican is calling for immediate punitive measures against the communist regime, arguing it's the only way to make them pay.

"China’s chances of ever conceding that they’re responsible for this virus is zero," [said Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., in an interview Tuesday with Fox News' "America's Newsroom."](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2021/06/08/cotton-make-china-pay-for-covid-now-by-revoking-visas-most-favored-nation-status/)

He's urging the United States to revoke China's most-favored-nation status, remove its favorable terms with global financial institutions, and revoke the visas of Communist Party members and children who are being educated at American schools.

Cotton began taking flak from establishment politicians and media one year ago for suggesting the novel coronavirus leaked from a Chinese lab. Now, the circumstantial evidence is mounting that the virus was manipulated in gain-of-function research at the Wuhan Institute of Virology funded in part by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases under the direction of Dr. Anthony Fauci.

The Arkansas senator referenced a study last year by the Lawrence Livermore Lab reported Tuesday by the Wall Street Journal that "confirms what I’ve been saying from the very beginning."

"Just use your common sense," he said. "This virus emerged in a city larger than New York, just a few blocks down the road from the lab where they research these viruses. Every bit of evidence we have points to those labs."

[The Wall Street Journal reported](https://www.wsj.com/articles/u-s-report-concluded-covid-19-may-have-leaked-from-wuhan-lab-11623106982) Tuesday that a May 2020 study prepared by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory found the lab-leak theory plausible and warranted further investigation. The conclusion was based on genomic analysis of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19.Bottom of Form

Cotton said "it's past time to hold China accountable for their negligence and their deceitfulness in unleashing this plague on the world."

He suggest a number of actions.

"We could revoke their permanent most-favored-nation status, a bad mistake that we made 20 years ago," Cotton said. "We could team up with our allies and take back the very favorable financing terms they get from international financial institutions like the World Bank. We could take away visas from Chinese Communist Party members and their kids so they can't send their kids to American schools anymore."

Cotton added that the federal government should not be subsidizing colleges and universities "when they turn around and accept the princeling kids of all these Chinese communists."

"There's no end to the things we can do to make China pay for unleashing this plague, and we should start right now," he said.

Meanwhile, [the Washington Post reports](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2021/06/07/biden-administrations-soft-lab-leak-pressure-china/) Fauci, Secretary of State Antony Blinken and the Biden administration are insisting it's in China's interest to get to the bottom of the origin of the pandemic.

[But HotAir.com's John Sexton notes](https://hotair.com/john-s-2/2021/06/08/washington-post-the-biden-administration-has-no-real-plan-to-get-the-truth-about-covid-from-china-n395296) Post writer Aaron Blake acknowledges how hollow those assurances are. No one in the Biden administration seems to have an answer to the obvious question: What do you do if China decides its interests are in covering up the truth? <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/u-s-senator-urges-make-china-pay-covid-19-right-now/> [Does anyone in the “Bi-dumb” group have any ideas or answers at all other than bad and wicked ones? – rdb]

**‘Paranoid delusion’: Beijing fumes as US Senate passes massive anti-China tech bill**

*9 Jun, 2021 09:00*

Beijing has accused Washington of exhibiting “paranoid delusion” and “Cold War mentality,” after the US Senate passed a new bill aimed at bolstering the position of American tech in competing with China.

The foreign affairs committee of the National People’s Congress, China’s parliament, blasted the new US legislation on Wednesday, accusing Washington of seeking to undermine the country’s *“legitimate right to development through technology and economic decoupling.”*

The legislation is *“full of Cold War mentality and ideological prejudice,”* and the Chinese parliament is voicing *“strong indignation and resolute opposition”* to it, the committee said in a statement carried by China’s state media.

***The bill shows that the paranoid delusion of egoism has distorted the original intention of innovation and competition.***

The new legislation, officially known as the US Innovation and Competition Act, was passed by the Senate on Tuesday. The bill, which has become one of the largest industrial bills in the US history, received broad bipartisan support, getting passed 68-31. After scoring the Senate’s approval, the bill is now heading into the House of Representatives.

The bill authorizes around $190 billion to strengthen US technology and research, as well as some $54 billion to increase production and research into semiconductors and other telecommunications equipment.

*“If we do nothing, our days as the dominant superpower may be ending. We don’t mean to let those days end on our watch. We don’t mean to see America become a middling nation in this century,”* one of the co-sponsors of the legislation, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, stated.

Apart from giving a big boost to American research and development, the legislation also contains a wide range of explicit anti-China provisions. Namely, it bans the downloading of Chinese social media app TikTok on government-issued devices, as well as blocking the procurement of drones manufactured by companies linked to the Chinese government.

The legislation also delves into matters rather remotely related to big tech, such as enabling Taiwanese diplomats and military to display the island’s flags and wear uniforms while conducting official business in the US. Taiwan is regarded by Beijing as an integral part of the country, and China has repeatedly accused Washington of meddling in its internal affairs and violating the so-called ‘one China’ policy. <https://www.rt.com/news/526051-china-us-tech-bill/>

**Soros-Backed Group Plans ‘Third Reconstruction’ Push**

***Group sets sights on Manchin in effort to abolish ICE, advance reparations and single-payer health care***

[Joseph Simonson](https://freebeacon.com/author/joseph-simonson/) • June 9, 2021 4:58 am

A left-wing advocacy group funded by George Soros and backed by 30 House Democrats is planning a yearlong campaign for a "Third Reconstruction" that includes abolishing ICE, expanding welfare for illegal immigrants, and removing criminal penalties for violent protesters.

The Poor People’s Campaign, which received a grant from the Soros-backed Open Society Foundations following the death of George Floyd as part of the organization’s $220 million "anti-racist" initiative, held a Day of Action on Monday to kick off its crusade. The group counts Democratic Reps. Cori Bush (D., Mo.), Rashida Tlaib (D., Mich.), and Jamie Raskin (D., Md.) as top supporters, with the "Third Reconstruction" described to the *Washington Free Beacon* by a senior GOP Senate aide as the "next Green New Deal."

Neither the Poor People's Campaign nor the Open Society Foundations returned requests for comment.

In a release announcing the grant, which reached the Poor People's Campaign through one of its "anchor organizations," the Open Society Foundations touted groups "fighting for an end to policing as we know it." Alex Soros, deputy chair of the Open Society Foundations, added, "This is the time for urgent and bold action to address racial injustice in America."

The "Third Reconstruction" includes a laundry list of far-left demands such as automatic voter registration, a single-payer health care system, a reparations commission, and "relief from student debt, housing debt, utilities debt, medical debt, and other household and personal debt that cannot be paid." Despite proposing that the dozen-plus programs, estimated to cost well into the trillions of dollars, be financed "using deficit spending," the "Third Reconstruction" calls for a 10 percent cut to the military budget.   
 "With this resolution, we (1) acknowledge the deep harms we have suffered from systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation and the denial of health care, militarism and the false narrative of white supremacist nationalist extremism and (2) commit to heal and transform the nation by addressing these interlocking injustices, beginning with those most impacted, with moral and just laws and policies," the Poor People’s Campaign wrote on Facebook.  
 As part of their strategy to pressure Democrats into supporting the initiative, the Poor People’s Campaign will hold a march on Washington, D.C., in June 2022. In 2018, the group organized "40 Days of Action," which resulted in thousands of arrests. Protesters in dozens of states held sit-ins at government offices and blocked roads while demanding local legislators pass hikes to the minimum wage and expand welfare benefits.  
 On Monday, the group announced a protest against Sen. Joe Manchin (D., W.Va.) over his decision not to support H.R. 1, a bill that radically overhauls how the nation conducts elections.  
 "They said it's time to march on his office," Poor People’s Campaign co-chair Rev. William Barber said. "It’s time for people of all differences to stand together against him—we call it ‘from the hollers in the mountains to the hood.'"  
 Manchin previously met with the group to discuss a federal $15 minimum wage, although he later opposed the proposal. Democrats, including Reps. Pramila Jayapal (D., Wash.) and Barbara Lee (D., Calif.), claim the "Third Reconstruction" will "end poverty" and address the country’s income disparities allegedly caused by systemic racism. The language used by supporters of the "Third Reconstruction" follows much of the post-Civil War-era rhetoric from Democrats that has defined the early days of the Biden administration. The president’s recent failure to pass H.R. 1 came after his impassioned appeal to racial violence 100 years ago as evidence the country needs new voting rights today.  
 "For much too long, the history of what took place here was told in silence, cloaked in darkness. But just because history is silent, it doesn’t mean that it did not take place," President Joe Biden said on June 1, which marked the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa race massacre. "And while darkness can hide much, it can never erase what happened. That’s why we’re here: to shine a light, to make sure America knows the story in full."  
 Other Democrats, including Rep. Mondaire Jones of New York, who supports the "Third Reconstruction," called Manchin’s opposition to the bill an effort to "preserve Jim Crow." Biden himself has referred to GOP-led efforts to stop voter fraud as "Jim Crow in the 21st century."

Manchin did not respond to a request for comment. <https://freebeacon.com/democrats/soros-backed-group-plans-third-reconstruction-push/> [Soros should be exiled from this country and prohibited from funding anything. Perhaps all his funds should be confiscated and designated for reparations for the multiple deaths that he, Schwab, Gates and Fauci have caused. The old saying is follow the money and you can bet his filthy fingers are implicated in this Planned demic. – rdb]

**Cleveland Clinic: No need to vaccinate people who had COVID**

***Study by top-ranked hospital contradicts claims of Fauci and FDA***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published June 9, 2021 at 7:04pm*

Contradicting the claims of Dr. Anthony Fauci and the FDA, a study by the prestigious Cleveland Clinic concluded there is no need to vaccinate people who have been infected with the virus that causes COVID-19.

The study found individuals with previous SARS-CoV-2 infection do not get additional benefits from vaccination, [reported News-Medical.Net](https://www.news-medical.net/news/20210608/No-point-vaccinating-those-whoe28099ve-had-COVID-19-Findings-of-Cleveland-Clinic-study.aspx)

The finding aligned with [a study published last month in Nature](https://www.wnd.com/2021/05/study-even-mild-covid-infection-comes-long-lasting-immunity/) by researchers at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis concluding that even mild or asymptomatic cases of COVID-19 can produce lasting immunity that would guard against repeated infections.

Fauci, the White House coronavirus adviser, recently told Business Insider that vaccines are "better than the traditional response you get from natural infection" and everyone should get a COVID shot. And last month, [the Food and Drug Administration issued an advisory saying the same](https://www.wnd.com/2021/05/4917558/).

But the Cleveland Clinic study found no significant difference in COVID-19 incidence between previously infected and vaccinated participants.

Not a single incidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection was observed in previously infected participants with or without vaccination.

The Cleveland study monitored 52,238 employees of the clinic who each received two doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at an interval of 28 days. Among them, 5% had previous SARS-CoV-2 infection. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/4922097/> [Surprise! Surprise! – NOT really. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**Biden Should Make China Pay**[*Betsy McCaughey*](https://townhall.com/columnists/betsymccaughey/) *Posted: Jun 09, 2021 12:01 AM* President Joe Biden heads to Europe Wednesday to meet with European leaders. He says the goal is to work together to "deliver real results" on critical issues, like climate change and cybersecurity. Biden is ducking the most important issue -- the cause of the pandemic. He should be marshaling allies to act in unison by squeezing China to get answers and demand reparations. The evidence is mounting that China is guilty of manslaughter on a massive scale.  
 Damning evidence published on the opinion page of The Wall Street Journal on Saturday shows that COVID-19's genetic sequence is found nowhere in nature, making it unlikely the killer virus leaped from animals to humans naturally. Scientists Dr. Stephen Quay and Richard Muller argue that the COVID-19 genetic sequence is exactly what researchers would choose to use to engineer a virus for maximum infectivity against humans. Other recent analyses of the virus also point to China's Wuhan Institute of Virology -- not nature -- as the source of the pandemic. In science, nothing is settled. New evidence could still emerge and point in another direction.  
 But there is no doubt that China acted criminally once the virus began circulating in Wuhan in 2019. China hid the virus's existence for weeks, denied that it could spread human to human, muzzled its scientists and blocked outside scientists from investigating -- all in violation of Articles 6 and 7 of WHO's International Health Regulations.  
 China is a repeat offender. In 2003, it hid the existence of the deadly SARS virus until it had spread worldwide, leaving a trail of death.  
 This time, Biden should be leading a multinational effort to isolate China, get answers and demand reparations. Without answers, warns Baylor College of Medicine epidemiologist Peter Hotez, there will be a COVID-26 and a COVID-32, meaning more viral disasters.  
 Biden's merely going through the motions, appearing to take action but doing nothing. He's called for a 90-day investigation by U.S. intelligence agencies. That's mere paper-shuffling. As Hotez says, "We've pushed intelligence as far as we can." Scientists need to collect lab samples from Wuhan and biological samples from the earliest COVID-19 patients.  
 The Biden administration has also called on the WHO to investigate again. WHO allowed China to handpick the first investigation team, ban access to actual biological evidence and veto conclusions it didn't like. There's no point to a second WHO investigation. WHO remains a puppet to China, still bowing to demands to exclude Taiwan from meetings on COVID-19.  
 To get the truth, The New York Post proposed an important remedy -- a commission created by an act of Congress relying on nonpartisan scientists, not the likes of Anthony Fauci, EcoHealth Alliance's Peter Daszak, and the NIH's Francis Collins. Their fingerprints are all over whatever virus was engineered in Wuhan. They misled Congress and the nation with a naive globalist viewpoint that put us in danger. Fauci told Congress that the Wuhan lab staff are "competent, trustworthy scientists, " never mind their germ warfare projects for the Chinese Communist military.  
 Last week, Biden commented that China believes in a few years it "will own America." What's your strategy, Mr. President? So far, only weakness.  
 It's a stark contrast to former President Donald Trump, who declared on Saturday night that "the time has come for America and the world to demand reparations and accountability from the Communist Party of China."  
 Trump proposed that "as a first step, all countries should collectively cancel all debt they owe to China as a down payment for reparations." Some 150 countries are indebted to China. The U.S. owes $1.1 trillion.  
 Trump's proposal is unorthodox. Economists warn defaulting will harm our ability to borrow in the future -- ordinarily, a compelling concern. But the argument holds less water if all major countries collectively agree to enforce reparations against China this way.  
 China's actions have led to carnage on a scale not seen since the Nazis. Nearly 4 million people have died, including 600,000 Americans.  
 One thing is clear. Unless China is made to pay, Americans will pay with their lives <https://townhall.com/columnists/betsymccaughey/2021/06/09/biden-should-make-china-pay-n2590680>

**Next Comes the “National Security” Excuse***By* [*Lex Greene*](https://newswithviews.com/author/lex/)*|June 9th, 2021* Soon, it will be proven to every sane person on earth that the 2020 elections were the most unlawful, fraudulent, unconstitutional, and illegitimate elections in 245-years of American history. That proof will come from numerous states, and it will be entirely indisputable. It will be presented to the world media and the U.S. Supreme Court. That’s when things will become really interesting.  
 Democrats have not only made sure that our country is more divided against itself than any other country on earth…they have trained, armed, funded and protected their citizen army (ANTIFA, BLM, DSAUSA, the DNC News Media, and the New Black Panthers, among others) that spent most of 2020 rioting, looting, and burning cities across the country. They have a majority of black people hating white people without any just cause, especially law enforcement of every color, and they are prepared to light the entire nation on fire if their criminal election is exposed, challenged, decertified, and overturned.  
 That’s when the term “national security” will be resurrected to stop the 2020 steal from being reversed. This is why our public servants are hiding behind National Guard troops… It’s also why they are now trying to focus the people on the “national security threat” in aliens and UFOs, while they continue to flood our nation with foreign (illegal alien) invaders at our southern border.  
 It will be known by people all over the world that the communist democrats and their global communist predators rigged the entire 2020 elections, up and down the ballot. Even ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, and MSNBC will be forced to report it, just like they are being forced to report the criminal mass murder agenda of Dr. Fauci and Bill Gates in recent days.  
 But then, for “the sake of national security,” the American people will be told that although it’s all true, and although the evidence is indisputable, it would be a “threat to national security” to make it all right.  
 Americans have been trained to salute and respect anyone with a military uniform on. But not everyone who ever wore a uniform is a hero or patriot. Some of them have been absolute traitors, especially at the flag officer and Joint Chiefs level. Most Americans have likewise been trained an automatic triggered response to the words “national security.” Most Americans will allow their government to get away with anything, including stolen elections and even mass murder by vaccine, if they are triggered into believing it’s all allowed to happen in the best interest of “national security.”  
 Who doesn’t care about national security? However, almost every act done by our government in the interest of “national security” is actually the biggest threat to our national security and the American people.  
 COVID19 was labeled a “threat to national security.” Not getting your fatal vaccine is also being labeled a matter of national security. In fact, now we are told that racism is a matter of national security, by the same racists that have held their jackboot on the necks of black people since the days of slavery, democrats.  
 So, when the truth about what happened in the 2020 elections is finally made public for the world to see in indisputable form, we will hear the term “national security” again. Sooner or later, people in power over the American people will be forced to admit what happened in the 2020 elections. But don’t expect that to change the fraudulent outcome of those elections, or even make future elections legitimate.  
 Trump isn’t the only person in the USA that had the election stolen from him. Indeed, there are numerous others across the country, members of Congress, Governors, State Legislators, and critical ballot initiatives.  
 Once stolen, democrats immediately rushed to institute a full-scale Marxist assault on the USA and every Citizen in it, all of which would be immediately null and void the minute the 2020 elections are decertified, all of them. The nation would indeed be thrown into the deep end of chaos and mass civil unrest, were we to reverse the fraudulent outcome of the 2020 elections and prosecute everyone responsible for the theft of our nation.  
 Huge international corporations that funded and assisted the theft via new technologies and an army of fraudsters stuffing ballot boxes with fake ballots and promoting a false narrative, would backlash too. Supply shortages will skyrocket, and the stock market will shoot into a tailspin. It may even cause a mass exodus of military personnel, once they know they are being unlawfully ordered to protect a fraudulent anti-American government. It may in fact ignite a near catastrophic event.  
 That is a true “threat to national security” and the powers that be won’t hesitate for even a second to justify their next actions by telling Americans that this is how it has to be, “in the interest of national security.”  
 What makes anyone think for even a second that the recent “cyber-attacks” in the USA were committed by anyone other than our own government? Clearly, no one in the world is working harder to gain complete control over the U.S. population than our “new norm” anti-American federal regime, nor using more evil techniques to accomplish it!  
 Unfortunately, most Americans will react to that public statement from their corrupt government the same way they have reacted to the false information they have swallowed on COVID for well over a year now. They will put on their mask, lock themselves in their homes, sit down and shut up, waiting to see what happens next.  
 And what happens next, they are not going to like at all… What is already happening in Washington DC and numerous states like Michigan and Pennsylvania, is the greatest threat to our national security in the history of our beloved country.  
 As of today, no American Citizen knows who or what Barack Hussein Obama really is… but they allowed him to sit in our White House for eight years, bringing our country to the brink of extinction, where we are now. Every thinking American knows that Joe Biden and Kamala Harris are not really running anything, other than their mouths…and every word is being placed there carefully by someone else. But they are still occupying our White House, illegally.  
 The next few months will decide whether or not we still have enough Americans to keep this Constitutional Republic or not. The past 16-months are not a good indication of the real American spirit at all.  
 God help us all! <https://newswithviews.com/next-comes-the-national-security-excuse/>

**Jewish Studies Has an Anti-Semitism Problem**

[*Daniel Greenfield*](https://www.blogger.com/profile/13575285186581875356) [*June 07, 2021*](http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2021/06/jewish-studies-has-anti-semitism-problem.html)

When Sultan Doughan signed a hateful letter falsely claiming that Israel and Zionism were based on "Jewish Supremacy", a term popularized by Neo-Nazi leader David Duke, that ugly rhetoric wouldn’t have attracted much attention in an antisemitic time... except for one thing.  
 Doughan is a Muslim postdoctoral associate at Boston University's Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies.

Her work at a center named after one of the most prominent writers about the Holocaust [includes the](http://www.bu.edu/jewishstudies/research/bujs-research-forum/) “case of a German-Palestinian museum guide who lost her job over a controversy that was triggered by her comparing her own family’s traumatic past in the Nakba with Jewish experiences during the Holocaust.”  
 More accurately, the guide compared [the Jews](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/232771) to the Nazis at the Anne Frank House.  
 In her thesis, Doughan [complains that](https://digitalassets.lib.berkeley.edu/etd/ucb/text/Doughan_berkeley_0028E_18515.pdf) "Muslims have to submit to the Holocaust" and that the "Holocaust remains an exceptional event in German discourse, authorizing immigration policies, citizenship tests and discrimination" against Muslims.  
 Muslims emerge as the "new Jews" who are being victimized by the Holocaust, not just in Israel, but in Germany, where they are asked not to spew hate at Jews as a condition of citizenship.  
 Doughan appears to suggest that compensation funds for the Holocaust be used for Muslims.  
 She smears a Muslim social worker fighting antisemitism over his shock at a woman declaring, “I’d rather send my daughter to Tel Aviv to blow herself up." Doughan accuses him of being a "driver of imported 'Muslim anti-Semitism'” because his worry over "the idea of killing Jews was greater than his worry for this concrete girl possibly dying in the course of such an act."  
 This would be a moral abomination anywhere, but it’s especially horrifying within the context of a Jewish Studies center named after Elie Wiesel.  
 But the hateful anti-Israel letter using Neo-Nazi language toward Jews reveals just how deep the rot in Jewish Studies has become. While African-American Studies departments promote positive narratives about black people, Jewish Studies departments do the opposite to Jews.  
 Often they’re used to attack Jews from the inside while advancing anti-Jewish narratives.  
 Pratima Gopalakrishnan, another signatory to the "Jewish Supremacy" letter, is a post-doc at the Duke Center for Jewish Studies who rants about Israel on Twitter and ponders "how intro classes on the ancient Near East can make intentional connections to Palestine today".  
 Pratima claims [to be](https://news.fordham.edu/event/family-and-other-fictions-in-late-ancient-jewish-society/) studying "ancient Judaism" using "theoretical approaches drawn from feminist and queer theory". That hostile lens is supplemented with a column on the Torah for Jewish Currents, a former [Communist](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2021/03/puffin-foundations-obsession-communism-revives-war-daniel-greenfield/) publication that [celebrated the Muslim rape and murder of Jews](https://cms.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/01/peter-beinart-joins-communist-paper-praised-rape-daniel-greenfield), and firing off social media blood libels about “Israel’s military aggression against the people of Gaza”, and false claims about the “ethnic cleansing of Palestinians”.  
 Lila Corwin Berman, who holds a chair in American Jewish History at Temple University, is also one of the more prominent figures in Jewish studies as [chair of the Academic Council](https://archives.frontpagemag.com/fpm/bds-and-anti-semitic-terror-center-jewish-history-daniel-greenfield/) of the American Jewish Historical Society. Her signature on the hateful letter is unsurprising considering her opposition to anti-BDS measures, and support for anti-Israel groups.  
 Berman has appeared with Peter Beinart, who has called for the destruction of Israel, and supported him, and promoted material from the JVP pro-terrorist hate group.  
 She also took part in a webinar for the [former Communist](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2021/03/puffin-foundations-obsession-communism-revives-war-daniel-greenfield/) Jewish Currents anti-Israel site.  
 Beyond her anti-Israel activism, Berman has labored to rid Jewish Studies of Jews.  
 In "Jewish History Beyond the Jewish People", Berman argues [that](https://jewishphilosophyplace.com/2019/01/14/frames-jewishness-beyond-actual-jews-response-to-lila-corwin-berman/) "Jewishness may help us interpret a person, a place, an idea, a text, an object, or a relationship without first having to meet any preexisting condition of being Jewish." What then makes Jewish Studies, Jewish?  
 "Is it possible to think of Jewishness as anything other than real Jewish bodies and spaces?" Berman wheedles. "When we write Jewish history beyond its foundational claims—the Jewish people or a Jewish space—we must announce that these claims are neither inevitable nor eternal." That is a prerequisite to the destruction of the Jewish people.  
 Mostafa Hussein, another signatory to the "Jewish Supremacy" letter, has a PhD in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis. He's currently teaching at the Department of Judaic Studies at Michigan University where he's working [on a book](https://dornsife.usc.edu/society-of-fellows/mostafa-hussein) arguing that Zionism was based on Arab and Islamic ideas. Hussein, a graduate of Egypt's Al-Azhar University, claims that Jews constructed "the identity of the new Jew and his sense of belonging to the Land of Palestine/Israel" by having "exploited Arabo-Islamic knowledge".  
 The problem is not simply that some people involved in Jewish Studies hate Israel in their own free time, or even that they sign letters using the language of David Duke, it’s that they center their own extremist agendas at the expense of the Jewish people, whose heritage and legacy they exploit in a broader campaign to attack Jews using Jewish Studies as their weapon.  
 At the University of Massachusets, Alon Confino acts as the Pen Tishkach Chair of Holocaust Studies when he isn't complaining that Germany isn't antisemitic enough.  
 "The situation in Germany today is absurd. Any harsh critique of Israel’s occupation or its policies is deemed antisemitic. Is this really a lesson Germans want to draw from the Holocaust?" Confino whined in an article equating Israel with Nazi Germany and urging that, as "Holocaust scholars", it was important to listen to the voices of Israel's Muslim “victims”.  
 Amos Goldberg, the co-author of the article with Confino, and another signatory to the “Jewish Supremacy” letter, is the co-editor of “The Holocaust and Nakba: Memory, National Identity and Jewish-Arab Partnership.” The Nakba is the Arab Muslim name for their failed genocide of the Jews that has become an annual “Lost Cause” commemoration and an orgy of racist violence.  
 The abuse of the Holocaust to attack Jews and support antisemites is routine in Jewish Studies.  
 Atina Grossmann, a Cooper Union professor and a fellow the United States Holocaust Museum, is a signatory to the letter that uses the Neo-Nazi trope of “Jewish Supremacy”. But when the Museum protested Rep. Alexandria Ocasio Cortez’s description of illegal migrant detention as “concentration camps”, Grossman rushed to the defense of the antisemitic leftist who is allied with Jeremy Corbyn and whose blood libels have encouraged hatred toward Jews.  
 The letter signed by Grossman wailed that “the Museum’s decision to completely reject drawing any possible analogies to the Holocaust, or to the events leading up to it, is fundamentally ahistorical.” But comparing American immigration policies to the Holocaust is entirely historical.  
 Grossman was also [one of the](https://twitter.com/jewdas/status/1306223505084747777) signatories to a letter warning Facebook not to adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism. As were Amos Goldberg, Lila Corwin Berman, Alon Confino, and multiple other signatories to the “Jewish Supremacy” letter including Hasia Diner.  
 Diner, an NYU prof of American Jewish History, and another member of the Academic Advisory Council of the Center for Jewish History, is refreshing in that she makes no effort to disguise her raving hatred for the Jewish State behind the obscure academic jargon of other academics.  
 In a hatefilled rant, Hasia Diner [wrote that](https://archives.frontpagemag.com/fpm/bds-and-anti-semitic-terror-center-jewish-history-daniel-greenfield/) though she abhorred “bombings and stabbings”, the murder of Jews is what “oppressed individuals resort to out of anger and frustration”.  
 “I feel a sense of repulsion when I enter a synagogue in front of which the congregation has planted a sign reading, ‘We Stand With Israel’”, Diner wrote. She described Israel as “a place that I abhor visiting, and to which I will contribute no money, whose products I will not buy”.  
 She also complained that, “it is impossible to have a conversation about Israel or BDS because one is accused of being anti-Semitic.”  
 Maybe that’s because they are.  
 Jewish Studies has an antisemitism problem and it’s only been getting worse.  
 The signatories to the “Jewish Supremacy” letter are many of the same ugly figures in Jewish Studies who sign on to every anti-Israel letter that comes their way. They signed the letter opposing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, the letter opposing campaigns against campus antisemitism, opposing the IHRA definition of antisemitism, and opposing, well, Jews.  
 Jewish Studies, as Lila Corwin Berman implies, ought to have little to do with actual Jews. But it’s not enough for Jewish Studies to displace Jews, burying a people in a mass grave of academic verbiage and social justice buzzwords, it must also set out to eliminate the Jews.  
 As has happened so often, the theft of Jewish ideas and narratives is sealed with genocide.  
 Jewish Studies has become an academic war on the Jews. And no matter how good the intentions of the donors subsidizing chairs in Jewish history, Holocaust studies, and religious studies were, the academics who seize them adopt an eliminationist ideology, resenting the confines of Jewish identity, and seeking to destroy it by satanizing the Jews.  
 The same old narrative of Jewish history is playing out on campuses where the physical body of the Jewish people and the bodies of Jews are being ideologically separated from “Jewishness”.  
 Academic ‘Jewishness’ is constructed to mean anything and everything but actual Jews. Jews are reframed as the enemies of true Jewish values and ideas who must be destroyed to save “Jewishness” from the Jews.  
 Divorcing the study of Jewish history and ideas from Jewish communal institutions and peoplehood has repeatedly created monsters, whether it’s Holocaust museums that promote Black Lives Matter and accuse Jews of Nazism, or Jewish Studies departments that are friendlier to Hamas than to Israel. Donors have to stop funding academic organizations detached from connection and accountability to the people whose peoplehood they exploit.  
 Academics have rediscovered the old notion that Jewish ideas are appealing, but actual Jews are not. Jewish ideas are pitted against real Jews, and the idea is used to beat to death the reality proving once again that the students of history are the last to learn from the past.  
 Antisemitic academics may not be able to learn from the past, but Jews don’t have that luxury.

[*Daniel Greenfield*](http://sultanknish.blogspot.com/)*is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's*[*Front Page Magazine*](https://www.frontpagemag.com/)*.*

<http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2021/06/jewish-studies-has-anti-semitism-problem.html>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Drones and weapons seized on their way to Gaza**

***Civil Administration employees help thwart more than 1,000 attempts to smuggle mail packages containing military equipment into Gaza Strip.***

*Ido Ben Porat , Jun 10 , 2021 1:07 AM*

Civil Administration personnel working at the postal inspection facility at the Beitunia crossing have thwarted more than 1,000 attempts to smuggle postal packages suspected of being dual-use items in recent months, and which were meant to enter the Gaza Strip for use by terrorist organizations.

Among the equipment located and seized by the Communications Command Unit of the Civil Administration are drones, radios, frequency jammers and listening equipment.

The equipment was discovered at the inspection facility at the Beitunia crossing, which began operating about a year ago and serves as an exclusive checkpoint for the transfer of mail between Israel, Judea and Samaria, the Gaza Strip, and abroad.

The staff of the Communications Command Unit at the Beitunia crossing, together with the Israel Police, seized and confiscated the suspicious equipment that could have been used for terrorist purposes.

The head of the Civil Administration, Brigadier General Fares Atila, said, "We take very seriously any attempt to take advantage of the civilian medium of mail deliveries to deliver dual-use products that could harm the security of the State of Israel and its citizens. The Civil Administration will continue to act to prevent the transfer of equipment and to thwart smuggling of this kind, which could harm the security of the State of Israel."

<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307807>

**Approval to make Cave of Patriarchs accessible expected within 2 weeks**

***Provision of construction permit has been waiting for Defense Minister's signature, letter from top aide says.***

*Yehonatan Gottlieb , Jun 10 , 2021 12:24 PM*



***The Cave of the Patriarchs T.P.S.***

Israel's Defense Ministry on Wednesday confirmed Arutz Sheva's report that the process of making the Cave of the Patriarchs (Me'arat Hamachpelah) accessible was [frozen](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307550), but added that within two weeks, Defense Minister Benny Gantz (Blue and White) is expected to approve the construction.

In an email obtained by *Arutz Sheva*, Avi Roeh, and aide to the Defense Minister on issues pertaining to the settlements, wrote that he expects permits to make the Cave of the Patriarchs accessible to be granted "within the next two weeks."

"The plan to make it accessible has been waiting for a construction permit. Provision of the construction permit has been waiting for approval from the Minister. The approval has been delayed due to operational reasons," he explained.

The construction permit is the last step before the construction of an elevator at the site can begin.

Shai Glick, CEO of the B'tsalmo organization which is working to make the site accessible, said: "The Cave of the Patriarchs should have been made accessible a long time ago. At the same time, better late than never. We praise the commitment to sign a construction permit in the next two weeks, and we will ensure that immediately after it is signed, tractors will arrive at the site and there will be no additional delay."

"A contractor has already been chosen and has even received money," he emphasized, adding that "everyone has full rights to visit the gravesites of our fathers in an accessible and respectable fashion."

"We will continue to work for human rights, in every place and at all times." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307834>

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**06/09/2021 NEWS AM**

**גד אלבז - כל יכול Gad Elbaz - Kol Yachol**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6BXEAofKy8>

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| In the most difficult moments / when the sky darkens  And I have no answers / in the sea of ​​regrets  In the dark and in silence / I find forgiveness in myself  And waiting / without a word  And in one moment  When the tears come down on me  Washed in comfort  You put a big light in me  Sends me joy  because you  Almighty  You restore my soul in me / and also illuminate in me my prayer  And when I'm lost / You pick me up  In the dark and in silence / I find forgiveness in myself  And waiting / without a word | And in one moment  When the tears come down on me  Washed in comfort  You put a big light in me  Sends me joy  because you  Almighty  I wanted to grow / know everything  I started to fall  Almost my light went out  And love moved away  I felt like a hero / fell into the pit  Between peace and war / You brought me back joy  And I'm yours / Always looking for you  Like a star shining in the sky / in the sky  Hugging me relaxing / everything |

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| **"Those who formally rule take their signals and commands not from the electorate as a body, but from a small group of men. This group will be called the Establishment. It exists even though that existence is stoutly denied. It is one of the secrets of the American social order... A second secret is the fact that the existence of the Establishment - the ruling class - is not supposed to be discussed." -- Arthur S. Miller George Washington University Professor of Law** |

**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 West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for DH – Mother going into hospice.**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  **NOTE: Our prayer list was getting very long and there will little follow up.**  **If you have people you want to have on the list please resubmit since we are revising it now– rdb]**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 31:4And Jacob sent and called for Rachel and for Leah to come to the field, to his flocks. 5And he said to them, I see your father's face, that it *is* not toward me as before. But the God of my father has been with me. 6And you know that with all my power I have served your father. 7And your father has cheated me and has changed my wages ten times. And God has not let him do evil to me. 8And if he said this: The speckled shall be your wages, then all the flocks bore speckled. And if he said this, The striped shall be your wages, then all the flocks bore striped.**

**Israel reported to strike several sites across Syria**

***Attack, reportedly from direction of Lebanon, would be first in over a month; Syria claims some missiles shot down by air defense systems; explosions reported near Damascus, Homs***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *9 June 2021, 1:00 am*

**An Israeli airstrike caused damage to sites in southern and central Syria late Tuesday, Damascus said, the first attack attributed to Israel in over a mont**h.

**According to Syrian state news agency Sana, air defense systems managed to shoot down some Israeli missiles which were fired from the direction of Lebanon after 11:3**0 p.m.

It said some missiles were shot down and others caused damage, citing a military source.

“Our air defense array confronted the aggression’s missiles and shot down some of them, and there were material losses only,” the source was quoted saying.

The Syrian news agency did not detail what sites were struck, but said they were located in the south and center of the country.

**The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based war monitor, reported “violent explosions felt in Damascus and around the city, followed by Israeli strikes on military positions”** of the Syrian army.

**“Air strikes also took place in the south of Homs province and in the border zone between Homs and Tartus**,” Observatory chief Rami Abdul Rahman told AFP.

**The Israeli army, which rarely acknowledges its strikes in Syria, told AFP it would not comment on “information coming from abr**oad”.

Video published by Sana purported to show air defense interceptors shooting down missiles.

There was no immediate confirmation from Israel, which does not generally comment on individual airstrikes in Syria.

The IDF has launched hundreds of strikes in Syria since the start of the civil war in 2011 against moves by Iran to establish a permanent military presence in the country and efforts to transport advanced, game-changing weapons to terrorist groups in the region, principally Hezbollah.

The pace of attacks has slowed considerably in recent months, with the last reported attacks taking place May 5 and 6 on sites in Latakia and near Quneitra. One civilian was reported killed in the May 5 strike.

In late April, an errant Syria air defense missile flew into Israel and exploded over the Negev region, setting off sirens and raining shrapnel near the Dimona nuclear reactor.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/syria-claims-israeli-airstrikes-on-sites-in-south-center-of-country/>

**Change bloc chiefs meet to iron out wrinkles as Likud steps up hunt for rebels**

***Knesset vote on new coalition set for Sunday at 4 p.m.; prospective coalition said to fear fresh US pressure on settlements could expose disputes***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *9 June 2021, 12:18 am*

**The leaders of the “change bloc’s” Yamina, New Hope and Yesh Atid parties met Tuesday night to sort out remaining differences, five days before the new government is set to be approved a**nd sworn in.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2018/10/elkin.jpg) **Naftali Bennett, Gideon Sa’ar and Yair Lapid agreed that New Hope’s Ze’ev Elkin will be appointed minister in charge of liaison between the Knesset and government. The news came after reports that Elkin had** [**set new conditions**](https://www.timesofisrael.com/report-tiff-over-west-bank-construction-a-last-minute-obstacle-to-coalition/) **for supporting the government — specifically the formation of a new body to oversee enforcement of alleged illegal construction by Palestinians in the** West Bank’s Area C.

***Ze’ev Elkin (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)***

**In a joint statement, the parties called the reports “ridiculous s**pin.”

**The eight-party “change government” alliance, headed by Bennett and Lapid, anticipates winning a 61-59 majority in the confidence vote Su**nday, after wavering Yamina MK Nir Orbach said earlier Tuesday that he would back the new coalition.

**The vote on the new government is expected to begin at 4 p.**m.

**On Tuesday Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s Likud party approved a motion to reserve three open spots on the party’s electoral slate, in a last-ditch bid to entice members of right-wing parties in the change bl**oc to oppose the proposed government in exchange for a guaranteed spot on the Likud roster in the next election.

**Yamina’s Orbach explained that his decision was difficult but necessary to break the years-long political stalemate and prevent Israel from “falling** apart.”

“I chose what’s good for the country,” he said.

Netanyahu has been desperately trying to push right-wing MKs in the new coalition to defect, with intense protests being held outside the homes of several lawmakers who have also seen threats directed against them and their families.

Currently, at least four of the seven Yamina lawmakers in the Knesset are under additional protection amid threats directed at them over the party joining up with Lapid and left-wing parties. On Tuesday night, it was reported by Channel 12 news that security is also being increased for New Hope chairman Sa’ar.

The emerging government will first be headed by Bennett, who will be replaced by Lapid as prime minister in August 2023. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/change-bloc-chiefs-discuss-remaining-issues-knesset-vote-expected-4-p-m-sunday/>

**Haredi MKs: Jewish state in danger if ‘wicked’ Bennett succeeds Netanyahu**

**In assault on PM-designate, Litzman says Yamina leader should remove his kippa, Deri says he’ll ‘destroy Shabbat, conversion, kashrut’; Bennett dismisses ‘hysterical outburst’**

By [Amy Spiro](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/amy-spiro/) Today, 4:56 pm

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/F210608YS29.jpg)

***United Torah Judaism party chief Moshe Gafni holds a press conference (together with UTJ MK Yaakov Litzman and Shas head Aryeh Deri) at the Knesset in Jerusalem, June 8, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)***

**In a joint press conference Tuesday afternoon, the heads of the Haredi political parties Shas and United Torah Judaism launched a stunning assault on the leader of the Yamina party and prime minister-designate, Naf**tali Bennett.

**With the so-called change government set to be sworn in on Sunday and the ultra-Orthodox headed for the opposition, Haredi leaders branded Bennett as “wicked” and claimed his new government’s policies would endanger the Jewish s**tate.

**Bennett dismissed the attack as embarrassing and unhinged, a “hysterical outburst**,” and vowed he would safeguard religious life in the country.

**The** [**coalition agreements**](https://www.timesofisrael.com/change-government-agenda-electoral-reform-budget-and-jerusalem-building-boom/) **signed by the parties have yet to be formally made public but will reportedly include advancing an IDF draft bill for some yeshiva students**.

**Other issues, including reforms on conversion to Judaism, civil unions, public transportation and the opening of supermarkets on Shabbat, appeared in some early drafts but** were removed from the final document, Channel 12 said.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/F210608YS24.jpg) **Still, Shas leader Aryeh Deri asserted that a government headed by Bennett “is going to destroy and ruin everything we have maintained for years**. A government headed by Bennett will destroy Shabbat, conversion, the Chief Rabbinate, kashrut and will tear the people of Israel asunder,” he said. “For the sake of his personal ambition, Bennett is throwing away everything that is important to the Jewish people.”

***Shas head Aryeh Deri gives a press statement (together with UTJ MK Moshe Gafni and Yaakov Litzman) at the Knesset, June 8, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)***

**“The Jewish state is in danger!” Deri proclaimed. “The State of Israel is changing its face and its character and its identity. This isn’t a separation of religion and state, but an uprooting of religion from the** state.”

“The names of the wicked shall rot,” United Torah Judaism leader Moshe Gafni said of Bennett and Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid.

“We will cry out to heaven and earth… against the behavior of this man who ostensibly wears a kippa,” Gafni said of Bennett. “From the beginning, we knew that this is what he wants — he wants there to be an anti-religious government, a secular government.”

**Gafni said that the Haredi parties would not allow Bennett to appoint national-religious rabbis to head local religious councils or to the Chief Rabbinate. “We won’t allow this in any way,” he declar**ed. “There will be a war on all fronts, there will be nothing he can do — this wicked one!”

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/F210608YS36.jpg) **Gafni called on Yamina voters and other national-religious supporters to “purge these people from among yo**u, so that they will be excommunicated and ostracized.”

***United Torah Judaism MK Yaakov Litzman at a press conference on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 (Yonatan Sindel / Flash90)***

**Deri slammed the establishment of a government “thanks to kippa wearers blinded by a thirst for power, who are going to fulfill the longtime dream of Meretz, Labor, Lapid, [Avigdor] Liberman and the Reform Movement togeth**er.”

**UTJ’s Yaakov Litzman said the incoming government is “an extreme left-wing government that has lost its way, lost its values** and lost its conscience.”

Litzman called **Bennett a Reform Jew, a denigration of the highest order in the Haredi world**.

“If he signs all of these coalition agreements, he’s Reform — there’s no difference between them,” Litzman said. “He should take off his kippa… so at least people can understand that he’s Reform.”

**Bennett said he was “disappointed” by the harangue. “These are comments that do not gain them any respect, and reflect a loss of control,” he said in** a statement.

**“Only a year ago when the current unity government was formed, Yamina was left out and the Haredim were in. You did not see me calling on Gafni to take off his kip**pa. There was a government, we were not part of it, and the sun still rose in the morning,” Bennett added.

**“The ultra-Orthodox MKs will not teach us what Judaism is, and certainly not what Zionism is. As prime minister, I will take care of ultra-Orthodox society and the world of Torah,” he** said.

Bennett added that “if the intention of this hysterical outburst is to deter us from the intention to establish a state commission of inquiry into the Meron disaster — it will not work.”

“Forty-five people died, someone needs to provide an answer,” he said, apparently in response to Haredi parties [blocking attempts](https://www.timesofisrael.com/bid-to-block-meron-disaster-inquiry-sparks-first-glimmers-of-a-haredi-rebellion/) to establish a probe into the April disaster.

The eight-party “change government” alliance, headed by Bennett and Lapid, anticipates winning a 61-59 majority in a confidence vote slated for Sunday, after wavering Yamina MK Nir Orbach said Tuesday he would back the new coalition.

The timing of the vote means that all coalition agreements must be formally handed to the Knesset and made public by Friday. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/haredi-mks-jewish-state-in-danger-if-wicked-bennett-succeeds-netanyahu/> **[This is really going to cause a rhubarb in a substantial segment of the population. Judaism has a deep respect for traditions of the elders and the way things have been established according to their interpretation of the Torah of Moses and particularly according to the Talmudic interpretation and analysis of the Torah. To deviate is most difficult for those who are particularly adherent to Orthodoxy. – rdb]**

**Unity government to approve Western Wall egalitarian plaza frozen by Netanyahu**

***With the ultra-Orthodox outside coalition, all parties expected to back prayer area compromise, with several highlighting plan in recent meetings with American Jewish leaders***

*By* [*Jacob Magid*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jacob-magid/) *Today, 6:36 am*

***[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2013/08/F130826ELFF02-e1377569436852.jpg)***

***Minister Naftali Bennett unveils a temporary platform built for egalitarian prayer at the Western Wall in Jerusalem in August 2013. (Ezra Landau/Flash90)***

**The prospective unity government plans to implement a currently frozen deal to expand the pluralistic prayer pavilion at the Western Wall, members of the nascent coalition told American Jewish leaders last w**eek.

**One of those Jewish community leaders told The Times of Israel Monday that lawmakers from Yesh Atid, Labor and Meretz highlighted their intention to reinstitute the** [**plan**](https://www.timesofisrael.com/full-text-the-complete-version-of-the-western-wall-compromise-from-january-2016/)**, which was frozen by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in 2016 due to pressure from his ultra-Orthodox coalition partners, who refused any move that could be seen as legitimizing pluralistic Judaism**.

The **plan would have seen the establishment of a properly prepared pavilion for pluralistic prayer — as opposed to the current temporary arrangements — under joint oversight involving all major streams of Judaism**.

**Many Jewish organizations, including the Jewish Agency and the Jewish Federations of North America, bitterly denounced the government’s backtracking at the time, briefly threatening to protest until it was rev**ersed.



***Archaeologists claim the egalitarian platform harms the visual story of the Western Wall by hiding important archaeological artifacts. (courtesy, Eilat Mazar)***

**While the government that could be sworn in as early as Wednesday is politically diverse, there is a good deal of agreement on issues of religion and state, giving party leaders the confidence to assure visiting heads of American Jewish organizations that they would be able to move forward with the Western Wall agreeme**nt.

“It’s an issue that’s kind of foreign to them, and one that they don’t care enough about in a negative way to not want an easy win,” said the Jewish community leader who spoke to The Times of Israel on condition of anonymity after meetings with party leaders across the political spectrum.

**“It’s a way for the new government to send a signal about respect for US Jewish practice and opinion, while also differentiating themselves from the previous government** that reneged on the deal,” the source continued. “Without (the ultra-Orthodox) UTJ and Shas [in the coalition], I don’t think it’ll be a big deal for them to implement.”

**The coalition agreement struck between Yisrael Beytenu and Yesh Atid leaked to the media on Thursday includes a commitment to re-implement the Western Wall plan**, though Prime Minister-designate Naftali Bennett’s Yamina party still has veto power on issues of religion and state.



***Reform female and male rabbis pray together at Robinson’s Arch, the Western Wall site slated for future egalitarian services, on February 25, 2016. (Y.R/Reform Movement)***

Bennett was minister of Diaspora affairs when the egalitarian Israel Plaza on the southern end of the Western Wall was [built in 2014](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-BGRguOqAFA). He [told](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vq0NdrRPkyo) The Times of Israel in 2017 that he opposed Netanyahu’s decision to renege on the agreement and **said he would unfreeze the plan if it were up to him**.

**The original plan includes three key provisions: a joint entrance to the main Western Wall plaza and the egalitarian prayer space; a new permanent pavilion greatly enlarging the existing modest prayer deck, which has served as a site for pluralistic prayer since 2000; and, perhaps most controversially, a joint council made up of representatives from liberal streams of Judaism and government representatives that would be in charge of overseeing the si**te.

The original decision to build a new pavilion dates back to January 31, 2016, when the government — spurred by decades of high-profile activism by the feminist prayer group Women of the Wall — approved the so-called Western Wall compromise.

**But on June 25, 2017, Netanyahu, facing intense ultra-Orthodox pressure, froze the p**lan. While killing off the joint entrance and pluralistic governing board, however, he vowed to continue with the construction of a permanent platform.

A remnant of a wall supporting the Second Temple complex destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE, the Western Wall has been honored by Jews for thousands of years as a place of pilgrimage and prayer. But, while anyone can access the wall and the prayer plaza it backs on to, the site is managed by the Western Wall Heritage Foundation, which imposes Orthodox practices on worshipers, separating men and women and prohibiting egalitarian prayer services.

The small platform currently used for pluralistic prayer services is located in the Davidson Archaeological Park, tucked into an area called Robinson’s Arch. It is out of sight of the current mainstream Orthodox prayer plaza, separated from it by the ramp leading up to the Mughrabi Gate, which is the only entrance for non-Muslims to the Temple Mount.<https://www.timesofisrael.com/unity-government-to-approve-egalitarian-plaza-at-kotel-frozen-by-netanyahu/> **[This is from an orthodox point of view absolutely radical and heretical. – rdb]**

**Cabinet votes to allow contentious Jerusalem flag march next week**

***Netanyahu and Gantz reach compromise which will see parade held on June 15, with police and organizers to set new route; Likud minister slams security forces for 'inability' to protect marchers***

*Ynet | Published: 06.08.21 , 21:44*

**Ministers voted Tuesday to allow the controversial far-right flag march to take place in Jerusalem’s Old City next Tuesday, June 15, with a route to be decided between the rally's organizers and polic**e.

**The decision came following a compromise between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Benny Ga**ntz.

The so-called "Flag Parade" normally takes place on Jerusalem Day that falls in May, but was interrupted this year when Hamas fired a barrage of rockets at the capital from the Gaza Strip, marking the start of an 11-day conflict.

It was also called off in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

**During the meeting, security officials warned that the parade's traditional route, which passes through the Damascus Gate, the Muslim Quarter and ending in the Western Wall, could lead to a flare-up in tension**s not only within the city but possibly also in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and other locations across Israel.

Although Netanyahu agreed to hold the march next Tuesday, members of Netanyahu's Likud party called for the event to take place on Thursday as originally played.

**During the meeting, Transportation Minister Miri Regev slammed IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Aviv Kochai and Police Commisenor Yaakov Shabtai, saying: "The big army, police and Shin Bet cannot guard the parad**e."

**The rescheduled rally will come just two days after Knesset holds a vote to approve the new government**, which would remove Netanyahu from his post after a record 12 years in power.

"We are waiting and hoping to march through the streets of Jerusalem according to the original route," organizers said. "If the police need until Tuesday to get organized, we will respect that. Tomorrow, we will demand from police to retain the original route." <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/rJxMME65u>

**Israel says Hamas jammed Iron Dome signals from destroyed media building**

**Envoy to U.S. Gilad Erdan says Israel is willing to assist Associated Press in rebuilding its office in Gaza, which was leveled during 11-days of fighting in the Palestinian enclave last month**

*AFP | Updated: 06.08.21 , 19:52*

**Israel said Tuesday that a Gaza media building it destroyed was used by Hamas to jam air defenses as it offered to help the Associated Press rebuild its bureau.**

***Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. Gilad Erdan meeting with The Associated Press President and CEO Gary Pruitt***

**Israel's ambassador to the United States, Gilad Erdan, gave the most detailed explanation yet of the decision to strike the tower as he met the head of the news agency, Gary Pruitt, at its New York headquarters**.

**"The unit was developing an electronic jamming system to be used against the Iron Dome defense system," Erdan sai**d, referring to the anti-missile shield that intercepts Hamas rockets.

**He praised the role of the Associated Press and said he did not imagine its employees were aware of the alleged use of the building b**y Hamas.

**"Israel did everything it could to make sure that no employees or civilians were hurt duri**ng this important operation," he said in a statement released a day after his meeting with AP executives.

The IDF airstrike on the tower housing international media outlets

**"In contrast, Hamas is a genocidal terrorist organization that has no regard for the press. It purposely places its terror machine in civilian areas, i**ncluding in offices being used by international media outlets," he said.

Erdan said that Israel is willing to assist the Associated Press in rebuilding its office in Gaza.

The AP and international media rights groups earlier called for an independent investigation into allegations that the Jala Tower building was used by Hamas.

**The airstrike also destroyed the office of Al Jazeera, the Qatar-based television network that has frequently irritated both Israel and Arab states with its cov**erage.

The attack came during the 11-days of fighting last month between Israel and Palestinian terror groups in Gaza.

Israeli strikes killed 260 Palestinians and wounded more than 1,900 people, the Gaza health ministry says.

Rockets and other fire from Gaza killed 13 people in Israel. with some 357 people wounded. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/rkoTEzTc00#autoplay>

**As he sums up term, Ashkenazi says Israel will strengthen PA against Hamas**

***Netanyahu supports Palestinian Authority officials taking part in Gaza reconstruction; FM says US committed to expanding Abraham Accords***

*By* [*Lazar Berman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/lazar-berman/) *Today, 8:07 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2020/05/Untitled-44.jpg)

***Blue and White MK Gabi Ashkenazi attends the annual Municipal Innovation Conference in Tel Aviv, February February 19, 2020. (Miriam Alster/Flash90)***

**Israel will make efforts to strengthen the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank while weakening Hamas, outgoing Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi said in a press briefing on Tuesda**y.

**Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu backs the decision, government sources told The Times of Israel, which includes giving the PA a more meaningful role in the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip following the 11-day conflict between Israel and Hamas** in May.

**Ashkenazi said government working groups are fleshing out the details of the approach**, in close contact with the US administration.

He made the remarks as he summed up his 13-month tenure as Israel’s top diplomat.

**In May, The New York Times** [**reported**](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/20/us/politics/israel-gaza-hamas-biden-netanyahu.html?action=click&module=Spotlight&pgtype=Homepage) **that the United States was planning to head a multi-billion dollar international effort to assist in rebuilding Gaza following the fightin**g. The goal, it said, is partly to “bring pressure, through promises of financial support, on Hamas not to resume fighting.”

The reported aid plan, likely to be coordinated through the United Nations, would depend on Hamas not resuming its rocket fire toward Israel.

**Ashkenazi expressed satisfaction with the state of the relationship between Israel and the Biden administration. “The ties are daily and regular,” h**e said.

He **also said that the US has not taken steps to reverse course on any of the Trump administration’s policies** toward Israel.

“I do not know of any decision that Trump decided about Israel that was canceled – not Jerusalem, not the embassy, not the Abraham Accords,” he said.

The Biden administration [did announce in May](https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-ramallah-blinken-announces-plans-to-reopen-us-consulate-in-jerusalem/) that it would reopen the US consulate in Jerusalem that had historically served as the de facto representative to the Palestinians.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/ashkenazi-says-israel-will-strengthen-pa-against-hamas/>

**Panel reaffirms call to shut down Haifa Bay’s oil refineries within a decade**

***But in a sign of possible hurdles ahead, finance and energy ministries express reservations about the committee’s recommendations***

*By* [*Sue Surkes*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/sue-surkes/) *Today, 10:22 pm*

**A top-level committee of officials set up within the Prime Minister’s Office presented its final recommendations Monday on the future of Haifa Bay in northern Israel, with a call to halt all petrochemical activity within a decade, at most, to allow for the creation of new housing, eco-friendly jobs and** a park.

The timetable is conditioned upon “maintaining the minimal needs of the energy industry.”

**Environmental Protection Minister Gila Gamliel, who has pushed hard to shut the polluting industries down, welcomed the report,** saying that Haifa residents deserved a “green and innovative bay.”

But in a sign of the difficulties likely to lie ahead, the Finance Ministry expressed its reservations in a report while the Energy Ministry sided with the Bazan petrochemical complex, owned by the Ofer family’s Israel Corporation. Both attacked the committee for what they said was unprofessional work.

The committee was established as part of Government Resolution 472 on October 25, 2020. Headed by Avi Simhon, leader of the National Economic Council within the Prime Minister’s Office, it comprises the: directors-general of the PMO; ministries of environmental protection, energy, economy and industry, interior, and defense; head of the Finance Ministry’s Budgets Department; heads of the National Security Council, National Economics Council, Israel Lands Authority and National Planning Council; and the attorney general. **MORE -** <https://www.timesofisrael.com/panel-reaffirms-call-to-shut-down-haifa-bays-oil-refineries-within-a-decade/>

**Palestinian officials arrive in Egypt for talks ahead of planned meeting**

***Cairo summit aimed at cementing Egyptian-brokered ceasefire which ended latest round of fighting in Gaza last month, as well as attempt to renew ties between rivals Hamas and Fatah***

*Reuters | Published: 06.08.21 , 17:16*

**Palestinian leaders, including Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh and a delegation from the Fatah movement of President Mahmoud Abbas, arrived in Cairo on Tuesday for separate talks with Egyptian officials that aim to reinforce a ceasefire with Israel**.

**Haniyeh's visit came in response to a special invitation from Cairo, in advance of a broader meeting of Palestinian factions that could begin as early as next we**ek, Hamas spokesman Hazem Qassem said.



***Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas (R) and then Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh of Hamas (Photo: AP)***

**Jibril Rajoub, a senior figure from Abbas's Fatah movement, which runs the Palestinian Authority that exercises limited self-rule in the West Bank, was also expected to meet Egyptian officials, Palestinian and Egyptian sources said. Abbas has been invited to E**gypt.

**The Palestinian and Egyptian sources did not say whether the delegations from the rival Palestinian groups would meet each oth**er.

**Egypt has played a major role in the brokering of a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, th**e Islamist group which rules Gaza, after 11 days of conflict erupted on May 10.

More than 250 Palestinians were killed in hundreds of Israeli airstrikes on Gaza during that conflict. Rockets fired from the seaside enclave killed 13 people in Israel.

Haniyeh and Egyptian officials will discuss cementing the truce with Israel as well as reconstruction plans for Gaza, Qassem said. Egypt has said it will allocate $500 million for the reconstruction.

Egypt has tried in the past to foster cooperation between Palestinian factions, which it sees as important for wider efforts to promote peace in the region.

Hamas seized Gaza from the Fatah-dominated Palestinian Authority in 2007 and the two factions have been in a power struggle ever since.

During a meeting of his cabinet in the West Bank city of Ramallah, Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh said he hopes Cairo's mediation will "close the page on (internal) division (and) help our people in Gaza ... in a way that enhances our national unity." **MORE -**  <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/SJEfQl6cO>

**Iran nuclear deal rescue needs more time, envoys say ahead of fresh talks**

***Diplomats say negotiations in Vienna may require weeks or possibly months to accommodate Iranian demands about sanctions relief and Western concerns over Tehran expanding nuclear know-how***

*Reuters | Published: 06.08.21 , 23:12*

**A host of barriers to the revival of Iran’s nuclear deal remain firmly in place ahead of talks due to resume this week between Tehran and world powers, suggesting a return to compliance with the 2015 accord is still a way off, f**our diplomats, two Iranian officials and two analysts say.

**Iranian demands about sanctions relief and Western concern over Iran’s expanding nuclear know-how are among questions that may need weeks or possibly months of further negotiation**s, the diplomats and analysts said.

 **The talks seek to revive a landmark pact under which Iran agreed to curbs on its nuclear program in return for the lifting of international sanction**s, which opened the way for a brief thaw in decades of U.S.-Iranian confrontation.

**Then-U.S. President Donald Trump abandoned the deal in 2018 saying it was too soft on Tehran, and reimposed sanctions**. Iran responded by violating the agreement’s limits.

**Trump’s successor Joe Biden has said he wants to restore the deal’s nuclear limits** and if possible extend them to cover issues such as Iran’s regional behavior and missile program. Iran wants all sanctions lifted and no expansion of the terms.

European Union envoy Enrique Mora, the chief coordinator of the talks, said last week he believed a deal would be reached at the upcoming sixth round of negotiations in Vienna, expected to resume on Thursday or Friday.

***European Union envoy Enrique Mora (Photo: EPA)***

**Adding to the impetus to make progress is an election in Iran on June 18 to replace President Hassan Rouhani, a pragmatist who promoted the original deal. He is widely expected to be followed by a hardline su**ccessor.

**The election is not likely to change Tehran’s negotiating stance:** regardless of who is president any deal must be approved by Iran’s hardline faction through Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei. But neither Washington nor Tehran wants to start from scratch, or entangle the deal further in Iranian domestic politics.

**Iran’s top nuclear negotiator said last week that barriers to a revival of the deal are complicated but not insurmountable. “Differences have reached a point where everyone believes these differences are not insolvabl**e,” Abbas Araqchi said. **[This sounds like a bunch of political negotiating excrement with no substance or merit. Iran is a much better negotiator than those in the EU or US because they have been to the shuk and know how to barter. – rdb]**

 However, **none of the remaining sticking points lend themselves to rapid solutions**, according to the diplomats, Iranian officials and analysts of Iranian nuclear matters.

***Iranian deputy foreign minister Abbas Araghchi leaves after a JCPOA Joint Commission meeting in Vienna, Austria (Photo: EPA)***

**Their assessment chimes with downbeat remarks on Monday by U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, who said Washington still did not know whether Iran was ready to resume compliance with th**e deal.

“I doubt that the next round will be the final one... The parties are still far apart on core issues,” said Ali Vaez, senior Iran analyst at the International Crisis Group.

And when, or if, disagreements are solved, more talks would be needed on so-called sequencing - the delicate question of which side takes which action and when, in return for reciprocal steps by the other side, the diplomats said.

The negotiations have made considerable progress but are now at the hardest part with the key decisions still needed, said a European diplomat briefed on the talks, which began in April.

***‘The heart of the matter’***

**The talks have arrived at “the heart of the matter on the nuclear dimension”, a second European diplomat** said.

**A senior Western diplomat said that “of course” he hoped that the next round would result in a deal, but injected a note of caution, saying “until we are able to resolve the important issues that remain, we won’t kno**w.”

**An Iranian official said: “Everything depends on Washington. If the American side accepts to lift all sanctions, then Iran will return into full compliance** with the deal.” **[With islam it is always YOU FIRST! You concede something and then there will be another demand and another. – rdb]**

In **addition to seeking the lifting of Trump-era sanctions, Tehran also wants Washington to remove Iran’s Revolutionary Guards from a terrorism blacklist**, which can be used to bar Iranian businesses from the international financial system. It wants Europe to guarantee foreign investors will return, and assurances that Washington will not renege on the deal again.

**But from the standpoint of Washington and its European allies, it would no longer be sufficient to return to the nuclear restrictions in the original deal,** designed at the time to ensure that Iran could not build a bomb in less than a year.

In the months that Iran has been breaching the limits, it has made technical advances that make the original restrictions out of date. Vaez noted that Iran has begun using advanced centrifuges, known as the IR9, which are 50 times more powerful at producing enriched uranium than the ones covered by the deal, known by its initials as the JCPoA.

***Breakout time***

**“If Iran refuses to destroy these machines, its breakout time will be shorter, unless it agrees to dismantle an equivalent number of IR1 machines. That is seen by Iran as humiliating and beyond the JCPoA’s scop**e,” Vaez said.

**The Iranians have acquired knowledge and capabilities they did not have befor**e, said the European diplomat briefed on the talks, citing Iran’s first-ever production of uranium metal, a material that can be used to make the core of an atom bomb.

The development, reported this year by the International Atomic Energy Agency, was not something covered by the 2015 deal, and any revival of the pact would have to take account of this newfound capability, Vaez said. **MORE -**

<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/HJYbZ11T9O> **[This entire deal was a fiasco form the onset. There were few if any means of verifying the compliance of the Iranians and there was an automatic stop leading to an unrestricted nuclear capability. It also allowed the terrorist group to actively continue their widespread involvement in terror as well. The Obamanation and his crew were flagrantly incompetent. – rdb]**

**Report: Satellite images show activity at Iran nuclear site exposed by Israel**

***Images taken in October, January and March reportedly show construction work at Sanjarian facility near Tehran that was later partially covered up, leaving what analyst calls 'excavation swirls and new trenches'***

*Ynet | Published: 06.09.21 , 10:41*

**A site revealed by Israel in 2018 to be an Iranian nuclear facility has seen a flurry of recent activity, Fox News reported late Tuesday, based on satellite ima**ges.

**The images obtained by Fox from Maxar Technologies show that in October 2020, 18 vehicles were spotted at Sanjarian, near Tehran in northern Iran. More vehicles were recorded there in January,** along with construction work including the preparation of a new access road.

***A satellite image of the Sanjarian nuclear site taken in January***

***(Photo: Intel Lab)***

 **The road was apparently covered over in March, leaving images of "excavation swirls and new trenche**s," Fox News reported, quoting analysis by Itay Bar Lev of Intel Lab who worked in conjunction with the Institute for Science and International Security.

***A satellite image of the Sanjarian nuclear site taken in October 2020 (Photo: Intel Lab)***

**The institute is headed by David Albright, a former UN nuclear inspector who first cast doubt on the claims by the George W. Bush administration that Iraq was producing weapons of mass destru**ction.

Sanjarian featured in the Iranian nuclear archive [seized from Tehran](https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5246689,00.html) by Israel's Mossad intelligence agency in 2018, and is suspected of being a manufacturing site for "shock wave generators" used to miniaturize nuclear weapons.

**The U.S. informed Iran on Tuesday that it must let the International Atomic Energy Agency - the United Nations' nuclear inspection body - continue to monitor its activities, as laid out in an agreement in place until June** 24.

**If Iran did not allow the monitoring, the U.S. said, it would risk the ongoing talks on reviving the 2015 nuclear deal** that former U.S. president Donald Trump quit in 2018.

The talks in Vienna were due to resume later this week.

"We strongly encourage Iran to avoid any action that would prevent the collection of or IAEA access to the information necessary for it to quickly re-establish ... continuity of knowledge," a U.S. statement to a meeting of the IAEA's 35-nation Board of Governors said. "Such action would, at a minimum, seriously complicate ongoing efforts to reach an understanding on how Iran can return to compliance with its JCPOA commitments in return for a similar U.S. resumption," it added, referring to the 2015 nuclear deal by its full name, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. **MORE -**<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/HkahUC6500>

**Large swaths of internet temporarily downed by outage at cloud company Fastly**

***The New York Times, CNN, Amazon and other major sites affected by widespread failure, which also takes down websites of White House and UK government***

*By* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *Today, 2:29 pm*

**Numerous websites were unavailable for more than an hour Tuesday after an apparent widespread outage at the cloud service company Fastly**.

**Dozens of high-traffic websites including the New York Times, CNN, BBC, Twitch and the UK government’s home page, temporarily could not be reached**.

Messages such as “Error 503 Service Unavailable” and “connection failure” appeared on the websites of the Financial Times, The Guardian and France’s Le Monde newspaper.

Visitors trying to access CNN.com got a message that said: “Fastly error: unknown domain: cnn.com.”

The White House website had an error message but, like other affected sites, was available again later.

San Francisco-based Fastly acknowledged a problem just before 1000 GMT. It said in repeated updates on its website that it was “continuing to investigate the issue.”

Down Detector, which tracks internet outages, said: “Reports indicate there may be a widespread outage at Fastly, which may be impacting your service.”

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/large-swaths-of-internet-downed-by-outage-at-cloud-company-fastly/>

**Fauci is 'the mastermind of a cover-up,' says Trump official**

***'There is blood on this man's hands. He is not a hero. He is not a saint'***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published June 8, 2021 at 8:02pm*

**Peter Navarro, who was President Trump's trade adviser when the COVID-19 pandemic began, charged in an interview that Dr. Anthony Fauci is the "mastermind of a co**ver-up."

**Navarro said Fauci lied to the American people about the origin of the pandemic and recruited scientists to produce a paper declaring the claim that the virus leaked from a Chinese lab was an unfounded conspirac**y theory.

**"Somebody needs to grab him by the nape of the neck and drag him to Capitol Hill and put him in the hot** seat," Navarro told Steve Cortes in a Newsmax TV interview Monday night.

"Let Rand Paul and everybody else have at it with him. Get to the bottom of this. There is blood on this man's hands. He is not a hero. He is not a saint."

Navarro said that the first time he met Fauci was Jan. 28, 2020, in the Situation Room at the White House.

"I immediately got into a strong argument with him. I was for the travel ban. The president sent me there to argue it. He was dead set against it. I won that particular argument," he said.

Navarro contended that the travel ban saved hundreds of thousands of lives.

"**If we would have listened to Fauci a lot of people would be dead right now,"** he said.Bottom of Form

Later**, Navarro said, he and Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., began presenting evidence that** the virus came from a lab.

"And all we got was a raft of criticism," he said.

**Now, amid mounting evidence, even Fauci has admitted that he can't rule out a lab lea**k.

"Fauci was part of the coverup to try to shut me and Cotton up," Navarro said.

At the press briefings, Fauci "basically denied that this thing came from the lab, lied to the American people when he knew it probably did."

**Further, Navarro said, Fauci "recruited" scientists to declared that the virus had a natural origin and to dismiss anyone promoting the lab-leak theory as a nutty conspirac**ist.

"Fauci was mastermind of a cover up," Navarro said. "The cover up is always worse than the crime."

[The editorial board of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch contended](https://www.stltoday.com/opinion/editorial/editorial-the-right-is-just-plain-lying-about-what-dr-faucis-newly-released-emails-show/article_dcf3ee8c-db32-5c7c-83c4-589adc1516db.html) Wednesday that "the entire allegation" of a cover up is based on emails recently obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request in which "Fauci and another scientist discussed that theory but didn’t publicly endorse it — not exactly a smoking gun."

However, one of the emails from a virologist shows [Fauci was warned that the novel coronavirus had possibly been "engineered"](https://nypost.com/2021/06/02/fauci-was-warned-that-covid-may-have-been-engineered-emails/) at the same time he was publicly downplaying the lab-leak theory.

Fauci also received a "personal thank you" for backing the natural origin theory from Peter Daszak, the head of a nonprofit that used a $3.4 million government grant to fund research at Wuhan Institute of Virology.

The Post-Dispatch board charged that the "political right" is painting Fauci as a "villian," concocting "a new spate of false allegations aimed in part at political fundraising."

"When the history of the pandemic is written, Dr. Anthony Fauci will undoubtedly be recognized as a hero in the story — the nation’s top infectious disease expert who fought to get America to understand the coronavirus threat and respond to it based on the science, while gingerly handling a president who often seemed determined to make it all worse," the board wrote.

Accusing critics of being "anti-science extremists" who are "willing to put self-serving politics ahead of the public good," the paper insisted the lab-leak theory "remains unlikely."

However, last month Fauci was asked in an interview if, after mounting evidence of a lab leak, he was "still confident" that the virus evolved naturally.

"No, actually … I am not convinced about that, I think we should continue to investigate what went on in China until we continue to find out to the best of our ability what happened," Fauci said.

And last week he admitted to lawmakers that NIH had allocated $600,000 to the Wuhan lab to fund research on whether bat coronaviruses could be transmitted to humans. The money was sent via Peter Daszak's EcoHealth Alliance.

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/fauci-mastermind-cover-says-trump-official/>

**Fauci-funded scientist: 'Chinese colleagues' created 'killer' coronavirus**

***C-SPAN aired panel in which Peter Daszak boasted of work with Wuhan lab***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published June 8, 2021 at 7:38pm*

**In a speech covered by C-SPAN five years ago, the scientist who collaborated with the Wuhan Institute of Virology on research funded by Dr. Anthony Fauci's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease boasted his "colleagues in China" were creating a "killer" corona**virus.

**Peter Daszak, a member of the World Health Organization team that investigated the origins of COVID-19, made the admission at a 2016 forum** in a clip [unearthed by The National Pulse](https://thenationalpulse.com/exclusive/daszak-reveals-chinese-colleagues-manipulating-coronaviruses/).

**The admission, at an event discussing "emerging infectious diseases and the next pandemic," conflicts with Fauci's repeated insistence that the U.S. government never funded dangerous gain-of-function research** at the Wuhan lab.

**Until March 2021, when the issue was brought up by lawmakers such as Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., the Wuhan lab listed the National Institutes of Health as one of its "partne**rs."

In gain-of-function research, virologists enhance the lethality and transmissibility of viruses that pose the threat of jumping from animals to humans so they can prepare treatments and vaccines in advance. The The NIH under President Obama imposed a moritorium on the research because of the security risks in 2014. But NIH kept funding it through third parties, particularly Daszak's non-profit EcoHealth Alliance.

**In his remarks to the panel in 2016, Daszak describes the Wuhan lab's work of "insert[ing] spike proteins” into viruses to see if they can "bind to human cells." "Then when you get a sequence of a virus, and it looks like a relative of a known nasty pathogen, just like we did with SARS," he** said.Bottom of Form

**Daszak said "a whole host" of other coronaviruses were discovered in bats that "looked very similar to SARS."**

**"So we sequenced the spike protein: the protein that attaches to cells. Then we -- well I didn't do this work, but my colleagues in China did the work -- create pseudo particles, you insert the spike proteins from those viruses, see if they bind to human cells."**

**"At each step of this you move closer and closer to this virus could really become pathogenic in people," he said.**

"**You end up with a small number of viruses that really do look like killers**."

**Daszak's EcoHealth Alliance was one of the primary recipients of NIAID funding that then was funneled to the Wuhan** lab.

**Daszak and Shi Zhengli, the director of the Wuhan lab's Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases, are listed as co-authors of more than a dozen research papers that were produced through a $3.7 million NIAID** grant.

Shi, known for her research on bat coronaviruses, has included the Fauci-backed grants on her resume.

*See Daszak's remarks at the 2016 event:*

***Daszak behind paper deriding 'conspiracy theory'***

[Daszak was behind a February 2020 letter](https://www.wnd.com/2021/05/washington-post-wuhan-lab-leak-scenario-suddenly-credible/) that condemned "conspiracy theories suggesting that COVID-19 does not have a natural origin." Signed by a group of virologists and others, it became part of the media narrative after it was published in the eminent British science journal The Lancet.

But British science writer Nicholas Wade, who is known for a New York Times column he wrote for many years, pointed out in a lengthy analysis published last month that the scientists **had not basis for their conclusion. Wade has presented the circumstantial evidence that he believes points overwhelmingly to a lab leak**.

The scientists insisted on a natural origin and

Establishment media, Wade pointed out, largely ran with that conclusion without any serious investigation.

**The fact that Daszak's organization funded coronavirus research at the Wuhan lab – a clear conflict of interest – was not disclosed to The Lancet's readers**, Wade noted. To the contrary, the letter concluded, "We declare no competing interests." And, significantly, Daszak was the sole American representative on the WHO team investigating the pandemic's origin.

The news site Vox has quietly revised a March 4, 2020, article on the origin of COVID-19 that cited the declaration in The Lancet.

Titled "The Conspiracy Theories About the Origins of the Coronavirus, Debunked," it said "virologists who've parsed the genome and infectious disease experts who study coronaviruses have more than enough evidence to show that the virus is brand new and came from nature, not the Wuhan lab," [the National Pulse reported](https://thenationalpulse.com/).

Vox said a "large group of them, citing genome analyses from multiple countries, recently affirmed in The Lancet that the virus originated in wildlife."

"The emergence of the virus in the same city as China's only level 4 biosafety lab, it turns out, is pure coincidence," they said.

Among the changes to the article one year later were exchanging "is" for "appears to be" and deleting "not the Wuhan lab." <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/fauci-funded-scientist-chinese-colleagues-created-killer-coronavirus/> **[The entire pandemic issue is a fraud because the mortality rate by disease incidence is low and doesn’t fit the definition of a pandemic. This was a bad flu that was particularly bad for elderly and immune suppressed individuals. The failure to acknowledge the therapeutic efficacy of HCQ and ivermectin by the NIH and subsidiaries even saying they were ineffective when they have produced an article contrary to that in 2005 was criminal. Their continual blocking of information was criminal and the response by the NIH leadership has been criminal. Gates and others have a vested interest in the vaccine and allowed people to be deceived and die so that they could get it implemented. This entire affair is an enormous wicked and evil sin against humanity that should result in people being prosecuted for their actions. – rdb]**

**'Pristine' ballots in Georgia election count 'looked Xeroxed'**

***'We have what is almost surely major absentee-ballot fraud'***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published June 8, 2021 at 11:30am* ***By Paul Sperry****Real Clear Investigations*

**When Fulton County, Ga., poll manager Suzi Voyles sorted through a large stack of mail-in ballots last November, she noticed an alarmingly odd pattern of uniformity in the markings for Joseph R. Biden. One after another, the absentee votes contained perfectly filled-in ovals for Biden — except that each of the darkened bubbles featured an identical white void inside them in the shape of a tiny crescent, indicating they'd been marked with toner ink instead of a pen** or pencil.

**Adding to suspicions, she noticed that all of the ballots were printed on different stock paper than the others she handled as part of a statewide hand recount of the razor-thin Nov. 3 presidential elect**ion. And none was folded or creased, as she typically observed in mail-in ballots that had been removed from envelopes.

**In short, the Biden votes looked like they’d been duplicated by a copying mac**hine.

**“All of them were strangely pristine," said Voyles, who said she’d never seen anything like it in her 20 years monitoring elections in Fulton County**, which includes much of Atlanta.

**She wasn’t alone. At least three other poll workers observed the same thing in stacks of absentee ballots for Biden processed by the county**, and they have joined Voyles in swearing under penalty of perjury that they looked fake.

**Now election watchdogs have used their affidavits to help convince a state judge to unseal all of the 147,000 mail-in ballots counted in Fulton and allow a closer inspection of the suspicious Biden ballots** for evidence of counterfeiting. They argue that potentially tens of thousands may have been manufactured in a race that Biden won by just 12,000 votes thanks to a late surge of mail-in ballots counted after election monitors were shooed from State Farm Arena in Atlanta.

**“We have what is almost surely major absentee-ballot fraud in Fulton County involving 10,000 to 20,000 probably false ballots,”** said Garland Favorito, the lead petitioner in the case and a certified poll watcher who runs [VoterGa.org](http://voterga.org/), one of the leading advocates for election integrity in the state.

**He said the suspect ballots remain in the custody of the election officials and inaccessible from public vie**w.

**“We have confirmed that there are five pallets of shrink-wrapped ballots in a county warehouse,” Favorito said in an interview with RealClearInvestigat**ions.

**He and other petitioners were ordered to meet at the warehouse May 28 to settle the terms of the inspection of the absentee ballots. But the day before the scheduled meeting, the county filed a flurry of motions to dismiss the** case, delaying the inspection indefinitely.

**“We will be in court on June 21 to resolve these motions,” said Favorito, calling them another “roadblock” the county has tried to throw in their wa**y. He expects talks over the logistics of the inspection to resume after the Fourth of July holiday.

**As part of his May 21 order, Superior Court Judge Brian Amero requested officials guard the warehouse around the clock until an inspection date can be set. But just eight days later, a breach in security was reported after sheriff’s deputies left their post for a couple of hours**.

**“The front door was [found] unlocked and wide open in violation of the court order,” Favorito said.**

**County officials**[**confirmed**](https://www.11alive.com/article/news/politics/elections/alarm-activated-at-ballot-location-not-breached/85-3146dfe7-7d46-499b-aa7f-f8fc8b5ff18c) **that a motion-detection alarm was triggered Saturday, May 29, shortly after the deputies drove away from the building in their patrol cars around 4 p.m. But they said a locked room where the ballots are kept “was never breached or compromised.”**

**Favorito is not convinced, and his lawyer is seeking to obtain the video footage from building security came**ras. “How do we know for certain there was no tampering with the ballots?” asked Favorito, who said he did not vote for Trump.

News of the security lapse caught the attention of former President Trump, who has claimed his loss to Biden was marred by fraud. In a [statement](https://www.donaldjtrump.com/news/statement-by-donald-j-trump-45th-president-of-the-united-states-of-america-05.31.21-2), he implied election officials in the Democratic-controlled county are trying to hide evidence of fraud. "They are afraid of what might be found,” he asserted.  
 **Trump is also closely monitoring the ongoing election audit in Arizona, another red state that turned blue in 2020. If evidence of fraud is found in these key swing states, it might help confirm suspicions the election was “stolen" from Trump and the 74 million who voted for him -- as a recent**[**poll**](https://www.ipsos.com/sites/default/files/ct/news/documents/2021-05/Ipsos%20Reuters%20Topline%20Write%20up-%20The%20Big%20Lie%20-%2017%20May%20thru%2019%20May%202021.pdf) **found 61% of Republicans believe --** as well as provide the proof of voter fraud that Democrats and major media have long claimed doesn’t exist.  
 The cases could potentially give other battleground states incentive to take steps to tighten election security and root out fraud, including passing legislation to limit the use of controversial mail-in drop boxes and require the verification of signatures on such ballots. In Georgia, relatively few mail-in ballots were rejected for invalid signatures in the November general election, even though several thousand had been disqualified for signature issues in the primary election.  
 In a move that inspired national boycotts alleging voter "suppression," Georgia recently passed a law limiting, but not removing, the drop boxes. The state had installed them for the first time in 2020 under pressure from Democratic groups, who argued officials needed to make voting easier for minorities who didn’t trust the mail and feared going to the polls during the COVID scare.  
 **The 38 drop boxes Fulton distributed throughout the county in the November election will be cut to eight in the future. The boxes had been largely unregulated and unattended — located outdoors, open 24 hours a day and available for drop-offs until the evening of Election Day, prompting complaints of ballot stuffing and double voting**. But now they have to be located inside election offices or early voting locations, and can only be available during the hours when early voting is permitted. The new law also requires ballots be printed on special security paper.  
 Voting by mail traditionally was limited to voters who had clearly defined and well-documented reasons to be absent from the polls. But Democrats in key swing states lobbied to relax the rules in the middle of the election and amid the coronavirus pandemic.  
 **Mail-in or drop-off ballots create opportunities for voter error and fraud. In a typical election, one in 20 mailed ballots are rejected, according to recent studies**. More than 534,000 mail-in ballots were rejected during the 2020 Democratic primaries alone.  
 Still, both Republican and Democratic officials in Georgia say they have found no credible evidence of widespread fraud in the general election. Democrats, as well as many major media outlets, have written off Favorito’s group's allegations of fraud as “conspiracy theories.”  
 “This is nothing more than a circus that’s being put on by those who promote the ‘big lie’ ” that Trump won the election, said Robb Pitts, the Democratic chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. “Where does it end? The votes have been counted. The elections have been certified. It’s over."  
 Pitts effectively controls the county elections board through his Democratic appointee Mary Carole Cooney, who runs the board. They are in charge of securing the pallets of disputed Biden mail-in ballots awaiting inspection in the county warehouse.  
 But **Judge Amero, who federal elections records show is a Democratic donor, felt compelled to unseal the ballots for a forensics review after reading the sworn**[**affidavits**](https://voterga.files.wordpress.com/2020/12/notice-of-filing-exhibits.pdf)**submitted by election monitors. Here are key witnesses in the ca**se:

* **Suzi Voyles**, a veteran Fulton poll manager who audited the Nov. 14 recount at Georgia World Congress Center, [testified](https://voterga.files.wordpress.com/2020/12/notice-of-filing-exhibits.pdf) she examined several stacks of ballots of about 100 ballots each from a cardboard box marked “Box No. 5 — Absentee — Batch Numbers 28-36.” She said these ballots “came from the ballot [drop] boxes that had been placed throughout Fulton County.”“Most of the ballots had already been handled; they had been written on by people, and the edges were worn. They showed obvious use,” she wrote in her Nov. 17 affidavit. "However, one batch stood out. It was pristine. There was a difference in the texture of the paper,” and these mail-in ballots hadn’t been folded even though they ostensibly had been removed from envelopes.All but three of the 110 ballots in the bundle — which had been labeled “State Farm Arena” — were marked for Biden and appeared to be “identical ballots."The most “alarming peculiarity” was the identically marked ovals next to Biden’s name. In every ballot, “The bubble next to ‘Joseph R. Biden’ had a slight white eclipse in the bubble,” she said, leading her to believe that the batch of 107 Biden ballots had been “copied" from a single ballot.Voyles speculated that “additional absentee ballots had been added [for Biden] in a fraudulent manner” at the State Farm Arena in Atlanta on election night.The void she and other auditors witnessed in the exact same spot of the oval filled in on 107 ballots for Biden “was alarming to us,” Voyles said in an RCI interview. “Every single bubble was precisely alike. I had never seen that before in 20 years” of election monitoring.But when she and other recount workers raised concerns with county election officials, “we were told not to worry about it,” she said. “They seemed uninterested in the [integrity of the] ballots.”

After Voyles later blew the whistle in affidavits and state election hearings, she was fired as a poll manager by the Fulton County Department of Elections. “I got the boot for speaking the truth,” she told RCI.

* **Robin Hall**, a certified Fulton County recount observer, also [testified](https://voterga.files.wordpress.com/2020/12/notice-of-filing-exhibits.pdf) she witnessed a number of boxes of absentee ballots marked “100% for Biden” that appeared to be “perfectly filled out as if they were pre-printed with the presidential candidate selected.” She stated: “They did not look like a person had filled this out at home.  All of them looked alike."
* **Judy Aube** also worked at the World Congress Center on Nov. 14 where she [observed](https://voterga.files.wordpress.com/2020/12/notice-of-filing-exhibits.pdf) the same thing: “suspicious batches" of mail-in ballots for Biden whose markings appeared identical, as if they had been duplicated by a machine and not filled out by a voter at home.
* **Barbara Hartman**, another election official auditor, also doubted the authenticity of absentee ballots she handled that she said were never folded, as would normally be the case for ballots returned in an envelope by mail or dropped in a box. “The absentee ballots looked as though they had just come from a fresh stack,” she swore in her [affidavit](https://voterga.files.wordpress.com/2020/12/notice-of-filing-exhibits.pdf). "I could not observe any creases in the ballots and [it] did not seem like they were folded and put into envelopes or mailed out.”  Also, “The majority of the mail-in ballots that I reviewed contained suspicious black perfectly bubbled markings for Biden,” Hartman stated, adding that “they looked as if they were stamped."

The **veteran poll watchers found no plausible explanation for the anomalies other than possible** fraud.  
 However, election officials have offered an explanation for why the mail-in ballots examined in the stacks did not have folds or creases. They say ballots are sometimes copied onto other paper when they are too damaged to be fed through one of the scanning machines during tabulation. The mailed ballots can be torn or crumpled by postal workers during delivery or by poll workers while opening them and removing them from envelopes, which could prevent the machines from reading them.  
 But **Favorito suspects the hundreds, if not thousands, of allegedly duplicate absentee ballots for Biden might be connected to spikes in votes for Biden he observed late on election night in Fulton County after election officials cleared monitors from State Farm Arena** and pulled cases full of ballots out from under tables and began scanning them.  
 “There’s always the chance it was an inside job,” said Favorito, a career IT professional who's been a leading advocate for Georgia election integrity over the past two decades.  
 On Nov. 3, Fulton County elections officials informed monitors that they were shutting down the State Farm tabulation center before midnight, only to continue counting throughout the night while no one was watching.  
 “Election workers don’t bring ballots in after the supervisor has delayed processing until the morning, hide them under a table and then bring them out for scanning and tabulation after the supervisor tells [monitors] they are done scanning for the evening and they go home,” Favorito said.  
 “Once scanning [was] completed, an election line feed showed an unprecedented vote spike that turned the election in favor of Biden,” he added. In fact, “just over a half hour after workers scanned the potentially fraudulent ballots, an election line feed showed a 100,000-plus vote spike for Biden.”  
 “Where did those ballots come from and why did they handle them so suspiciously?” Favorito asked.  
 Voyles noted that the county elections supervisor who oversaw the secret scanning of the cases full of ballots also helps run the warehouse where the suspect ballots are being stored.

Phone calls and emails to Fulton County went unanswered.

***Similar Anomalies, Other Counties***

**Favorito pointed out that the potential for counterfeit ballots exists in other Georgia counties, not just Ful**ton.

**In fact, two Democrat poll workers blew the whistle on similar anomalies they witnessed in neighboring DeKalb and Cobb counti**es, where the election process also is controlled by Democrats.

Carlos E. Silva, for one, declared in a Nov. 17 affidavit that he observed a similar "perfect black bubble” in absentee ballots for Biden during the recount he worked in DeKalb County. And while overseeing the Cobb County recount, he swore he “observed absentee ballots being reviewed with the same perfect bubble that I had seen the night before in DeKalb. All of these ballots had the same characteristics: they were all for Biden and had the same perfect bubble.”  
 Added Silva, a registered Democrat: “There were thousands of [mail-in] ballots that just had the perfect bubble marked for Biden and no other markings in the rest of the ballot.”  
 Another registered Democrat, Mayra Romera, testified that while monitoring the Cobb County recount, she noticed that “hundreds of these ballots seemed impeccable, with no folds or creases. The bubble selections were perfectly made ... and all happened to be selections for Biden."  
 In a recent [article](https://www.yahoo.com/news/long-trumps-loss-push-inspect-114535653.html) pooh-poohing complaints of fraud in Georgia, as well as Arizona, the New York Times portrayed Favorito as “a known conspiracy theorist” and suggested he was a 9/11 truther. As evidence, it cited a 2002 book he published “questioning the origin of the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.”  
 Asked about it, Favorito responded: “My book did not propose any theories on what happened on 9/11. I don’t mention anything about explosives” planted in the World Trade Center, as truthers have baselessly speculated. Rather, he said, he questioned Bush family business connections with the bin Laden family and other wealthy Saudis, and argued that the war on terror benefited the Bushes. He also faulted the Bush administration for “obstructing" FBI investigations into the attacks.  
 Favorito says he is a “constitutionalist” and neither a Republican nor a Trump supporter.

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/pristine-ballots-georgia-election-count-looked-xeroxed/> **[The election in 2020 was literally the crime of the century and those responsible in the DNC and the rino’s need to be tried convicted and given the treatment of any traitor to their country. – rdb]**

**'Stand here and look at what you've done:' Lauren Boebert brings cardboard Kamala to border**

*By* [*Dillon Burroughs, The Western Journal*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wj/) *Published June 8, 2021 at 1:03pm*

**Colorado Republican Rep. Lauren Boebert released a Twitter video on Tuesday in which the congresswoman carried a cutout of Vice President Kamala Harris, who has not yet visited the border more than 70 days after President Joe Biden designated her to address the causes of the nation's immigration c**risis.

I went to the southern border to see what’s up, but I didn’t go alone... [pic.twitter.com/m66fet7mUT](https://t.co/m66fet7mUT)

— Rep. Lauren Boebert (@RepBoebert) [June 8, 2021](https://twitter.com/RepBoebert/status/1402263924704256001)

**Boebert recently traveled to McAllen, Texas, where she created the video. The congresswoman released the video on Twitter to highlight Harris' absence at the southern b**order.

**“You can’t just hear about what’s happening. You have to come down here to see for yourself to really understand the devastating reality at our southern borde**r,” Boebert said.

“So I brought Kamala down to see exactly what this regime is responsible for with their man-made crisis.”

**Earlier in the video, Boebert blasted** [**Harris**](https://www.westernjournal.com/kamala-harris-falsely-claims-border-laughs-interviewer-calls/) **for the increase in illegal immigration, sex offenders entering** America and related immigration issues.

**“Illegal aliens crossing the border, that’s up. Sex offenders crossing the border, that’s up. Drug trafficking, gun smuggling, human smuggling, that’s up,” s**he said.

Boebert argued Harris has not helped Americans, saying in the video, "You know what’s not up at the southern border? Respect for law and order, funding for our Border Patrol. And where is the media to cover this crisis?”Bottom of Form

The congresswoman added, “More than 70 days ago, Biden named cackling Kamala as border czar but she hasn’t done a single thing to protect the American people.”

**The Colorado lawmaker ended the video by propping the cutout of Harris in front of a border fence. Boebert said, “Now, Kamala, I want you to stand here and** look at what you’ve done.”

The criticism came as Harris sought to [address the recent surge](https://www.westernjournal.com/alexandria-ocasio-cortez-attacks-kamala-harris-telling-central-americans-not-come-us/) of illegal immigrants crossing the nation's southern border, including many from Guatemala.

[U.S. Customs and Border Protection](https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-announces-april-2021-operational-update) announced more than 178,000 encounters with migrants attempting to cross the border in April.

In the first international trip by Harris as vice president, she said in a news conference, "We, as one of our priorities, will discourage illegal migration. And I believe if you come to our border, you will be turned back," according to [Fox News](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/harris-doubles-down-migrants-not-come-squad-criticism).  
 "**Border Patrol has released more than 60,000 migrants into the United States without a court date since Biden took office, asking them to simply report to Immigration and** Customs Enforcement (ICE) instead," Fox reported.  
 **Harris also** [**faced criticism**](https://www.westernjournal.com/guatemalans-tell-kamala-harris-go-home-trump-won/) **from activists as she landed in Guatemala**.  
 **When she descended the steps of Air Force Two, Harris was greeted by a crowd of protesters outside the airport -- many of them pro-Donald Trump activists -- flashing signs that read “Kamala Mind Your Own Business,” “Kamala Go Home” and “Kamala, Trump Won.”**  
 In an interview conducted Friday that aired Sunday on CBS News’ “Face the Nation,” Guatemalan President [Alejandro Giammattei](https://www.westernjournal.com/guatemalas-president-blames-biden-admin-border-crisis-just-kamala-harris-arrives/) also made clear that he blamed the change of presidential administrations north of the Rio Grande for the surge of illegal migration from Central America and other nations, fostered by the human-smugglers known as “coyotes.”  
 In the interview, **conducted in both Spanish and English, Giammattei said after President Joe Biden’s inauguration, the message from the U.S. had changed from the rigid anti-illegal immigration stance of former President Donald Trump to a much more welcoming attitude. “The** message changed to, ‘We are going to reunite families and we are going to reunite children,'” Giammattei said. “The very next day the coyotes here were organizing groups of children to take them to the United States.” <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/stand-look-done-lauren-boebert-brings-cardboard-kamala-harris-southern-border/>

**Commentary:**

**The Lethal Wages of Trump Derangement Madness  
*In their uncontrolled aversion and detestation, Trump haters suspended all the rules of empiricism, logic, and rationality—and people died as a result.*** *By* [*Victor Davis Hanson*](https://amgreatness.com/author/victor-davis-hanson/)  *June 6, 2021* Think about it: For about five years, *anything* candidate, president-elect, and President Trump said or did, the media, the Left, and progressive popular culture opposed in Pavlovian fashion.  
 Anything that Trump touched was ridiculed or discredited—regardless of evidence, data, or cogency. The merits of a Trump policy, a Trump assessment, a Trump initiative were irrelevant—given the primordial hatred of the Left of all things Trump: the president, the person, the family.   
 Under the reductionist malady of Trump Derangement Syndrome, facts and logic did not matter. Instead, anything *not* said or done in opposition to Trump empowered the supposed existential Trump threat. Ironically, some of the most deductive and reductionist Trump haters were supposedly professionals, the highly educated, and the self-proclaimed devotees of the Enlightenment. And yet in their uncontrolled aversion and detestation, they suspended all the rules of empiricism, logic, and rationality—*and people died as a result*.  
 Most Americans did not care much when the apparently sane went completely insane in their irrational hatred of Trump. Few cared whether Governor Andrew Cuomo (D-N.Y.) wished to destroy his career in trying to predicate his crackpot policies in opposition to Trump. Who worried that Anthony Fauci seemed to have tarnished his distinguished career by his anti-Trump triangulations? Did it matter to anyone that the obsessed Lincoln Project grifters were rendered utterly disgraced, or that the NeverTrumpers were left irrelevant and inert by their irrational and uncontrollable venom?  
 Yet, existentially hating everything Trump said or did—as opposed to expressing political opposition to him and his policies—did not just implode elite careers. It also turned deadly. The result of such knee-jerk revulsion was a great deal of damage to the country in general *and unnecessary deaths of Americans in particular*.   
 For over a year, anyone who questioned the official NIH/NIAID/Fauci narrative that the COVID-19 pandemic was the result of a new viral mutation that had jumped to humans from bats (or pangolins)—perhaps carved up in the Wuhan wet market—was attacked both personally and professionally. Why? Mostly because Trump himself had questioned just that improbable hypothesis. And Trump certainly could not be right. But even if he were, it was [still the moral thing to say he was not.](https://www.npr.org/2021/06/03/1002772810/why-much-of-the-media-dismissed-theories-that-covid-leaked-from-lab)  
 Connecting the dots of a biosafety level-4 virology lab, at or near the first recorded cases of COVID-19, was a mortal sin—*simply because Trump had alleged just that*. Instead, we were to discount the twisted relationships between the known gain-of-function viral research going on in the lab, the absence of any known animal infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, the connections of the lab with the Chinese military, the lab’s known [lax safety record](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/04/14/state-department-cables-warned-safety-issues-wuhan-lab-studying-bat-coronaviruses/), the systematic efforts of the Chinese Communist government and the World Health Organization to lie about the origins and nature of the virus, the year-long effort to stonewall Wuhan investigations, and the conflict-of-interest statements, behaviors, and policies of prominent American health officials *who routed funding to gain-of-function research at Wuhan.*  
 Instead, we were to believe a Chinese/American media-fed narrative of a sick bat, far from Wuhan, infected with SARS-COV-2 (any such culprits are as yet still undiscovered) that jump-started a chain of mutations that eventually turned the pathogen into a human strain that became a highly infectious pandemic in a way not seen since the Spanish flu over a century ago.   
 Had the country removed such knee-jerk, venomous hatred from the equation, and instead encouraged scientists to examine the evidence in disinterested fashion in early 2020, then we might have known what we are only beginning to learn now—a year earlier and with hundreds of thousands of Americans perhaps still alive.  
 In the months when COVID-19 was sweeping the country, frontline doctors the world over were desperately seeking to recalibrate known drugs, through modeling and theories that they possessed anti-viral or anti-inflammatory properties useful for either attenuating the virus or ameliorating the lethal “[cytokine storm](https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2020.01446/full)” immune reaction.   
 Doctors in poor countries such as India were attracted to one, hydroxychloroquine, an old, cheap, anti-malarial drug, generally recognized as safe and also known for its efficacy in treating inflammatory diseases such as lupus.   
 When stories surfaced that both American and European doctors had independently claimed clear effectiveness of the drug in treating some COVID-19 patients, Trump in reaction tweeted that it couldn’t hurt to take the drug, either as a medicine or a prophylactic. Rumors swirled that he had taken the drug himself.   
 Furor ensued. Outrage followed. And soon the time-tried hydroxychloroquine was considered an existential evil on par with Trump himself. If prior to Trump, the drug had been hailed by the United Nations as an essential medicine, especially in poor countries for its dirt-cheap cost, effectiveness, and general safety, suddenly it was now considered little more than a toxic witch’s brew. Fauci’s legions demonized the drug and soon it sometimes proved illegal for doctors to prescribe hydroxychloroquine for off-label usages.   
 “Double-blind” studies supposedly “proved” that the drug was useless, even though there was not comprehensive research conducted at different dosages and at different stages of the COVID-19 disease. Additional reports from India that some doctors there felt that the sudden widespread use of hydroxychloroquine and the anti-parasitical drug Ivermectin were responsible for decreases in COVID-19 lethality were likewise mocked.   
 Now we read this week that a [new study](https://www.news-medical.net/news/20210602/HydroxychloroquineAzithromycin-therapy-at-a-higher-dose-improved-survival-by-nearly-20025-in-ventilated-COVID-patients.aspx) conducted at the Saint Barnabas Medical Center, New Jersey, found that when the dosages of hydroxychloroquine were calibrated and adjusted by patient weight, and fortified by the antibiotic azithromycin, there was a more than 100 percent increase in survival rates among COVID-19 patients—without any correlation to heart arrhythmias.   
 More specifically in this context, maverick frontline doctor and infectious disease specialist Dr. Stephen Smith, of the nonprofit Smith Center for Infectious Diseases and Urban Health, [recently argued](https://video.foxnews.com/v/6257007407001#sp=show-clips) that perhaps 100,000 lives might have been saved had the medical guild not demonized the drug and utterly dismissed it. Note that we are learning that once-heralded, far more expensive and difficult to administer drugs, such as plasma therapy and Remdesivir, offered little efficacy in treating COVID-19. Why were the latter drugs considered legitimate experimental protocols in desperate times to treat the seemingly untreatable disease, but not hydroxychloroquine?   
 The answer may be that Trump advocated the latter and not the former. Ergo, the safe, cheap and well-known hydroxychloroquine was transmogrified into deadly and useless, and “the jury is still out” on plasma therapy and Remdesivir.  
 We are now in a surreal relationship with Russia. Vladimir Putin is capable of anything and everything, especially when appeased as the Obama Administration’s 2009-2015 “reset” policy demonstrated. But we know now that he and Donald Trump did not conspire or “collude” to rig the 2016 election, despite the false assertions of the charlatan Christopher Steele, the media, the FBI hierarchy, John Brennan’s CIA, Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, and multiple top officials in the Obama Justice and State Departments.   
 In a Trump nanosecond, we went from the prior Obama appeasement of Putin (or is that too kind an appraisal, given Obama’s own hot mic, *quid pro quo* [deal](https://www.nytimes.com/2012/03/27/us/politics/obama-caught-on-microphone-telling-medvedev-of-flexibility.html) with Putin to put the interests of his own reelection campaign above U.S. national security—specifically dismantling missile defense in Eastern Europe if Putin would only calm down and give Obama space during his reelection efforts) to a Cold War-style “Russian Under Every Bed” national mania.  
 The result was that the Left talked loudly and insanely about Russian “collusion” while carrying a tiny twig. The most dangerous formula in foreign policy is to aggravate, goad, and incite a volatile enemy (with 7,000 nuclear weapons), with no intention of keeping him cornered and caged. Before Trump, we had the Obama reset appeasement of Putin. After Trump, we do again. In both cases, we also get the obligatory anti-Russian rhetoric in a way not accorded to the more dangerous Chinese Communist government.  
 Now emboldened hackers, with likely Russian connections, are targeting key U.S. and North American industries, specifically pipelines and meatpacking.   
 The hackers are diabolically clever and do some of their damage on the following assumptions: 1) an American-obsessed Putin is providing them sanctuary, and in return, they are according him with “deniability of culpability” as fake-independent contractors; 2) both bad actors believe that the Biden Administration, with its carry-over Obama people, will talk trash but in reality either pay ransom to stop the hacking, ignore it, or claim it is a “private industry” matter; and 3) the hackers assume that, secretly, the American Left sympathizes with the hackers’ cynically selected targeting of “fossil fuels” and “environmentally incorrect” meat consumption.   
 It is almost as if the hackers are saying to Americans, as they cause continental damage and disruption and endanger lives, “What do you care, since your government canceled your own pipelines and is demanding less meat consumption? So why get mad at us for speeding up the implementation of your own agendas?”  
 If, as some 15th-century Spanish Inquisitor, you damn Trump as a Russian collaborator on no evidence, devour nearly two years of his administration in collusion conspiracies and impeachment, and ignore the fact that Trump had been harder on Russia than any prior president (e.g., more sanctions on the Putin *apparat*, sales of lethal weaponry to the Ukrainians, efforts to depress oil prices by massive new fracking, pulling out of asymmetrical missile treaties, killing Russian mercenaries in Syria, etc.), then you have destroyed any workable relationship with Russia, pushed it into a *de facto* alliance with China, and ended up with the sort of dangerous hacking attacks that we now endure and apparently will not or cannot prevent.  
 The lethal examples of the wages of irrational and deranged Trump hatred are nearly countless. A once calm Trump border is now the scene of utter chaos,  misery—and death—as the erstwhile advocates of immigrant children abruptly grow mute. A once calm Middle East and the successful Abraham Accords disappeared and were supplanted by mayhem, death, and destruction. A once-booming energy sector and inexpensive fuels are now mired amid spiking prices at the pump, an end to new federal gas and oil leases on federal lands, the Alaska National Wildlife Reserve put off-limits, and pipeline projects canceled.  
 Irrationally hating everything Donald Trump touched was not just pathological, it often became downright scary—and deadly—for Americans. <https://amgreatness.com/2021/06/06/the-lethal-wages-of-trump-derangement-madness/>

**The Single Best Thing Americans Can Do to Retake America**[*Dennis Prager*](https://townhall.com/columnists/dennisprager/) *Posted: Jun 08, 2021 12:01 AM* The most frequent question people pose to me is: What can I/we do to fight back against the nihilistic anti-American destruction of virtually all the country's major institutions?  
 There is an answer.  
 The single best thing Americans can do to counter the left-wing attack on America -- against its freedoms, its schools, its families, its children, its governmental institutions, its sports, its news and entertainment media, its medical establishment, the CIA, the FBI, the State Department and the military -- is to take their children out of America's schools.  
 Other than in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), the vast majority of America's elementary schools, high schools, colleges and universities teach your child or grandchild almost nothing important; prematurely sexualize them, thereby robbing them of their innocence; and harm them intellectually and morally. They rarely teach them, for example, art or music because they are too busy teaching them race-centered hatred of whites, of America and of America's values. Sending your child(ren) to most American schools is playing Russian roulette with their values -- but unlike the gun in Russian roulette, which has a bullet in only one of its six chambers, the schools' guns hold four or five bullets.  
 In many elementary schools, your child is taught that gender is chosen and that there is no difference between boys and girls (in a growing number of schools, the teachers are told not to call their students "boys and girls"); they are taught about masturbation; and many children from first grade on attend "Drag Queen Story Hour," wherein an obvious man wearing women's clothing, garish makeup and a wig entertains them.  
 Given that all this is well-known, why do any nonleft -- meaning, liberal or conservative -- parents send their children to an American school?  
 One reason is they are in denial. Many parents do not want to know what their children are being taught and the consequent damage done to them. They don't really believe school(s) will ruin their child, let alone their child's relationship with them.  
 These parents should speak to any of the millions -- yes, millions -- of Americans whose children have contempt for America, for free speech and for their parents as a result of attending an American college or even high school. I meet such people at every speech I give, and I speak to them regularly on my radio show. Ask these parents, if they could redo their lives, whether they would keep their child in school.  
 A second reason is they feel they have no choice. If they remove their child from the local public or private school (most private schools are just as committed to anti-American indoctrination over education as public schools), what will they do with their child? They often cannot find a local school that does not harm their child. They cannot necessarily even rely on Christian or Jewish schools. Most of them are as "woke" as most secular schools. And if they do find a school that teaches rather than poisons, they may not be able to afford the tuition.  
 The only other option, then, is to home-school one's child. The problem is that many parents assume this is essentially impossible. For one thing, they assume that one of the parents would have to leave his or her work, which would mean a serious reduction in the family's income. In addition, home-schooling strikes most people as simply too daunting a task, even if they could afford to take it on.  
 Neither fear is entirely justified. It is true that, at least at the outset, a working parent may have to cut back from full-time work, and it is true that no matter what the family's financial condition, there are challenges to taking one's children out of school and home-schooling them.  
 But given the low intellectual state of most American schools, the damage they do to young children's innocence and the anti-American, anti-white, anti-Western indoctrination in most schools, if you are a parent of school-age children, *what is your choice?*  
 Other than a) finding a good school that b) you can afford, you have no other choice. You are fooling yourself if you think the odds are that after attending American schools from kindergarten through college (not to mention through graduate school), your child will turn out well-educated, intellectually alive, rational, kind, happy, well-adjusted, grateful to be American and respectful of you and your values.  
 While there are some wonderful young Americans who recently attended American schools, and there are some lost souls who were home-schooled, American schools are largely producing the following:  
 Poorly educated students. Ask your college son or daughter to diagram a sentence; identify Joseph Stalin, "The Gulag Archipelago" or the Soviet Union; name the branches of the American government; identify -- or just spell -- Beethoven; date the Civil War; identify the Holocaust; and name which sentence is correct -- "He gave the book to my friend and me" or, "He gave the book to my friend and I."  
 Angry young people. Why wouldn't they be? First, they graduate college with a huge load of debt, having received almost nothing useful for their money. Second, if they are anything other than a white heterosexual Christian male, they have been taught to regard themselves as victims of oppression. Third, their future is so bleak they may not even have one: They are threatened with extinction by climate change.  
 The single best thing Americans can do to fight the left-wing destruction of the country is to withdraw from the "educational" system that is actively, deliberately miseducating them by the tens of millions. If millions of American parents did so, the country would turn around as fast as you could say "teachers unions." If they don't, their children will continue being used as guinea pigs in the left's sick and dystopian experiment. <https://townhall.com/columnists/dennisprager/2021/06/08/the-single-best-thing-americans-can-do-to-retake-america-n2590628>

**Fauci's Lies Were Far More Damaging Than Anything Trump Supposedly Did**[*Matt Vespa*](https://townhall.com/columnists/mattvespa/) *Posted: Jun 08, 2021 12:01 AM* Why did this take so long? That's one question I'm sure some people asked when the thousands of pages of electronic communications from Dr. Anthony Fauci, Biden's COVID Czar, were exposed last week. It's not a pretty picture. If Fauci weren't such a senior bureaucrat, he would have been reassigned or forced to resign. The thousands of pages show a long terrible road of lies, deceit, and political bias that we all knew was true but lacked solid evidence. Okay, we had some evidence, but this is smoking gun stuff. It circles back to the lies that Donald Trump supposedly peddled that caused great harm to the nation and the world. This is what the Left says—so let's just briefly compare the two men because one is arguably worse than the other.   
 Freedom of Information Act requests can be exhausting. The not-so-motivated crew (and I'm being nice here) are usually designated to this department. There's fact-finding and much dragging of one's feet in this endeavor. It can take years. Professor William Jacobson's blog, Legal Insurrection, made a FOIA request on "Meet the Press," David Gregory, and anything related to the investigation stemming from the former Sunday Morning talk show host who famously whipped out an AR-15 magazine in the wake of the Sandy Hook shooting. High-capacity magazines are banned in Washington, DC. [It took *two years*](https://townhall.com/tipsheet/mattvespa/2015/01/23/dc-police-wanted-to-charge-david-gregory-dc-ag-killed-the-request-n1947411) to reveal that DC police wanted to charge Gregory, but the DC's attorney general decided to nix it because…David is a nice guy. So, emails from Fauci—you can see how this could take a while.   
 Spencer noted [some of the worst parts](https://townhall.com/tipsheet/spencerbrown/2021/06/02/fauci-emails-list-n2590371) of this document dump, like Fauci knowing store-bought masks were trash against curbing the spread. He went along with it anyway. Other scientists told him COVID might have been man-made but ignored them. And he decided to target Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, but not Andrew Cuomo. Cuomo killed thousands of the elderly in nursing homes with his executive order for these facilities and then tried to cover it up. New York was credited for handling COVID right by Fauci. Wrong. Florida protected its most vulnerable much better, and there's a ton of folks in the liberal press who are eating crow because of it. Florida and Texas, ignoring the press and their hysterics, exposed that much of the COVID protocols were a ruse.   
 So, after years of going insane over the lies Donald Trump supposedly said, we have an actual liar who the Left has made into a cult-idol. For all the allegations of idolatry the Left hurls at us regarding Trump, they have a closet full of them. Fauci is the latest edition. It gets back to our favorite game. They can lie because it's noble, but we can't.  
 Fauci admitted his mask-wearing post-vaccination was political theater. He warned against reopening too soon. He's been wrong on almost every protocol when it comes to COVID. And he thought this would go away on its own. We didn't need a vaccine.   
 Trump's supposed lies that exist only in the minds of liberal America were virtually all exposed as media myths. And even if there was a little fib every now and then, did it cause the economy to crash? No.   
 Fauci and his ilk set about a lockdown regime that did everything ass-backward. This isn't Monday morning quarterbacking; they knew most of the protocols were garbage. They mocked the Trump goal of having a vaccine done by the end of 2020. The media laughed when Trump said that by April 2021, everyone would be eligible. They were wrong about everything.   
 They lied to us about masks post-vaccination. They're still not being straight with us now on the origins of COVID, despite an email chain about gain-of-function research concerning the coronavirus. Fauci also said experimenting with bats was [worth the risk of a potential pandemic](https://townhall.com/tipsheet/katiepavlich/2021/05/28/bombshell-fauci-said-studying-bat-viruses-was-worth-a-potential-pandemic-n2590169).   
 Fauci and his lies caused the economy to crash, made a joke of the medical profession, and did lasting damage to the health care industry. The institutions, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) are going to be ignored by millions. They deserve to be after this fiasco. The NIH has ties to EcoHealth Alliance, which gave grants to the very lab that might be responsible for this pandemic, the Wuhan Institute of Virology. Fauci even admitted that he could not be sure that the Chinese were totally honest about how this money was allocated. And the science looks like this was a lab experiment gone awry. Fauci was thanked by Eco's president for dispelling the lab leak theory to his allies in the media.   
 It's a perverted world we live in. Folks who once took an apolitical approach to policy decided to become no better than the communications operatives the Democratic National Committee hires by the fist-full during election years because they didn't like a particular president. They wanted Trump gone. They wanted a lockdown regime. When things were going well, and they have since the arrival of the vaccines, they still peddled "impending doom," and nothing happened.   
 Fauci's lies left a trail of economic destruction and erosion in the public trust of the medical experts. Of all people, a comedian, Bill Maher, dissected this mess concisely on his show "Real Time," where he noted the "scared straight" approach Fauci took didn't work and that mixing politics and medical advice is a toxic cocktail. Right now, a whopping 71 percent of Democrats are still clinging to the lockdown ethos, thanks to Fauci's lies. Millions have lost their livelihoods. Lives were lost due to mounting depression, anxiety, and other mental issues that arise when you face the stress of not being able to support your family. A whole generation of kids did not learn a thing last year—and teachers' unions have decided to use the lies Fauci peddled to prop up the lockdown era to prevent their people from going back to work.   
 Never forget these two were propped up by most of the media and are making millions in book deals profiting off the pandemic. <https://t.co/doJm2d3Uz4>  
 — Janice Dean (@JaniceDean) [June 3, 2021](https://twitter.com/JaniceDean/status/1400367393864572928?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)  
 Because of Fauci, medical experts cannot be trusted. These people should be publicly humiliated for the mayhem they inflicted onto the country over a virus *with a 90+ percent survivability rate*. All of these lies did their job because Trump is gone. Now, they're left without credibility, with millions who refuse to listen to what they have to say, which is warranted, and mounting suspicions that medical professionals are no better than the clowns MSNBC hires daily. I hope it was worth it. You folks will be speaking to empty venues for years to come—and that's your fault. If we had to make comparisons, Fauci's lies were akin to a carpet bombing with nuclear weapons. What the liberal media called Trump lies were really things they just disagreed with and nothing more than bottle rockets in terms of fallout.   
 Mute Fauci. Mute the CDC. Mute Biden. Mute all the experts for now. They all need a timeout. Frankly, they need to be yelled at like Jon Taffer in "Bar Rescue."  
 *SHUT IT DOWN!* <https://townhall.com/columnists/mattvespa/2021/06/08/faucis-lies-were-far-more-damaging-than-anything-trump-supposedly-did-n2590565>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Gideon Sa'ar to also receive increased security**

***New Hope chairman joins Yamina MKs in receiving extra security from the Knesset sergeant-at-arms.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Jun 08 , 2021 10:03 PM*

**The Knesset sergeant-at-arms will provide security to New Hope chairman MK Gideon Sa'ar starting tomorrow, Channel 12 News reporte**d.

**On Tuesday, it was reported that personal security was attached to MKs Nir Orbach and Idit Silman from the Yamina party, under the direction of Knesset** sergeant-at-arms Yosef Griff.

The sergeant-at-arms made the decision following the escalation of threats against the two, in light of the expected establishment of the Bennett-Lapid government on Sunday. **MORE -** . <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307721>

**40 years ago - Operation Opera: Israel destroyed Iraq’s nuclear program and saved the West**

***If Israel had not acted, the war on terror might have been a nuclear war. Op-ed.***

*Jeff Dunetz , Jun 08 , 2021 11:59 PM*

**In the late 1970s, Iraq purchased an “Osiris class” nuclear reactor from France (some things never change). Israeli military intelligence assumed this was for plutonium production to further an Iraqi nuclear weapons program. Israeli intelligence also believed that the summer of 1981 would be the last chance to destroy the rea**ctor without exposing the Iraqi civilian population to nuclear fallout. After that point, the reactor would be loaded with nuclear fuel.

Israel prevented a nuclear Iraq

Just like Iran today, Iraq protested that its interest in nuclear energy was peaceful. At the time, Iraq was a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), placing its reactors under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards. Some experts remained unconvinced that the IAEA monitoring program was sufficient to guarantee that weapon research was not being conducted. They also claimed that an Osiris class reactor was not particularly useful to countries with no established reactor programs, but capable of producing plutonium. **MORE -** <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307722>

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**06/08/2021 NEWS AM**

**Hayim Yisrael - Angels (Hebrew song - English subs)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2Qjt1-GjC8>

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| **"A man always has two reasons for what he does --       a good one, and the real one." -- J. P. Morgan [John Pierpont Morgan] (1837-1913) American financier and banker** |

**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 West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for DH – Mother going into hospice.**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  NOTE: Our prayer list was getting very long and there will little follow up.  If you have people you want to have on the list please resubmit since we are revising it now– rdb]  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 31:1And he heard the words of the sons of Laban, saying, Jacob has taken away all that *was* to our father, and from that which *was* to our father he has gotten all this wealth. 2And Jacob saw the face of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before. 3And Jehovah said to Jacob, Go back to the land of your fathers and to your kindred. And I will be with you.**

**‘Change government’ agenda: Electoral reform, budget and Jerusalem building boom**

***Reported coalition agreements include stipulation that Bennett can’t hold future role if he bolts coalition; clause promising no unilateral moves undermining peace said removed***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:12 pm*

The so-called “change government” aims to advance electoral reform and introduce term limits for the prime minister, swiftly pass a state budget for the first time in two years, and considerably ramp up construction in Jerusalem, according to the emerging coalition’s guiding principles. Its coalition agreements between the parties, meanwhile, reportedly will significantly boost funding for Arab communities, advance some judicial reforms, and seek to prevent Prime Minister-designate Naftali Bennett from bolting the government.

The Knesset is set to hold a vote of confidence in the new government by June 14, with the parties in the prospective coalition holding a razor-thin majority of 61 of the 120 votes. If confirmed, the unlikely alliance of right-wing, left-wing, centrist, and an Islamist party would remove Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu from power, to be replaced by Yamina’s Bennett.

The document outlining the government agenda was publicized by Hebrew media on Monday night. It does not address specific religion-state issues and refers only vaguely to the peace process. The parties in the so-called “change bloc” are all backing the terms laid out in the document, according to Channel 12.

According to the document, the eight parties in the prospective coalition have agreed to introduce a term limit for prime ministers, capping it at two terms or eight years, whichever is longer. But a clause in the agreement pledging to advance a law banning a prime minister who is under criminal indictment from serving or running has been struck from the draft, Channel 12 said.

Despite the explicit wording of the document on the term limits, Channel 12 reported that the coalition parties aim to advance a law preventing a two-term prime minister from running for four years, after which they can seek office again. During this four-year cooling-off period, the former prime minister will also be blocked from running for Knesset, it said.

The moves were aimed at stymieing Israel’s longest-serving leader, Netanyahu, who has served as premier for the past 12 years, and in 1996-1999, and is currently on trial in three corruption cases. It remains unclear whether such laws could apply retroactively to hamstring Netanyahu.

The government will also consider other electoral reforms following four elections in two years, including a shift to a regional voting system, holding party primaries on the day of general elections and permitting absentee voting for Israelis abroad.

The coalition has also agreed to “significantly advance construction in Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, turning it into a dynamic and innovative metropolis,” the document said, without differentiating between west Jerusalem and East Jerusalem.

“The government will work to strengthen Israel’s national security and safeguard the security of all Israeli citizens, alongside its constant pursuit of peace,” it said.

Channel 12 said a clause, appearing in previous drafts, which pledged not to take any unilateral steps that could sabotage peace, was excised from the later version.

The government pledged to quickly pass a state budget, which will include funding for two new hospitals, in the Negev and Galilee, a new airport and an underground metro. Israel last approved a state budget in 2019, due to the two-year political deadlock.

“The government will work to mend the rifts between the various parts of Israeli society and fortify Israel’s foundations as a Jewish and democratic state, in the spirit of the Declaration of Independence, and will advance various plans that aim to bring Israel out of the economic crisis into which it has plunged, along with the entire world,” the document said.

The coalition will seek to crack down on violence in the Arab community; advance reforms requiring all Israeli students to learn “core” subjects, namely math and English; and back the bill regulating the enlistment of ultra-Orthodox youth into the IDF that was drafted by the Defense Ministry when Avigdor Liberman was at its helm. A special panel of the prime minister and defense minister, however, will consider alternatives to the Haredi national service law.

The would-be government also vowed to advance reforms to boost the rights of suspects in the criminal justice system, and to create a committee to weigh the advancement of a quasi-constitutional Basic Law on legislation.

On religion and state, the document said: “The sides agree to advance issues related to religion and state in which there is wide public support,” without elaboration. Direct references to conversion, the Western Wall pluralistic platform, public transportation, and the opening of supermarkets on Shabbat, civil unions, and other issues were removed from the final document, Channel 12 said.

The government guidelines were not immediately confirmed by the political parties.

***Blocking Bennett from joining other coalition; breaking up Likud?***

In addition, none of the coalition agreements reached by the parties last week has yet been officially released for public review. The deals also have yet to be signed, according to Yamina.

The right-wing party on Monday night said it would sign an overarching coalition agreement with Yesh Atid, with all the other parties’ deals inked directly with Yesh Atid with Yamina’s terms appearing as an appendix. The Yamina-Yesh Atid agreements will serve as an umbrella deal and will be binding for all the parties, Bennett’s party said.

Channel 12 on Monday night publicized what it said were the coalition agreements, which include a stipulation that Bennett will be banned from taking on any other government role if the coalition is dispersed in a no-confidence vote. Such a commitment likely would not be binding unless legislated by the Knesset.

The agreements also envision passing a law that would reduce the number of lawmakers required to break up a political party to four — a move aimed at dismantling Netanyahu’s Likud and bringing additional right-wing lawmakers into the government, replacing the four-seat Ra’am, Channel 12 reported.

The new government will include 28 ministers and six deputy ministers, making it one of the largest-ever cabinets, though smaller than the previous government.

In terms of top ministerial positions, under the emerging coalition agreements, Lapid will serve as foreign minister in the first two years of the government, Blue and White leader Benny Gantz will remain defense minister, and the treasury will be held by Yisrael Beytenu leader Avigdor Liberman. New Hope leader Gideon Sa’ar will be justice minister, while Yamina’s Ayelet Shaked will be interior minister. Labor’s Merav Michaeli received the transportation portfolio and her fellow party member Omer Barlev will be public security minister. Meretz leader Nitzan Horowitz will be appointed health minister, while fellow party member Tamar Zandberg will be environmental protection minister.

According to the terms of the agreements, no other parties will be permitted to join the coalition without the permission of  Liberman, Michaeli and Horowitz, Channel 12 said. The Yamina party, however, on Monday night said the future inclusion of other parties would be decided by Bennett and Lapid.

The network noted that some of the agreements were directly contradictory, promising Meretz and Yisrael Beytenu it would recognize gay marriage and civil unions, and cancel the law banning supermarkets from operating on Shabbat, alongside Yamina’s overarching clause stipulating that all parties will vote against proposals that represent a change to the religious status quo.

Channel 12 also detailed the coalition agreement with the Islamist Ra’am, which reportedly include a freeze on demolitions of illegal construction for nine months and a pledge by Bennett and Lapid to ask the attorney general to consider retroactively canceling all fines over illegal construction. In addition to funding for the Arab community, NIS 500 million ($154 million) has also been earmarked for special projects to be personally approved by Ra’am’s Mansour Abbas, it said, and the first Arab party to agree to join an Israeli governing coalition will receive a ministerial portfolio within the Prime Minister’s Office.

New Hope’s Gideon Sa’ar is poised to be appointed deputy prime minister when Bennnett is premier, to be replaced by Benny Gantz in two years when Lapid becomes prime minister. Sa’ar has also included his plan to split the role of attorney general into two positions and establish a system of supervision for the maintenance of the West Bank’s Area C into the New Hope-Yesh Atid deal, but the dovish parties reserve the right to oppose these moves.

Blue and White has also demanded that the establishment of a commission of inquiry into the Meron disaster, in which 45 people were crushed to death in April, be the new government’s first order of business.

Yamina on Monday did not confirm the details of the agreements, but said power-sharing between the blocs would be upheld in the plenum and Knesset committees. It said the power-sharing agreements include the same number of ministers from both blocs in the high-level security cabinet.

Netanyahu’s Likud on Monday night condemned the emerging coalition deals.

“Bennett, who tricked his voters and moved ballots from right to left only to appoint himself prime minister with six seats, wants to now cancel the votes of millions of citizens and get rid of the right’s strong leader through dictatorial laws that are common practice only in Iran, Syria, and North Korea,” said Likud.

“Bennett did everything in his power to conceal the agreement with Ra’am — a shocking agreement involving the sale of the Negev to the Islamic Movement, and the chairmanship of the Knesset’s Interior Committee to Mansour Abbas,” it continued.

Likud has also negotiated with Ra’am.

“Naftali Bennett has completely lost his moral sense, doesn’t stop at red on his way to be an illegitimate prime minister with six [Knesset] seats,” the far-right Religious Zionism party said in a statement following the reports on the coalition deals.

The party also urged right-wing MKs in the prospective coalition to vote against the government, thwarting its establishment. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/change-government-agenda-electoral-reform-budget-and-jerusalem-building-boom/>

**Buying time for Netanyahu, speaker declares Lapid coalition but doesn’t set vote**

***Deadline for swearing-in is June 14, giving PM’s allies a week to pressure right-wing MKs; Lapid says government will serve all Israelis; Gantz urges PM to ‘respect the process’***

*By* [*Michael Bachner*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/michael-bachner/) *Today, 4:55 pm*

Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin formally notified the parliament on Monday that Yesh Atid party leader Yair Lapid has succeeded in forming a new power-sharing government within the time allotted to him by President Reuven Rivlin, but didn’t give a date for the swearing-in, which must by law take place no later than June 14.

The move was widely seen as an indication that Levin, a loyalist of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the Likud party, is trying to delay the swearing-in as much as possible in order to give the premier’s allies time to foil the coalition by persuading prospective right-wing members to jump ship.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/PHOTO-2021-06-07-16-12-35-e1623072473380.jpg)

***Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin in the Knesset plenum, June 7, 2021. (Noam Moskowitz/Knesset)***

The law holds that the vote of confidence must come within seven days of the speaker’s announcement, but members of the “change government” have been pressuring Levin to call the vote for Wednesday. Levin had originally been said to be weighing scheduling the vote for Wednesday if there appeared to be a reasonable shot at preventing the formation of the potential government.

The new eight-party coalition that would oust Netanyahu’s current transitional government is set to hold a razor-thin majority of 61 lawmakers out of the Knesset’s 120, meaning the defection of a single lawmaker could thwart it.

Earlier Monday, various leaders in the emerging coalition addressed their respective parties’ faction meetings, with Lapid saying the coalition will strive to unite a fractured nation and also serve those who voted for parties going into the opposition.

“This government will be good and it will last because it is based on the right things – on trust, on decency, on goodwill,” Lapid said at a Yesh Atid faction meeting, commenting on widespread skepticism about the survivability of a coalition with a wafer-thin parliamentary majority and a motley assembly of right-wing, centrist, left-wing and Arab parties.

Gideon Sa’ar of the right-wing New Hope party accused Netanyahu of “putting his personal interests above the benefit of the country” and said the intense pressure on right-wing MKs set to join the government, including demonstrations near their homes and threats against them and their families, “don’t reflect anything except a will to hold on to power at all costs.”

Sa’ar told his faction meeting: “I repeatedly said during the election campaign… that anyone who wants Netanyahu to stay on, please don’t vote for me… We are doing exactly what we promised the electorate: advancing change.”

Sa’ar echoed a warning voiced Sunday by Shin Bet head Nadav Argaman and cautioned that “the severely escalating violent and inciting discourse could result in casualties.” He called on Netanyahu to lower the flames.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz expressed similar sentiment, saying during a faction meeting of his centrist Blue and White party that “if Netanyahu decides to leave scorched earth, he will harm his legacy and the country. I call on him from here to accept the democratic results and respect the process.”

 Gantz also said: “I could have been prime minister for the next two and a half years in the blink of an eye [if he’d partnered again with Netanyahu]. I chose not to do this in order to enable the establishment of the change government, and I will continue to work on that.”

Head of the Blue and White party and Minister of Defense Benny Gantz speaks at a faction meeting in the Knesset, June 7, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Lapid, who is set to become prime minister in September 2023, after Yamina party chief Naftali Bennett completes his stint at the helm, admitted he had failed to fulfill his election promise to form a government with no more than 18 ministers. In practice, the government is set to include at least 25 ministers.

“I failed on that, I have no way to defend that,” Lapid acknowledged. “I wanted a small government with a low number of ministers, this isn’t good… [but] this is part of what enabled us to form a government.”

Lapid appealed for unity amid growing pressure and incendiary remarks by supporters of Netanyahu, who like the prime minister have been lambasting the government as “left-wing” and “dangerous” and have staged protests denouncing Bennett and his Yamina party as “traitors” and “liars.”

“I want to speak to Netanyahu’s supporters: I know that the formation of the unity government is a crisis for some of you but you’ll discover that this government isn’t being created against you,” Lapid said. “It will work for you, it will respect you, it will be your government as well. It will also be a government of those who voted for Likud, Shas, United Torah Judaism and Religious Zionism.

“They’ll discover that we’ll be fair toward them, that we will respect their beliefs and opinions, that we’ll listen to their needs.” [Only time will tell if Lapid is blowing smoke or actually means what he says. If he actually means it and carries through with it, there could be a real breath of fresh air for Israel. – rdb]



Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid gives a statement at his party’s faction meeting in the Knesset, June 7, 2021 (Menahem Kahana / AFP)

Lapid also appealed to Israelis supporting the emerging government not to gloat: “I know you waited a long time and this is your success, but there are a lot of people in Israel who are concerned about this government. We need to reach out to them and lower the tensions. We don’t need to celebrate in the town square and shout that we won. This is the time to unite Israeli society. They aren’t our enemies.”

He concluded by responding to comments by Netanyahu supporters arguing that votes were “stolen” in order to form the government.

“This government is being formed because it’s the majority. There were elections, we have a majority, we’re forming a government. That’s democracy, that’s its strength, that’s the choice Israel made,” he said.

Lapid’s remarks came after the leaders of the eight parties that make up the new prospective government met in Tel Aviv on Sunday for the first time since last week’s announcement that they had succeeded in forming a coalition.

Amid the alarmist discourse in some right-wing circles, the rising incitement on social media, the angry protests outside politicians’ homes, and even allegations of treason against Bennett and his allies, the Yamina party chief and prime minister-designate said to the cameras that the new government “is not a catastrophe, it’s not a disaster, [it’s] a change of government: a normal and obvious event in any democratic country.”

Taking a shot at Netanyahu, Bennett said, “Look, Israel’s regime is not monarchic. No one has a monopoly over power. Naturally, any regime that atrophies and degenerates after many years is replaced.”

While Bennett stressed that criticism of him and his allies was legitimate, he decried the “violent machine” he said had been activated against members of Yamina and Sa’ar’s New Hope to pressure them to oppose the new coalition through “a funded and directed operation.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/buying-time-for-netanyahu-speaker-concedes-lapid-coalition-but-doesnt-set-vote/>

**Netanyahu, security heads meet in attempt to revive contentious flag march**

***Police earlier nixed event in its proposed route through Jerusalem’s Muslim Quarter, angering nationalists; PM said trying to sideline attorney general from meeting***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:33 pm*

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, ministers and top security officials were meeting Monday evening in an attempt to find an alternative route for a contentious flag march planned in Jerusalem, hours after [police nixed the event](https://www.timesofisrael.com/police-nix-contentious-jerusalem-flag-march-angering-nationalists/)‘s original path through the Old City’s Muslim Quarter.

Organizers had sought to hold a rescheduled flag march through the Muslim Quarter of the Old City on Thursday, after the original march on May 10 was stopped short by rocket fire from Hamas at Jerusalem, which sparked an 11-day bout of intense fighting.

Police reportedly sought to reroute the planned march away from the areas where it could cause a surfeit of friction between nationalist Jews and Palestinian residents of Jerusalem.

In an official announcement, Jerusalem police denied that they had called off the parade, but said that the date of the march should be approved by law enforcement and relevant political authorities.

“With the current plan and current date, the march is not approved,” the statement read, adding that police would reexamine the march should organizers file for a permit with a new plan or new date.

Nationalist politicians and parade organizers have accused police of giving in to terror by canceling the parade.

Netanyahu called Monday evening’s meeting for 10 p.m. and invited Defense Minister Benny Gantz, Public Security Minister Amir Ohana, Israel Police Commissioner Kobi Shabtai and Shin Bet chief Nadav Argaman, hoping to find a route that was more acceptable.

A police source was quoted by Channel 12 news as saying that “no route that passes through Damascus Gate and the Muslim Quarter can be approved. The police won’t be able to recruit sufficient forces to secure such a route, in addition to many more forces that would have to be prepared in other areas where clashes would have been expected.”

The Ynet news site reported earlier that Gantz was demanding that Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit be present in the meeting as well, since it was going to touch on legal issues. Animosity is high between Netanyahu and Mandelblit, since the latter decided to indict the premier in three corruption cases, in which a trial is ongoing.

A joint body representing various terror groups based in the Gaza Strip said Monday that “if Israel decides to restore the previous situation, we call for burning the ground under the enemy’s feet.”

Bezalel Smotrich, leader of the far-right Religious Zionism party, called the decision to delay the march “an embarrassing capitulation to terror and to Hamas threats.”

“While we are arguing over what kind of government to have, Yahya Sinwar is running things here,” Smotrich tweeted, referring to the head of Hamas in Gaza.

Others also expressed anger.

“It seems the side that ended up deterred after Operation Guardian of the Walls is the State of Israel, which caved to the threats of terrorists and is not allowing a march of Israeli flags through the capital of the State of Israel,” march organizer Yehuda Wald said, according to the Srugim website, referring to the conflict with Gaza-based terrorists in May. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-security-heads-meet-in-attempt-to-revive-contentious-flag-march/>

**IDF arrests 2 men who entered Israel from Lebanon; terror not suspected**

***Suspects apparently Turkish migrants seeking work; hunt for infiltrators took over 12 hours***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 4:55 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/cdjsk28m5o.jpeg)

***A suspect is arrested after entering Israel from Lebanon. June 7, 2021 (Israel Defense Forces)***

The Israel Defense Forces on Monday arrested two men who crossed illegally into Israel from Lebanon, following a 12-hour manhunt.

The suspects, apparently Turkish migrants seeking work, were caught in an area near the security fence that is densely covered with brush and trees, according to the military.

The arrests came after hours of searches in the area, including roadblocks and helicopter flyovers.

The IDF on Sunday night said the border breach did not appear to be terror-related.

According to the IDF, troops along the frontier “spotted the tracks of two people near the security fence on the Lebanon border.”

Flares were fired into the air and large numbers of troops were dispatched to the scene, along with helicopters, according to the military and residents of the area. Several roadblocks were also set up in the area.

As a precaution, residents of nearby communities were told to remain in their homes. That restriction was lifted several hours later.

“The incident will be investigated,” the IDF said.

While there have been cases of members of the Hezbollah terror group attempting to infiltrate Israel from southern Lebanon, over the years the border has also seen criminal smuggling operations and attempts by migrants to illegally cross into Israel to find work due to the deteriorating economic conditions in Lebanon. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-arrests-2-men-who-entered-israel-from-lebanon-terror-not-suspected/>

**IDF: Officer who mysteriously died in prison seriously harmed national security**

***Military scales back gag orders on highly classified, controversial case, but still bars publication of the suspect’s name and nature of his alleged crimes***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 9:58 pm*

The intelligence officer who died under mysterious circumstances in a military prison last month was accused of causing significant damage to national security, and admitted to many of his crimes, the military said Monday, after partially removing the gag orders on the still heavily classified case.

Key details about the affair, including the officer’s identity and the exact nature of his alleged crimes, remain barred from publication under a court-issued gag order, backed by the military censor. This decision was upheld by a military court on Monday, following a hearing on the matter, despite the fact that the serviceman’s name and photograph have been widely shared online in recent days.

However, the military has permitted for publication that the officer served in a technological unit in Military Intelligence. Friends and coworkers of the officer have described him as an incredibly skilled computer programmer, a prodigy who began working in the field as a teenager.

According to the IDF, the officer was indicted in September 2020 and had been accused of “knowingly committing a number of actions that seriously harmed national security.”

“The officer cooperated in his interrogation and admitted to most of the acts he was accused of,” the military said.

The IDF maintained, however, that the soldier acted alone and did not commit the actions on behalf of a foreign government, for financial reasons or out of a specific ideology, but rather from unspecified “personal motivations.”

The officer was indicted on a number of security-related offenses and that additional weight was given to the charged against him in light of the “significant damage that was caused by his alleged crimes,” the military said.

The IDF decided to remove portions of the two gag orders regarding the case — one for details about the allegations against the officer and another about the circumstances surrounding his death — following a court hearing earlier in the day to address requests from his family and from media outlets, calling for details about the case to be released.



The attorney for the family of a Military Intelligence officer who died in prison attends a hearing at the military court at IDF headquarter in Tel Aviv, on June 7, 2021. (Flash90)

According to the IDF, the officer had access to a senior military defense attorney who had full access to information regarding the charges against him. He had not been convicted at the time of his death and was in the process of negotiating a plea deal, before the beginning of the evidentiary portion of his trial.

The hearings against him were held behind closed doors, though members of his family were allowed to be present during portions of the trial, the military said.

The officer was found in serious condition in his cell — which was under round-the-clock security camera surveillance — on the night between May 16 and 17, and he was pronounced dead in a nearby hospital a short time later, the military said.

Though an autopsy was performed — with a doctor on behalf of the family present — no official cause of death has yet been determined, according to the IDF.

Disputing recent claims to the contrary, the military said the officer was not in solitary confinement at the time of his death, but was inside a normal cell with other prisoners. He was also imprisoned under his real name, not a pseudonym as has occurred in some other cases involving allegations of severe national security crimes. The IDF added that the officer was able to speak to and see his family, as well as friends and comrades, while in prison.

Following the soldier’s death, two internal investigations were launched into the matter within the IDF Manpower Directorate, one of them looking at the specific case of the soldier and another looking more generally at the military’s prison system, specifically “prisoners with special characteristics,” the IDF said.

***Ben Zygier in IDF uniform. (YouTube screenshot)***

The case involving the officer has been compared to what was dubbed the Prisoner X Affair, in which Australian-Israeli dual national Ben Zygier was found dead in prison in what was ruled a suicide, as he awaited trial on security-related charges.

The relatives of the intelligence officer who died last month have expressed doubt that he committed suicide.

The designers of the prison where the officer had been held, Neve Tzedek, told reporters when the facility opened that it was specifically constructed to make it difficult for inmates to commit suicide, with closed-circuit cameras throughout the structure and specially designed fittings to prevent people from being able to hang themselves.

“The officer was under arrest for many months,” one relative told Channel 12 news.

A relative of the officer told Haaretz that “the anger is at the attempt to disappear a person who died in military prison.”

“We don’t know anything. To this day, no one has explained to us what happened,” the unnamed relative said. “The whole way that the army is behaving looks like an attempt to hide their failures. How can it be that they are trying to wipe out a person in this way?”

Family members said that on the eve of the Shavuot festival, May 16, hours before his death, the officer called his parents. The family sources said he did not sound distressed and asked them to bring him clothes on their next visit, other personal items, and treats to tide him over during his time in prison. The family also noted his previous relocation from one prison to Neve Tzedek “was good for him” and he was in a positive mindset.

The serviceman was buried in a civilian cemetery plot and will not be recognized as a fallen soldier. The IDF said this was the case as the soldier had been formally discharged from the army while in prison and was thus not eligible for a military funeral. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-officer-who-mysteriously-died-in-prison-seriously-harmed-national-security/>

**Giant sinkhole swallows cars in Jerusalem hospital parking lot**

***Pit opens up outside Shaare Zedek Medical Center apparently after tunnel collapses, taking with it vehicles; no injuries reported***

*By* [*Stuart Winer*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/stuart-winer/) *Today, 3:48 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/Sinkhole-e1623068373557.jpg)

***Screen capture from video of a sinkhole that opened in the parking lot of the Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem, June 7, 2021. (Twitter)***

A large sinkhole opened in the parking lot of the Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem on Monday afternoon, swallowing a number of cars and prompting emergency services to scramble units to the area.

Seven fire trucks rushed to the scene. There were no injures in the incident.

The sinkhole is believed to have been formed as a result of nearby construction work for a new route at the entrance of Jerusalem. A tunnel under construction, which also runs underneath the hospital and parking lot, appeared to have partially collapsed, according to Hebrew-language media reports.

Police said they received a report of “a collapse” in the parking lot of the hospital.

Video shared on social media showed cars tumbling into a pit that grew in size as its walls collapsed.

גורם המעורה בטיפול באירוע בשערי צדק: מבדיקה ראשונית של מצלמות האבטחה נראה שאין נפגעים | תיעוד רגע הקריסה[@SuleimanMas1](https://twitter.com/SuleimanMas1?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [@diklaaharon](https://twitter.com/diklaaharon?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [pic.twitter.com/VeHaCgKyzt](https://t.co/VeHaCgKyzt)

— כאן חדשות (@kann\_news) [June 7, 2021](https://twitter.com/kann_news/status/1401874622635724803?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

תיעוד נוסף מקריסת החניון בשערי צדק. עד כה לא דווח על נפגעים[@VeredPelman](https://twitter.com/VeredPelman?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [pic.twitter.com/a6lZDlaCTV](https://t.co/a6lZDlaCTV)

— כאן חדשות (@kann\_news) [June 7, 2021](https://twitter.com/kann_news/status/1401864171327823876?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

The hospital had recently opened a new parking lot able to accommodate several hundred vehicles. However, the pit appeared to have opened in the area of the old parking lot, near the pay station at the exit.

The Fire and Rescue Service said that in addition to the seven fire trucks that were sent to the scene, a special rescue unit was also dispatched to search for any people who may have been trapped inside vehicles that dropped into the hole. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/giant-sinkhole-swallows-cars-in-jerusalem-hospital-parking-lot/>

**In blow to Palestinian residents, AG won’t weigh in on Sheikh Jarrah evictions**

***Mandelblit informs Supreme Court he won’t join deliberations about contentious East Jerusalem neighborhood; reportedly believes evictions can’t legally be stopped***

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

Attorney-General Avichai Mandelblit notified the Supreme Court on Monday that he will not become involved in a contentious case dealing with the eviction of Palestinian families by Jewish landlords from their homes in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah.

Attorneys representing the Palestinian families had petitioned for Mandelblit to weigh in on the case and the Supreme Court, which is hearing appeals against the convictions, said last month it would wait to hear from the attorney general before making a decision.

Mandelblit came to the conclusion that, from a legal point of view, the evictions cannot be prevented, Haaretz reported.

A source close to the attorney general told the newspaper that the political leadership had come to the same conclusion.

In his notification to the court Mandelblit wrote that in light of the many previous court proceedings on the matter over the years “and in view of the factual and legal determinations made in these proceedings, the attorney general has come to the conclusion that there is no place for him to join the proceedings” as the country’s top legal authority.

During discussions at the Justice Ministry, a suggestion was made that the state expropriate the contested houses and declare those living there as protected residents, Haaretz reported.

However, Mandelblit decided against the idea, with one of the cited reasons being that a similar proposal in the past by the Supreme Court had been rejected by the Palestinian residents.

The pending evictions in Sheikh Jarrah have been the subject of protests in the capital. Those demonstrations, along with unrest at the Temple Mount, were cited by the Hamas terror group as the reason it fired rockets toward Jerusalem on May 10. Hours later Israel launched Operation Guardian of the Walls in Gaza.

On Sunday, Haaretz reported that during meetings with Defense Minister Benny Gantz in Washington last week, senior Biden administration officials expressed their concern over the latest Jerusalem tensions, worrying that they could lead to another spillover in Gaza just weeks after the 11-day conflict ended.

Tensions in the capital have remained high in the Sheikh Jarrah case, with police on Sunday [arresting prominent Palestinian activist twins](https://www.timesofisrael.com/police-arrest-sheikh-jarrah-activist-twins-claiming-they-participated-in-riots/) in the neighborhood on allegations that they participated in rioting there during protests against the evictions. The previous day, police nabbed Al Jazeera correspondent Givara Budeiri while she was reporting from a protest in Sheikh Jarrah. Police claimed she assaulted officers, charges she has denied. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-blow-to-palestinian-residents-ag-wont-weigh-in-on-sheikh-jarrah-evictions/>

**Is Egypt planning to retake control of the Gaza Strip?**

***Entry of construction equipment first time Egypt has deployed in the coastal enclave it used to rule until 1967.***

*By* [*KHALED ABU TOAMEH*](https://www.jpost.com/author/khaled-abu-toameh) *JUNE 7, 2021 20:51*

Scenes of dozens of Egyptian bulldozers, cranes and trucks entering the Gaza Strip last Friday have left some Palestinians wondering whether Egypt is planning to return to the coastal enclave it ruled between 1948 and 1967.

The Egyptian [decision](https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/egypt-sends-building-equipment-to-begin-gaza-reconstruction-670206) to send building equipment and engineers to the Gaza Strip came within the context of Cairo’s pledge to contribute to reconstruction efforts there after the recent fighting between Israel and Hamas.



***Building equipment, sent by Egypt for Palestinians, arrive in the southern Gaza Strip June 4, 2021 (photo credit: REUTERS/IBRAHEEM ABU MUSTAFA)***

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Sisi has pledged $500 million to help rebuild the houses and buildings that were destroyed during the fighting.

The presence of the Egyptian construction teams in the Gaza Strip means that Hamas and other Palestinian factions will not be able to resume the rocket attacks on Israel, Palestinian sources told The Jerusalem Post.

“It will be hard for Hamas to initiate another round of fighting with Israel when there are many Egyptians inside the Gaza Strip,” one of the sources said. “If Hamas or Palestinian Islamic Jihad start firing rockets at Israel while the Egyptian construction teams are working in the Gaza Strip, the two groups will get into trouble with Egypt.”

According to the sources, the Egyptians have warned Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar against initiating another round of fighting while Cairo pursues its efforts to help rebuild the Gaza Strip.

During the 1948 War of Independence, the Arab League established the “All-Palestine Government” to govern the Egyptian-controlled Gaza Strip. Palestinians living in the enclave were issued “All-Palestine” passports. Egypt did not offer them citizenship. After the dissolution of the All-Palestine Government in 1959, Egypt continued to control the Gaza Strip until 1967.

The Egyptians, however, never annexed the Gaza Strip and chose to administer it through a military governor.

“There are many rumors that the Egyptians are planning to return to the Gaza Strip,” said a veteran Palestinian journalist in the Hamas-ruled coastal enclave. “Many people here are convinced that the Egyptian-sponsored reconstruction work is part of a plan to pave the way for a permanent Egyptian security presence in the Gaza Strip.”

The Egyptians played a crucial role in reaching the [Israel-Hamas ceasefire](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/no-rocket-sirens-since-1-am-as-israel-hamas-ceasefire-said-to-be-close-668607) that went into effect on May 21.

The head of Egypt’s General Intelligence Service, Abbas Kamel, last week made a rare visit to the Gaza Strip, where he met with leaders of Hamas and other Palestinian factions and discussed with them ways of maintaining the ceasefire and the reconstruction efforts.

Kamel’s visit to the Gaza Strip is seen by some Palestinian political analysts as a sign of Egypt’s intention to play a major role in the coastal enclave in particular and the Palestinian arena in general.

“I don’t believe that Egypt wants to go back to the days when it was administering the Gaza Strip,” one analyst told the Post. “But Sisi’s decision to contribute to the reconstruction effort shows that he wants to be heavily involved with everything concerning the Gaza Strip.”

Relations between Egypt and Hamas have improved over the past few years, the analyst said.

Relations between Egypt and Hamas were strained when Sisi came to power in 2013 after deposing president Mohamed Morsi and outlawing the Muslim Brotherhood. In 2015, an Egyptian court listed Hamas, an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood, as a terrorist organization.

Morsi and other members of the Muslim Brotherhood were later charged with spying for Hamas and Iran.

Until a few years ago, Egypt’s state-controlled media had accused Hamas of helping Muslim terrorists who attacked Egyptian security forces in the Sinai. Hamas has strongly denied the charges, saying it does not meddle in the internal affairs of any Arab country.

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas appreciates the efforts Egypt has been making to calm the situation and assist in the reconstruction efforts in the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian official in Ramallah told the Post.

He dismissed talk about a possible return of Egyptian control of the Gaza Strip.

“The Egyptians are working to achieve Palestinian national reconciliation and reunite the West Bank with the Gaza Strip,” the official said. “That’s why they have invited representatives of several Palestinian factions to Cairo. The Egyptians support the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem.” <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/is-egypt-planning-to-retake-control-of-gaza-670332>

**Abbas pays $40,000 to family of terrorist who murdered two Israelis**

***PA Governor of Ramallah and Al-Bireh, Leila Ghannam, handed over the money to the family of the terrorist, Muhannad al-Halabi, during a meeting on Sunday.***

*By* [*KHALED ABU TOAMEH*](https://www.jpost.com/author/khaled-abu-toameh) *JUNE 7, 2021 20:52*

[The Palestinian Authority](https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/pa-requests-security-council-arab-league-meetings-on-jerusalem-violence-667600) on Sunday handed the family of a Palestinian terrorist who murdered two Israelis 30,000 Jordanian dinars ($42,000).  
 The money was provided by PA President Mahmoud Abbas to “complete the payment of the price” of the family’s house that was demolished by the IDF, according to Wafa, the PA’s official news agency.  
 The PA governor of Ramallah and El-Bireh, Laila Ghannam, handed over the money to the family of Muhannad al-Halabi during a meeting on Sunday.  
 On October 3, 2015, Halabi,19, attacked the Benita family near [Lion’s Gate in](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-hamas-hezbollah-join-to-incite-terror-against-israel-analysis-667585) Jerusalem’s Old City as they were on their way to the Western Wall to pray.  
 Halabi fatally stabbed Aaron Benita, the father of the family, and wounded the mother, Adele, and their two-year-old son, Matan. Nehemia Lavi, a resident who heard screams and came to help, was also murdered. His gun was taken by the terrorist, who was shot dead by police officers.  
 Ghannam thanked Abbas for paying “special attention to the families of the martyrs, prisoners and fighters,” Wafa reported. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/abbas-pays-40000-to-family-of-terrorist-who-murdered-two-israelis-670300>

**Blinken: Iran may cut nuclear breakout time to weeks if it keeps breaching deal**

***US secretary of state admits he’s unsure Tehran interested in rejoining pact; IAEA chief adds to skepticism, saying ‘space narrowing’ for a temporary deal***

*By* [*Jacob Magid*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jacob-magid/) *and* [*AFP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/afp/) *Today, 9:40 pm*

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken warned Monday that the “breakout time” Iran needs to assemble an atomic bomb could be reduced to just weeks, if Tehran keeps violating the 2015 accord limiting its nuclear program.

Testifying before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on the Biden administration’s budget for the fiscal year of 2021, Blinken admitted that it is unclear if Iran is “willing and prepared” to come back into compliance with the agreement, as talks continue for the United States to rejoin the deal.

“Meanwhile, its program is galloping forward… The longer this goes on, the more the breakout time gets down… it’s now down, by public reports, to a few months at best. And if this continues, it will get down to a matter of weeks,” he lamented.

Former US president Donald Trump pulled out of the Iran nuclear deal in 2018, claiming that it did not do enough to prevent the Islamic republic from building a nuclear weapon. Trump tightened sanctions on Tehran, and the Iranian authorities responded by loosening restrictions on their nuclear program imposed by the deal.

US President Joe Biden has said that he would rejoin the agreement if Iran returns to compliance with its caps. Washington says it plans to negotiate a “longer and stronger” subsequent deal once the sides have reentered the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

The two sides have been negotiating in Vienna since April through their partners in the multilateral agreement — Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia.

The talks are scheduled to resume later this week in the Austrian capital.

“We’re not even at the stage of returning to compliance for compliance,” Blinken said Monday. “We don’t know if that’s actually going to happen.” [If the dolts in DC with “Bi-dumb” would have continued with the constraints and the block of finances and would have insisted that the EU group did the same they country would have been bankrupt by now. – rdb]



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken testifies before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on June 7, 2021. (Screen capture/YouTube)

“There are multiple egregious activities that Iran is engaged in… Each and every one would be even worse if Iran had a nuclear weapon or was on the threshold of being able to have one,” Blinken said, pushing back against claims by Republicans that Iran’s behavior in the region should lead the US to end nuclear deal reentry talks.

***‘Space narrowing’ for temporary nuclear deal — IAEA chief***

Earlier Monday, the UN nuclear watchdog’s head said it was “becoming increasingly difficult” to extend a temporary inspections arrangement with Iran, as Tehran and world powers try to salvage the nuclear deal.

In February, Tehran suspended some IAEA inspections, leading the agency to strike a temporary three-month deal allowing it to continue its activities despite the reduced level of access.

“I can see this space narrowing down,” International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Rafael Grossi told journalists in Vienna, at the beginning of the quarterly meeting of the IAEA’s board of governors.

In late May, the ad hoc arrangement was extended until June 24, with Grossi describing the remaining time as “very short.”



Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, Rafael Mariano Grossi from Argentina, addresses the media during a news conference behind plexiglass shields regarding the agency’s monitoring of Iran’s nuclear energy program at the International Center in Vienna, Austria, June 7, 2021. (AP Photo/Lisa Leutner)

Grossi said he hoped that by “wider general agreement that’s being worked on downtown or by some other means, we are not going to see our… inspection capacities curtailed any more.”

“We cannot limit and continue to curtail the ability of the inspectors to inspect and at the same time pretend that there is trust,” he said. [Whining will get you nowhere with Iran. – rdb]

He also referred to a long-running attempt by the IAEA to get clarity on several undeclared Iranian sites where nuclear activity may have taken place, mostly in the early 2000s.

In April the IAEA launched a new process of “technical discussions” with Iran in an effort to “break the impasse” over the sites. But a report issued last week made clear that the IAEA’s queries had not been resolved.

Grossi said Monday that his “expectations were not met” and that there had been no “concrete progress” on the issue, despite the Iranian authorities’ stated willingness to cooperate.

“Talk must lead to conclusions,” he said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/blinken-iran-may-cut-nuclear-breakout-time-to-weeks-if-it-keeps-breaching-deal/> [Stupidity will lead to worldwide destruction as the players simply keep delaying and talking and talking and talking. – rdb]

**Iran cleric who founded Hezbollah, survived book bomb, dies**

***Ali Akbar Mohtashamipour, who lost right hand to assassination attempt attributed to Israel, formed alliances with Muslim militant groups across Mideast, helping found Islamic Republic's Revolutionary Guard and Lebanese terror group***

*Associated Press | Published: 06.07.21 , 21:20*

Ali Akbar Mohtashamipour, a Shiite cleric who as Iran's ambassador to Syria helped found the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah and lost his right hand to a book bombing reportedly carried out by Israel, died Monday of the coronavirus. He was 74.

 A close ally of Iran's late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, Mohtashamipour in the 1970s formed alliances with Muslim militant groups across the Mideast. After the Islamic Revolution, he helped found the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard in Iran and as ambassador to Syria brought the force into the region to help form Hezbollah. [Seems like this busy little boy was the instigator of much of the world’s problems today. – rdb]

***Ali Akbar Mohtashamipour listens to a speaker in a meeting in Tehran, Iran, on Dec. 4, 2003 (Photo: AP)***

In his later years, he slowly joined the cause of reformists in Iran, hoping to change the Islamic Republic's theocracy from the inside. He backed the opposition leaders Mir Hossein Mousavi and Mahdi Karroubi in Iran's Green Movement protests that followed the disputed 2009 re-election of then-President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

"If the whole people become aware, avoid violent measures and continue their civil confrontation with that, they will win," Mohtashamipour said at the time, though Ahmadinejad ultimately would remain in office. "No power can stand up to people's will."

Mohtashamipour died at a hospital in northern Tehran after contracting the virus, the state-run IRNA news agency reported. The cleric, who wore a black turban that identified him in Shiite tradition as a direct descendant of Islam's Prophet Muhammad, had been living in the Shiite holy city of Najaf, Iraq, over the last 10 years after the disputed election in Iran.

Hard-line judiciary chief Ebrahim Raisi, now considered the leading candidate in Iran's presidential election next week, offered condolences to Mohtashamipour's family.

"The deceased was one of the holy warriors on the way to the liberation of Jerusalem and one of the pioneers in the fight against the usurping Zionist regime," Raisi said, according to IRNA.

Born in Tehran in 1947, Mohtashamipour met Khomeini as the cleric remained in exile in Najaf after being expelled from Iran by Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. In the 1970s, he crisscrossed the Mideast speaking to militants groups at the time, helping form an alliance between the future Islamic Republic and the Palestinian Liberation Organization as it battled Israel.

Once arrested by Iraq, Mohtashamipour found his way to Khomeini's residence in exile outside of Paris. They returned triumphant to Iran amid the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

In 1982, Khomeini deployed Mohtashamipour to Syria, then under the rule of dictator Hafez Assad. While ostensibly a diplomat, Mohtashamipour oversaw the millions that poured in to fund the Guard's operations in the region. MORE - <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/SJxWA9s9O>

**Senator: Facebook suppressed COVID news at government's direction**

***Warns people who were censored may 'have a cause of action'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published June 7, 2021 at 11:28am*

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, says people who posted on Facebook comments about the COVID-19 catastrophe coming out of a Chinese lab – and were censored for that – now may have a legal case to be considered.

"If you went out and posted the facts that led a year ago to the very strong likelihood that the COVID virus escaped from a Chinese government lab in Wuhan, China, if you posted that a year ago and they took it down, I think there's a very good argument you have a cause of action against Facebook," Cruz said on Sunday.

"Facebook would ordinarily say, 'We're a private company, we're not liable. Well, you know what, when they act at the behest of the government, when they contact [Anthony] Fauci, when they say, 'Should we censor this?' and Fauci says, 'Yes' and they censor it for the federal government and then magically when the government changes its mind, and say, 'Oh, all those facts that were there a year ago, now you're allowed to talk about it,' they stopped censoring it with a flip of a switch, that lays a very strong argument that Facebook is operating as a state agency and that opens very significant legal liability," he said.

His comments came in an interview with Fox interview [Maria Bartiromo](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/sen-cruz-facebook-censoring-covid-19-content-government) on "Sunday Morning Futures."

He said it is "clear" that Facebook was using its "monopoly position to censor on behalf of the government" regarding COVID-19."

Facebook abruptly did an about-face on May 26, suddenly announcing it no longer would ban posts suggesting COVID-19 is man-made or came from the Wuhan, China, lab. It happened as President Biden called for an investigation into exactly that.

Previously, Facebook can censored those comments, "following consultations."

"These latest breakthroughs have real consequence because it now is clear that Facebook was operating at the direction of and in the direct benefit of the federal government and operating as the government's censor, utilizing their monopoly position to censor on behalf of the government," Cruz said.Bottom of Form

The social media company recently said, "In light of ongoing investigations into the origin of COVID-19 and in consultation with public health experts, we will no longer remove the claim that COVID-19 is man-made or manufactured from our apps."

The report explained, "Public calls for further investigation into the pandemic’s origins intensified in recent days after the Wall Street Journal reported that three researchers at China’s Wuhan Institute of Virology displayed symptoms severe enough to seek hospital treatment. A previous State Department fact sheet noted the researchers had 'symptoms consistent with both COVID-19 and common seasonal illness.'"

Social media companies, in fact, have been told several times by Democrat politicians in Washington to censor more information about COVID than they previously had been suppressing.

Sen. Cruz argues Facebook was censoring COVID-19 content ‘on behalf of the government’ <https://t.co/a0cFo00RFd>

— Fox News (@FoxNews) [June 6, 2021](https://twitter.com/FoxNews/status/1401663942561128451)

A commentary at [RedState](https://redstate.com/bonchie/2021/06/06/ted-cruz-levies-a-big-charge-against-big-tech-n392383) said, "Cruz is exactly correct that Facebook and other social media companies were operating on behalf of the government, though, it wasn’t at the behest of the Trump administration while it was in power. Rather, it appears to have been done in coordination with far-left bureaucrats."

It continued, "In fact, the reveal of Dr. Anthony Fauci’s emails proved that he was in direct contact with Mark Zuckerberg, who reached out to coordinate with Fauci on messaging. Given we don’t have a transcript of Fauci’s proceeding phone calls, we can’t know for sure what was discussed over the last year-plus between the two, but what we do know is what decisions followed."

RedState said, "Facebook had been absolutely ruthless against anyone who would dare to suggest COVID-19 came from anything else but nature. That was the oligarchy-blessed explanation, and nothing else was up for discussion. Only after the Biden administration was finally forced to admit that an investigation into the origins was needed, and that the lab leak theory was plausible, did Facebook do an about-face. That’s only further evidence that they are working on behalf of government interests, just as Cruz suggests." <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/senator-facebook-operating-federal-governments-direction/> [It would be just delicious to break Facebooks bank with a host of billion $ suits. – rdb]

**New fight erupts over 2020 ballot count in Michigan**

***'The clerk has admitted that there were challenges and problems'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published June 7, 2021 at 11:12am*

Discovery is a process in court cases in which the evidence that is pertinent to the decision is identified and defined.

And it's the subject of the latest fight in on ongoing battle to find out what happened in Antrim County, Michigan, during the count of the 2020 presidential race ballots.

It's a traditionally Republican county that officials initially announced last fall had voted for Joe Biden for president, only later the retract their claim and say that "human error" caused thousands of votes that were for President Trump to be counted for Biden.

A lawsuit was filed, and a judge dismissed it, but put on hold action in the case since he said he expected an appeal to be filed, which now is being pursued.

But the [Washington Examiner](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/michigan-antrim-county-2020-election-lawsuit-discovery-fight) reports the two sides cannot even agree on what happens in the interim.

The judge had told Matthew DePerno, the lawyer representing the plaintiff in the lawsuit over allegations of fraud in the election, to prepared an order concerning procedures pending the appeal, and he did.

But lawyers for the county and Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson refused to agree.

13th Circuit Court Judge Kevin Elsenheimer said it was his understanding that all matters had been put on hold for the time being and noted the court "will take all pending motions under advisement."

So DePerno followed instructions and submitted an order, only to have Michigan Assistant Attorney General Erik Grill claim the order is not accurate.

"The court had stated that 'all matters' would be stayed — including discovery. But the plaintiff’s proposed order stays only unresolved motions and would not stay discovery or any other matters," he said.

A hearing is set July 12.

The case was brought on behalf of Central Lake Township resident Bill Bailey.

DePerno and Bailey argued that "material fraud or error" happened during the 2020 election. They sought an audit, which the defendants claimed was their responsibility.

The Examiner reported, "But before his May 18 ruling, the judge already allowed DePerno to proceed with an 'expert witness' list for testimony to rebut a report by a technology security expert released by the Michigan secretary of state's office that found issues with an analysis of Antrim County's Dominion Voting Systems machines that claimed to have found a 68% error rate and argued human error led to early tabulation errors. That aligns with what state and county officials said after it was revealed that early on, thousands of votes were incorrectly tabulated in favor of President Joe Biden in Antrim County, which has about 23,000 residents. The reporting error was quickly corrected, but the mishap caught the attention of former President Donald Trump and his allies, who claim the 2020 contest was rigged and are encouraging a push for audits to take place across the country."  
 The judge in the case specifically noted he was "not saying there were no problems" in how Antrim County conducted the 2020 election.  
 "The clerk has admitted that there were challenges and problems in the elections, although the hand count ultimately of the presidential election showed the results were largely consistent with the canvas totals that were entered by the state and reported by the county. Nor am I saying that the processing of election data here wasn't corrupted or corruptible. I don't have the facts to make that determination," he wrote.  
 DePerno has confirmed preparation for an appeal is under way.  
 The county has become representative of indications of shady election manipulation across the country. Further, Michigan was one of six battleground states that drew charges of election fraud. Several states suspended counting on Election Night with Trump leading. Hours later, after massive ballot dumps that were nearly 100% for Biden, the Democrat took the lead when counting resumed.  
 DePerno has noted he's already found out that even after an election is over, the results are not secured.  
 "We can now show that after the election is done, someone, anyone really who has access to those tabulators, can reopen the election, run more ballots through the tabulator, print off new tabulator tape with a new balance and backdate that tape to November 3rd," he said.  
 DePerno earlier said his investigation had revealed that the voting machines there contained a software program that could have been used to manipulate vote totals.  
 Fact-checkers have objected to his opinion, stating that many audits done in Michigan of elections all show they've been accurate. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/new-fight-erupts-2020-ballot-count-michigan/> Arizona is still auditing votes and if this goes through and anything comes out of Georgia or PA it could be a complete game changer. – rdb]

**WATCH: Angry mom goes nuclear over 'communist values' in schools**

**'You're silencing the children. Where are their rights? They have no rights'**

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published June 7, 2021 at 12:35pm* ***By Kaylee Greenlee*** *Daily Caller News Foundation*



***Tatiyana Ibrahim (Video screenshot)***

A parent criticized members of the Carmel Central School District school board for “emotionally abusing” the children and teaching them “communist values” in Putnam County New York, at a school board business meeting Thursday.

Tatiyana Ibrahim, whose child attends one of the schools in the district, criticized the school board for allowing teachers to allegedly promote Black Lives Matter, LGBTQ and anti-police ideologies in the district’s curriculum, [video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zxu3wdiXRF0&t=137s) of the school board meeting shows. Ibrahim accused the teachers of allegedly discriminating against religious students and for promoting cancel culture.

“Stop indoctrinating our children. Stop teaching our children to hate the police. Stop teaching our children that if they don’t agree with the LGBT community that they’re homophobic. You have no idea each child’s life,” Ibrahim said. “You don’t know what their family lifestyle consists of, you don’t know the makeup of their life.”

**WATCH:**

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/senator-facebook-operating-federal-governments-direction/>

School board members were mostly silent as Ibrahim spoke, though they said they would be willing to meet with her and the superintendent in another setting to address the issues she brought up.

Ibrahim specifically called out two teachers for posting about their political beliefs online before [school board](https://dailycaller.com/2021/05/11/oklahoma-city-school-board-critical-race-theory-ban-kevin-stitt/) members told her she was not allowed to reference people by name, video shows. Ibrahim claimed the [teachers](https://dailycaller.com/2021/05/11/tennessee-teachers-criticize-critical-race-theory-ban/) in question called “for the death of a former president” and said students who don’t support Black Lives Matter should be “cancelled out.”

“Why are we not allowed to say names? Why am I not allowed when they purposefully expose themselves on social media, talking about calling for the death of a former president, or saying that any child who doesn’t believe in Black Lives Matter should be canceled out. Is this what my tax dollars are paying for?” Ibrahim asked the school board, video shows.

The Carmel Central School District held the meeting in an attempt to garner community support for their proposed budget of $133,581,366 for the 2021 – 2022 school year, [according](https://wabcradio.com/2021/06/05/parent-goes-viral-after-lashing-at-carmel-central-school-district-board-on-indoctrination/) to 77 WABC. The budget failed to pass by 170 votes last month.

Ibrahim said she emailed the superintendent about the curriculum and he informed her that he was unaware of the issues, according to a video of the meeting. She added that she will not vote to approve the school’s budget, saying that the officials are “liars, thieves and have committed treason against the children.”

“You’re emotionally abusing our children and mentally abusing them,” Ibrahim said. “You’re demoralizing them by teaching them communist values, this is still America, ma’am.”

Ibrahim ended her speech after approximately 11 minutes despite her two-minute time allotment, video shows.

Officials within the Carmel Central School District did not respond to the Daily Caller News Foundation’s request for comment. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/watch-mom-goes-nuclear-communist-values-schools/> [This lady is a real go getter and a person who will not be silenced and will continue her battle with the schools even through the courts if necessary. She is very emphatic and willing to stand for what is right. We need thousands like her to stand up to school boards and other entities that persist in pursuing their agenda and simply want people to sit down and shut up. – rdb]

**‘Go home’: Kamala Harris greeted in Guatemala by protesters as country’s president blames US for border crisis**

*7 Jun, 2021 20:23*

Vice President Kamala Harris arrived in Guatemala on Monday, only to be received by protesters sporting pro-Donald Trump signage blasting her.

*“Kamala, mind your own business,”* one sign read at the rally, visible to Harris’ motorcade as she arrived to meet with President Alejandro Giammattei. The trip was Harris’ first international one as vice president.

*“Kamala, Trump won,”* read another sign.

Mira como nuestros hermanos guatemaltecos recibieron a Kamala Harris. Kamala Harris Greeted In Guatemala With ‘Go Home’ and ‘Trump Won’ Messages <https://t.co/A5ODXf3F2F>[pic.twitter.com/4Lkts1vYOE](https://t.co/4Lkts1vYOE)

— El Nuevo Estado (@eInuevoestado) [June 7, 2021](https://twitter.com/eInuevoestado/status/1401908263810174979?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

As Guatemala's president blamed Biden for the border crisis, VP Kamala Harris was welcomed to the country by protestors with huge signs displaying messages such as "Trump won" and "Mind your own business." [pic.twitter.com/BCdLdWvmQc](https://t.co/BCdLdWvmQc)

— The Post Millennial (@TPostMillennial) [June 7, 2021](https://twitter.com/TPostMillennial/status/1401968979485204490?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Other signs told the US vice president to “go home” and stated that Guatemala is “pro-life*.”*

Harris has been a frequent target of critics since she was put in charge of the crisis at the US-Mexico border in March. Giammattei has blamed the US for the influx of migrants, claiming the country has been sending too soft a message.

*“We asked the United States government to send more of a clear message to prevent more people from leaving,”* he told CBS News on Sunday. *“The message changed to: ‘We’re going to reunite families, we’re going to reunite children.’ The very next day, the coyotes were here organizing groups of children to take them to the United States.”*

Responding to Giammattei’s accusations, Harris spokesperson Symone Sanders pointed to climate change and poor economies as causes of illegal immigration into the US.

Harris mentioned *“climate adaptation”* and *“resilience”* as *“root causes”* of illegal immigration last month.

*“I’m thinking of corruption, violence and poverty, the lack of economic opportunity, the lack of climate adaptation and climate resilience, the lack of good governance,”* she said.

She has been frequently criticized for refusing to actually visit the southern border while in charge of the situations there, but she said on Monday during her trip that she has no plans to eventually make the journey.

*“On the issues of Republicans' political attacks or criticism or even concerns, the reason I am here in Guatemala as my first trip as vice president of the United States is because this is one of our highest priorities,”* she said, adding that she would avoid *“grand gestures”* such as visiting the southern border.

Giammattei said he will build *“returnee centers”* for migrants turned away at the US border, something Harris said the administration is committed to doing.

*“Do not come,”* she said to those thinking of making the long trek.

Harris’ trip had already been marked by controversy before she made her remarks. After a technical issue forced her plane to land, Harris then sent social media into a frenzy when images showed cookies in the vice president’s likeness on Air Force 2, with claims she was delivering them to others on the plane.

[@vp](https://twitter.com/VP?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) made an OTR visit to the back of the plane and delivered cookies decorated with the shape of her likeness as well as AF2. [pic.twitter.com/TQrUR47Vgc](https://t.co/TQrUR47Vgc)

— Courtney Subramanian (@cmsub) [June 7, 2021](https://twitter.com/cmsub/status/1401701417715486734?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Critics blasted the images and accused the vice president of *“narcissism.”*

As a former Military Aide during the Clinton administration, I never even imagined this level of narcissism. And, all on YOUR tax dollars America!Democrats, even you can’t be cool with this.[@KamalaHarris](https://twitter.com/KamalaHarris?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

— Buzz Patterson (@BuzzPatterson) [June 7, 2021](https://twitter.com/BuzzPatterson/status/1401763362749353985?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Instead of trying to fix the Democrat-made [#BidenBorderCrisis](https://twitter.com/hashtag/BidenBorderCrisis?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) that's wreaking havoc on our southern border, Kamala Harris is commissioning cookies in her likeness.Dems don't take the border crisis seriously & refuse to fix it. MORE -

<https://www.rt.com/usa/525935-kamala-harris-guatemala-cookies/>

**2022 preview? Democratic Hispanic stronghold flips to Republican Party**

***'This was not expected'***

*By* [*Art Moore*](https://www.wnd.com/author/amoorewnd-com/) *Published June 7, 2021 at 7:41pm*

In what may turn out to be a harbinger, the 85% Hispanic border town of McAllen, Texas, has elected a Republican mayor.

President Biden won Hidalgo County by nearly 17 points last November, [noted the Legal Insurrection blog](https://legalinsurrection.com/2021/06/mcallen-tx-citizens-flip-mayors-office-by-electing-republican-javier-villalobos/), but Javier Villalobos defeated Veronica Whitacre in the June 5 runoff election.

[Local KVEO-TV reported](https://www.valleycentral.com/news/local-news/javier-villalobos-wins-mcallen-mayor-election/) the Republican garnered 4,744 votes to Whitacre's 4,538 votes, collecting 51.11% of the total.

Republican Texas Gov. Greg Abbott celebrated the win in a Facebook post.

"Javier Villalobos is a proven leader who cares deeply about the people of the Rio Grande Valley. Congratulations on becoming the next Mayor of McAllen!"

Former Trump 2020 campaign adviser Steve Cortes said the win was part of a "macro realignment" in which Hispanics in South Texas are leaving the Democratic Party to align with former President Trump's working-class, populist movement.

"Amazing news! McAllen, Texas is a major border town of 140,000 people. 85% Hispanic — and just elected a Republican mayor," he wrote on Twitter. "The macro realignment accelerates in South Texas, and elsewhere, as Hispanics rally to America First."

During his campaign, [Villalobos declared he was not "afraid to make the tough decisions that have to be made" on illegal immigration](https://texasborderbusiness.com/im-not-afraid-to-make-the-tough-decisions-that-have-to-be-made-javier-villalobos/).Bottom of Form

"It is a federal issue like was before, and that should not be imposed on our municipality," he said.

"We cannot spend our tax dollars to solve a chaos that the federal government is already brewing up."

He clarified that he has nothing "against immigrants; however, I am responsible for McAllen taxpayer’s money."

"It is important to consider the ramifications of the federal government’s actions," he said.

Villalobos said immigration "is not an issue that we deal with for or against. Public safety is and we must always make sure our citizens are safe."

Holy cow... Republicans just flipped the mayorship of McAllen, Texas.

This was not expected and shows Hispanics in South Texas may have shifted with the GOP even post Trump<https://t.co/bFOMpNcNrS>

— Ryan James Girdusky (@RyanGirdusky) [June 6, 2021](https://twitter.com/RyanGirdusky/status/1401350060735176704)

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/4921490/>

**Commentary:**

**Death by Mass Deception***By* [*J.B. Williams*](https://newswithviews.com/author/jbwilliams/)*|June 7th, 2021* For almost 40-years now, I have spent much of my life in research, trying to make some sense of a world that rarely makes any sense at all. For almost 30-years, I have written and published more than 3000 public essays and columns on my findings, most of them pertaining to political events in the historical cycle of freedom into bondage – bondage back to freedom and again and again, from freedom back into bondage…although, usually writing in secular terms for a largely secular audience, that is aimlessly grasping at straws.  
 After all this time and effort, the overall picture is finally coming into focus. It all boils down to the never ending battle between good and evil…and a struggle by men seeking ultimate dominion over mankind, in a world that in the end, will be ruled by the Creator of all things.  
 To be clear on a personal note, my research has guided me to a place where I am an adherent to no man-made doctrines. I call myself a Christian because I believe in the historical accounts of the life, times, and teachings of Jesus Christ, as portrayed in Bible scripture alone, working from original text. I do not belong to any man-made sect of the modern Christian church, as I believe that over many centuries, they too have been deceived. As a result, I believe that they are now intentionally or unwittingly, deceiving many others as well.  
**YOU must now choose what YOU believe…**  
 Who will you serve?  
 There are quite literally millions of examples of the mass deception we live in on this earth, the many examples spanning thousands of years, well beyond enumeration or limits of time. For many years, I have written about these things, often accurately predicting future political events well in advance, not because I am a modern day prophet of God, or a psychic, but because history never changes its pattern, and people seldom change their patterns either.  
 In recent days, as I have worked with others at TNALC to uncover and expose all of the deceptions related to the 2020 elections, the current Marxist regime in D.C., all of the traitors that made that possible – in search of a way for the American people to save themselves and their nation, before the enemies of freedom sink that ship.  
 In that process, it became glaringly obvious to me, why our country and way of life is on life support, with almost no hope of avoiding death. In that, it is also obvious what We the People must do about it, or we will all suffer a brutal death at the hands of evil which now grips our nation and most of the world.  
**The Problem and the Solution are one in the same…**  
 I am a lifelong Christian, originally raised Catholic, then changing to protestant, then non-denominational and now, unaffiliated with any man-made religious doctrine. Today, my faith is based entirely upon the earliest Bible text I can access and nothing else. Yes, this has become a critical part of my research and findings as it is the only truth I have found after many years of research, keeping in mind that truth is “self-evident.” *(something that is self-evidence is evidenced by itself, by its very existence)* Everything else is a deception…  
 The fact is this…people have lived in a sea of mass deceptions for literally thousands of years, and most are totally unaware. These deceptions can be found literally everywhere in life, throughout known history. These deceptions are all rooted in pure evil, but are perpetrated by mankind, sometimes with knowledge of their lies, other times without knowing that they are simply advancing lies they were born into.  
**ONLY The Truth can Set us Free**  
 It is completely irrelevant whether someone likes the truth or not, beyond the reality that most people will reject truths simply because they don’t like the truth. It’s also irrelevant whether someone advances these lies with clear knowledge and intent, or by mere ignorance of truth. The end result is the same, a mass deception of the people and death by that deception. *“The road to hell is often paved with good intentions.”*  
**TRUTH #1 – In the USA**  
 The Founders of the USA specifically founded our nation not upon the laws of man, but rather upon “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God.” This truth is affirmed (self-evident) by these words found in the opening preamble of our Declaration of Independence as a free people and a free sovereign nation.  
 Our Founders did this for two spoken, but also somewhat obvious reasons. A) Because the original settlers of the new world were Christians responsible for the first founding document of the new world, the Mayflower Compact. B) Because our Founders knew from history and without any doubt, that man and the laws of man could never be trusted with the dominion of man over men.  
 Therefore, unlike any other nations on earth, the United States of America was born under the Laws of God with certain inalienable Rights *(meaning Rights beyond the authority of men)*, among them, Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. No matter one’s chosen faith, be it one of numerous religious doctrines, or faith that no God even exists, ALL men are still Created equal with the same set of inalienable Rights, according to the Founding of our country. The atheist and agnostic possess the exact same inalienable Rights as anyone who holds faith in any religious doctrine. The Laws of Nature protect ALL.  
**TRUTH #2 – Only two types of Law**  
 There are only two types of Law anywhere on earth. A) The Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God; and B) The Laws of Man. Although the Laws of Man have taken many forms around the globe over centuries, they are all designed for the same purpose…to grant men supreme dominion over mankind.  
 The Laws of Nature’s God number only Ten, the Ten Commandments passed down through Moses on Mt. Sinai in the Biblical accounts of history, known to all religions and true historians the world over. But the laws of Man number in the thousands or even millions, worldwide. Man’s attempts to rule over all men are the result of two factors, a) man’s inability to keep the Laws of Nature; and b) man’s desire to rule over men. All who refuse to be ruled by God, will be ruled by men…  
**TRUTH #3 – Mans Laws are Evil in Nature**  
 In order for any person to follow and abide by man’s many laws, it will require them to violate the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God. In choosing which set of laws we will live under…we are choosing which God we will serve and worship.  
 No man can serve two masters. Man must choose to either serve the God of Nature by keeping his laws, or serve the God of Man, by keeping those laws. No man will be able to do both.  
 The purpose of man’s laws is to make a God of men. By turning the people away from God and God’s Laws, rejecting the dominion of God and the inalienable Rights endowed by our Creator, all mankind will live under the laws of men seeking supreme dominion over all mankind.  
 This has gone on since the beginning of recorded time and it is the reason why entire past civilizations were wiped from the face of the earth once they had chosen to no longer live under the Laws of our Creator.  
**TRUTH #4 – Science is not an Exact Science**  
 Throughout human history, men have tried to eliminate the Laws of Nature and Nature’s God, often through man-made religious doctrines, false history and certainly, the God of Science. Secular scientists have spent centuries worshipping their own works, all of it aimed at elevating themselves to God-like status, by attempting to prove that no God exists and that we came to be through mere theories of happenstance and evolution.  
 The truth is…it requires far more faith to believe in nothing, than to believe in what has been known for thousands of years. But this never has and never will stop men from seeking supreme dominion over mankind by trying to disprove things easily proven to be true.  
 As evidenced in the past year of global COVID19 lies, science is wrong most of the time. Those who trust that science, will serve man, not God. Science itself, only serves men seeking dominion over mankind.  
**TRUTH #5 – The U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights**  
 The document written and adopted in 1787 to form our system of self-governance, of, by and for the people, is again, not based in man’s laws. It is not a document designed to enumerate or even protect the Natural Rights of all Citizens, as those Rights were endowed by our Creator.  
 Instead, this document merely forms a system under which the American people are free to govern themselves, with the limited exception of certain enumerated duties assigned by them to their government. The government must then act on behalf of and in accordance with, the will of the people, in servitude to the people at large, or it has violated the pact with the people and is no longer legitimate.  
 The U.S. Bill of Rights is also not an enumeration of the Natural Rights of the people. Instead, it is a more specific enumeration of certain Rights of the people which can never be touched, altered, or abolished by any governmental body. The Natural Rights of the people are so vast that they could never be enumerated. That which God has given, no man has any authority to take.  
**TRUTH #6 – A Time of Choosing**  
 More than at any time in the 245-year history of the United States, Citizens are able to plainly see the evil of men as the new administration rushes to seize total control over all men and all things. We can clearly see the “new norm” of an increasing number of Citizens worshipping men, man’s laws, and the promise of man’s total political dominion over all mankind.  
 This they call *progressive socialism*, which is merely a steppingstone to *totalitarianism*, the complete control of evil over all men and all things. This, they sell to the unwitting, as a “greater common good.”  
 We are not allowed to see this for no reason. We are allowed to see these things so that we will know that we have arrived at a time of choosing. We are able to see these things, so that we may choose.  
 The choice is not to serve democrats or republicans – socialists, or conservatives. The choice is to serve The Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God, which will protect all from the evil of men… or to serve the Laws of Man, which will require every man, woman, and child, to forsake and violate the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God.  
 The problem is human nature. Before anyone can know truth, they must first be a truth seeker, and most people are not truth seekers at all. Most are in fact, creatures of habit and customs. It’s part of the human condition for people to cling to what they think they know…that which they find comfort in, and not question any of it, for it may turn their entire world upside down.  
 In modern times, people are creators of their own truths. Many will do anything to avoid truths that make them uncomfortable. Most will choose or create their own truth in the pattern of their innermost desires, facts having nothing whatsoever to do with it.  
 As a result, many will indeed reject these truths and choose poorly, as we have seen many times in history and the price of this choice will be death, just as it has always been.  
 My hopes and prayers are that many will openly research and accept these truths and choose wisely, giving ourselves and our children a chance at life, here and forever. It’s not my job to tell anyone what to think or believe. It’s only my job to present the truth, giving truth seekers a pathway to the truth.  
 For those who have been deceived and believe that God’s Laws no longer apply today… I encourage you to read your scripture, both Old and New, and learn that we will either serve these laws, or the laws of man. *(see note below)*  
 Men who make this choice correctly, will likely make every choice in life right. Those who do not, can be trusted to make no decisions at all.  
**The time of choosing has arrived… Choose wisely**  
 **NOTE:** *Contrary to contemporary thinking, research is not Google searching a topic in the hunt for a post that buttresses your current beliefs, and then quoting that post as an expert on the topic to prove your case. Real research requires an honest effort to find the truth, no matter how uncomfortable the truth might be.*  
 *Unfortunately, researching scripture today must begin with searching for “original text” or something as close as we can find to it. There are more than 2000 versions of the Christian Bible now, which begs the questions, what was changed, who changed it and why was it changed? In the end, are we studying true scripture, or false scripture from a version altered to advance the agenda of someone seeking dominion over mankind, yet again?*  
 *The easiest FAST test as to whether or not you are working close to original Bible text is to check the text of the Ten Commandments. If it says “Thou shalt not KILL” then your Bible is NOT reliable. Original text is “Thou Shalt Not Murder.” How do we know and why is this important?*  
 *The word “kill” refers to the taking of another’s life, for any reason at all, be it just or unjust. Using this word protects evil and criminals from the consequences of their actions. The word “murder” refers to the “unjust taking of an innocent.” This protects the innocent, but not the guilty.*  
 *How do we know that “murder” was the in original text?*   
 *Because God never violates his own laws. Yet, throughout Biblical history, God ordered his people to war, to “kill,” in the name of God. He could not have done this, without violating his own law. God also “killed” entire civilizations on more than one occasion. But they were not “innocents.”*  
 *If your Bible uses the word “kill,” then many original texts in your Bible have been altered or erased and your Bible is NOT “the word of God.” It’s the word of Man…* <https://newswithviews.com/death-by-mass-deception/>

**Does Biden Executive Order Announce All-Out Lockdown of Political Opposition?**

*By* [*Tom DeWeese*](https://newswithviews.com/author/tom/)*|June 7th, 2021*

It has been barely noticed, but on April 15th Joe Biden signed a very questionable and possibly unconstitutional executive order, titled “*Executive Order on Blocking Property with Respect to Specified Harmful Foreign Activities of the government of the Russian Federation.”* The official position for the EO is to be emergency sanctions against Russia and its “harmful foreign activities.” In particular, those specified harmful foreign activities by Russian include intervention in our election process.  
 The main body of the EO directly details punishment for anyone deemed to be acting as agents for the Russian Federation operating in this country. And how are these “agents” to be found guilty of such nefarious behavior? That will be “Determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, and … in consultation with the Attorney General.”  
 And what are to be the actions that will get such an agent to be found guilty by this tribunal? Well, Parts B and C of the Executive Order make it very specific. Part B says “*Interference in a United States or other foreign government election*.” Part C says explicitly, “*actions or policies that undermine democratic process or institutions in the United States or abroad*.” The purpose of these statements cannot be ignored. Interference can mean you are guilty of election interference if your political speech promotes anything positive regarding the Russian Federation. And to do so could deem you a Russian agent. Part C indicates that it could be a crime to criticize election fraud.  
 Now, does that not sound exactly like the news reports we have been hearing daily from mainstream media? Russian agents are the ones who hacked the election, we are told. They are guilty of perpetrating fraud. And notice how even the Republican Party leadership refuses to talk about the fraud. Moreover, Donald Trump colluded with the Russians, say the Democrat impeachment charges, starting in 2016.  
 It gets worse. The punishment for anyone found guilty of such actions are severe. Once the Biden-appointed tribunal determines that you are a dangerous Russian agent in any manner, all property is confiscated, it becomes illegal for others to provide you with legal representation, sell food to you, provide medical care, or even assist in hosting your website. You become known as a “Deprived Person” and any assistance to you becomes prohibited. Anyone who does attempts to assist you then shares your guilt as a Russian agent and is subjected to all of the same confiscations of property and prohibitions of services. In fact, if you are a leader, senior executive officer, or member of a board of directors of an entity determined to be Russian agents, then you could also find yourself facing the same punishments.  
 Section 4 prohibits transactions that “cause a violation” of this EO, *even absent of intentionality*. This is a warning to anyone to immediately cut ties with any person or entity that is targeted by the Biden regime. Those determined to be “Deprived Persons” become political pariahs that should be avoided at all costs. Even their relatives are not safe from guilt by association. A clear violation of the Constitution and the legal premise of “Innocent until proven guilty.”  
 Do you doubt the seriousness of the Democrats intentions to stop all opposition to their drive to reorganize American society? Then consider these details. Several people who attended the January 6th Anti-fraud rally in Washington, D.C., that has been labeled an insurrection, are being deprived of their Constitutional rights. More than 300 have been arrested and charged with rioting have been released while they await trial. However, several dozen of them are blocked from flying on commercial airlines, and *some cannot even live in their own homes.*   
 Many more are still in custody and have been placed in “restrictive housing.” While detained, they are isolated for up to 23 hours a day, yet have not been convicted of any crime. Moreover, there are reports that, as they are unlawfully imprisoned, they are being beaten, tortured, and treated like terrorists. In fact, reports on their treatment is so bad that even Democrat leftist Senator Elizabeth Warren is speaking out against the cruelty. Warren says she worries that law enforcement officials are out to “punish” those detained, or “break them so they will cooperate.” When a Democrat, and especially Warren, is saying that, you know that it  is egregious.  
 One more outrageous event has drawn some attention that could be directly connected to the Biden EO.  The early morning FBI raid on the home and office of Trump attorney Rudolph Giuliani came just days after the EO was issued. Was it the opening salvo for a complete expungement of conservative opposition as called for in the Executive Order?  
 We have experienced the massive censorship by the global social media companies, blocking anyone who attempts to post election fraud details. Banks and credit card companies have deprived conservative organizations from using their services, claiming they are engaged in illegal activity if they oppose the “progressive” agenda. Now we find this EO putting in concrete the premise that the Russians are guilty of interfering in our elections, and any U.S. citizen who also opposes Democrats could be found guilty of helping the Russians.  
 In Congress, the Democrats are rushing to pass their election overhaul bill (SR1) in the Senate, which will legalize all of the voter fraud tactics used in the last election. It now seems obvious that the Biden EO is intended as a partner to that bill in a systematic drive to silence all opposition to their tyranny. <https://newswithviews.com/does-biden-executive-order-announce-all-out-lockdown-of-political-opposition/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Edelstein: Netanyahu needs to be replaced, I'll run against him**

***Health Minister has reportedly informed senior Likud members that he intends to run for the party leadership.***

*Ben Ariel , Jun 08 , 2021 3:59 AM*



***Yuli Edelstein Moshe Biton***

Health Minister Yuli Edelstein has informed senior Likud members that he intends to run for the party leadership against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Kan 11 News reported on Monday.

According to the report, Edelstein said in closed conversations that "Netanyahu needs to be replaced." He has also met in recent days with prominent activists in the party and asked for their support.

Edelstein's name has more than once surfaced as a future presidential candidate, but now he seems to be changing direction.

The Health Minister's Office said, "The common task of all of us is to thwart the government that relies on the voices of the Islamic Movement. The Minister of Health tends to update the public with his own voice and not through anonymous sources regarding significant decisions."

In May, *Kan 11 News* published that Finance Minister Yisrael Katz had submitted a proposal, according to which Netanyahu would allow the Likud Central Committee to elect a temporary candidate to serve as Prime Minister for a year.

The Finance Minister's proposal, which was presented as a solution to Netanyahu's inability to form a government, received much criticism within the Likud and was dropped.<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307666>

**Bennett-Lapid government to be sworn in next Sunday**

***Knesset Speaker sets date for inauguration of new government. MK Nir Orbach vows to back gov't, ensuring it a majority.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Jun 08 , 2021 10:31 AM | updated: 11:37 AM*

The national unity government headed by Naftali Bennett (Yamina) and Yair Lapid (Yesh Atid) will be worn in next Sunday, Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin (Likud) announced Tuesday morning.

While the Change Bloc leadership had hoped to be sworn in as soon as this Wednesday, the formal transition of power will only take place next week, Levin announced.

Levin also announced that a Knesset vote will be held Sunday to elect the Speaker of the 24th Knesset.

“The deliberation on and vote for the formation of the government will be held during a special Knesset session on Sunday, June 13th,” Levin said. “On the same day there will also be a vote to elect the Knesset Speaker of the 24th Knesset.”

Yesh Atid MK Mickey Levy is expected to be elected by the new government as Knesset Speaker.

Shortly after Levin's announcement, Yamina MK Nir Orbach publicly committed to backing the new government, providing the coalition with its 61st seat and ensuring it passes the Knesset vote next Sunday.

"I have decided to end Israel's political stalemate," Orbach wrote Tuesday. "I have decided to vote in favor of the unity government."

"I am treading down this path not with a joyful heart or because I want to - I am treading down this path despite it being uncertain. But the eternal people aren't afraid of a long path - they fear the stalemate." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307684>

**Israel elected for first time to UN Economic and Social Council**

***Ambassador Gilad Erdan: This is an incredible achievement for Israel and comes despite the efforts of Palestinians and their supporters against us.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Jun 08 , 2021 3:15 AM*

Israel was elected for the first time to serve as a member of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on Monday, receiving more than two-thirds of the vote of UN member states. 154 countries showed their support for Israel, which will now have the ability to vote, offer proposals for discussion, start initiatives and more on one of the UN’s three main bodies.

“Choosing Israel to serve on ECOSOC is a recognition of our innovation and creativity, which serves to benefit all nations of the world, as well as evidence of our diplomatic efforts throughout the international community,” said Israel’s Ambassador to the UN, Gilad Erdan, following the vote. “I will continue to lead the State of Israel to further achievements and to expand cooperation efforts at the UN, despite efforts by the Palestinians and their supporters.”

ECOSOC, which, along with the Security Council and the Human Rights Council, is one of the UN's three main bodies. It numbers only 54 members (out of 193 UN member states) and deals with all economic, development and environmental issues, as well as a variety of humanitarian concerns. ECOSOC is also responsible for approving the action plans of the permanent committees working under it on a variety of issues such as the Committee on the Status of Women, the Statistics Committee, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, the Committee on Drugs, the Population and Development Committee, the Forestry Forum and more. Countries are nominated as part of regional blocs, with Israel's candidacy coming on behalf of the Group of Western European and Other Countries (WEOG).

Israel’s success at ECOSOC comes after a year of accomplishments at the UN, including the election of an Israeli diplomat to serve as deputy chair of the Judiciary Committee (one of six permanent UN Committees), Israeli Odelia Fitoussi winning the support of 109 countries, including some Arab states, to serve on UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and an unprecedented 144 countries voting to adopt an Israeli resolution encouraging entrepreneurship and innovation. MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307665>

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**06/07/2021 NEWS AM**

**Avraham Fried - Abba - English subtitles**

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

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| **"We shall have World Government, whether or not we like it. The only question is whether World Government will be achieved by conquest or consent." -- James Paul Warburg (1896-1969) son of Paul Moritz Warburg, nephew of Felix Warburg and of Jacob Schiff, both of Kuhn, Loeb & Co. which poured millions into the Russian Revolution through James' brother Max, banker to the German government, Chairman of the CFR** |

**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 West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for DH – Mother going into hospice.**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  NOTE: Our prayer list was getting very long and there will little follow up.  If you have people you want to have on the list please resubmit since we are revising it now– rdb]  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 30:41And it happened that whenever the strong flocks conceived, Jacob placed the rods before the eyes of the flocks, before the troughs, that they might conceive by the rods. 42And the flocks being feeble, he did not set *them*. And usually it happened that the weak *were* for Laban, and the strong for Jacob. 43And the man increased very much, and many flocks *were* his, and slave-girls, and male slaves, and camels and asses.**

**Bennett to Netanyahu: Let Israel go, don’t leave ‘scorched earth’**

***In speech, PM-designate decries premier’s tactics in pressuring rightist MKs to oppose change government, urges Knesset speaker to call vote on coalition this week***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:24 pm*

*[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/F210606YS113-e1623014103711.jpg)*

***Yamina leader and Prime Minister-designate Naftali Bennett speaks at the Knesset, June 6, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/ Flash90)***

At a press conference Sunday evening, the change bloc’s Prime Minister-designate Naftali Bennett urged the Knesset speaker to convene the plenum on Wednesday to vote on the new government, while appealing for calmer discourse and beseeching Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to “let go” and not leave “scorched earth” behind him.

Bennett’s statement came after the leaders of the eight parties that make up the new prospective government met in Tel Aviv for the first time since last week’s announcement that they had succeeded in forming a coalition.

Amid alarmist discourse in some right-wing circles, rising incitement on social media, angry protests outside politicians’ homes, and even allegations of treason against Bennett and his allies, the Yamina party chief said to the cameras that the new government “is not a catastrophe, it’s not a disaster, [it’s] a change of government: a normal and obvious event in any democratic country.”

Taking a shot at Netanyahu, Bennett said, “Look, Israel’s regime is not monarchic. No one has a monopoly over power. Naturally, any regime that atrophies and degenerates after many years is replaced.”

While Bennett stressed that criticism of him and his allies was legitimate, he decried the “violent machine” he said had been activated against members of Yamina and Gideon Sa’ar’s New Hope to pressure them to oppose the new coalition through “a funded and directed operation.”



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks during a ceremony to honor medical workers and hospitals for their fight against the COVID-19 epidemic, in Jerusalem, on June 6, 2021. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

He said he had heard Netanyahu telling supporters: “Don’t be afraid to lay into them.”

“‘Laying into them’ includes following [Yamina MK] Idit Silman with a car for a whole day with loudspeakers blaring, to scare her children on the way to school… to issue curses and threats every which way,” Bennett said, calling such tactics “worrying.”

He appealed to Netanyahu to “let go. Let the country move forward. People are allowed to vote for a government even if you do not lead it — a government that, by the way, is 10 degrees to the right of the current one.

“Don’t leave scorched earth in your wake. We want to remember the good, the great deal of good you did during your service [as prime minister], and not, God forbid, a negative atmosphere you would leave upon your departure.”

Bennett urged Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin not to delay the vote on the new government until next week, but rather schedule it for Wednesday.

“That’s what’s appropriate,” he said. “I know Netanyahu is pressing you… to allow more days to search for defectors… It might be in Netanyahu’s interest… [but] it’s not in the interest of the state.

“Yariv, you swore allegiance to the state, and not to a particular person,” he said.

Bennett accused Netanyahu of telling multiple lies about the prospective government, including that it had capitulated to the Islamist Ra’am party on governance in the Negev, that Netanyahu himself had never intended to rely on Ra’am for his own coalition, and that Bennett would be leading a left-wing government.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/WhatsApp-Image-2021-06-06-at-18.39.29.jpeg)

(L-R) Yisrael Beytenu leader Avigdor Liberman, Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid, Yamina chair Naftali Bennett, New Hope chair Gideon Sa’ar, Blue and White head Benny Gantz, Ra’am chair Mansour Abbas, Labor head Merav Michaeli and Meretz leader Nitzan Horowitz at a meeting of the heads of the would-be-coalition in Tel Aviv, June 6, 2021. (Ra’anan Cohen)

Bennett asserted that as he himself had been involved in Likud’s efforts to form a government, he knew that Netanyahu had indeed sought to rely on Ra’am. In the Negev, he said, it was Netanyahu who had let armed Bedouin gangs run rampant over the past decade. Meanwhile, he stressed that his coalition was mostly built of the center-right.

Netanyahu, speaking to the right-wing Channel 20 after Bennett’s comments, called him “a habitual liar.” He said the emergent government was “more dangerous than the [2005 Gaza] Disengagement and Oslo [Accords].”

He accused Bennett of engaging in “a liquidation sale of the country.”

He also asserted that “We didn’t want Ra’am with us at any stage,” calling the Arab party “terror supporters.” And he once again claimed Bennett had given Ra’am chief Mansour Abbas concessions “we would never have given.” [Bibi was ‘courting’ the arab community during his campaign – anything for a vote. He did have talks with Ra’am’s leader Abbas and considered getting him to help make a coalition. That was all reported several weeks ago. Who is telling lies? Bibi!! These are the tactics of desperate people. - rdb]

 Meanwhile, Haaretz reported that at a family event of Shas party chair Aryeh Deri a week ago, the prime minister, noting that he had once been compared to the biblical Moses, asked: “And how did God take care of Moses’s opposition?”

(L-R) Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid, Yamina chair Naftali Bennett and New Hope head Gideon Sa’ar at a meeting of the heads of the would-be-coalition in Tel Aviv, June 6, 2021. (Ra’anan Cohen)

Netanyahu then reportedly went on to quote from the Book of Numbers, chapter 16: “And the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, and their households.”

On Sunday, Yamina MKs Silman and Nir Orbach of Yamina were granted extra security protection, after being targeted by activists aiming to pressure them against backing the emerging coalition deal.

At least four of the seven Yamina lawmakers in the Knesset have now been given additional protection amid threats directed at them over the party joining up with MK Yair Lapid and his Yesh Atid party to form the so-called “change government.”

Bennett and Yamina No. 2 Ayelet Shaked had their security beefed up last week.

Supporters of the potential incoming government have faced intense protests and threats over the past week. A Knesset vote on the coalition is slated to be held on June 9 or June 14.



Protestors outside the home of Yamina MK Nir Orbach in Petah Tikva on June 3, 2021. (Avshalom Sassoni/ FLASH90)

Meanwhile, Orbach, who has been seen as a key swing vote on the coalition, has seen protests outside his home in Petah Tikva.

The lawmaker has drawn attention because he had said that he might resign from the Knesset, rather than back the change government, but his replacement would be a Yamina party member who has already declared full support for the coalition.

Orbach is now widely expected to back the new coalition.

Shin Bet leader Nadav Argaman issued a rare warning Saturday night that rising incitement on the right could lead to political violence. “This discourse may be interpreted among certain groups or individuals as one that allows violent and illegal activity and could even lead to harm to individuals,” he said.

At the same time, a range of prominent national religious rabbis spoke out against the nascent government, and [urged their followers to “do everything” to oppose it](https://www.timesofisrael.com/top-rabbis-urge-followers-to-do-everything-to-thwart-new-government/). Two of the signatories later denied that the rabbis’ public call could be interpreted as incitement to violence. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/bennett-to-netanyahu-let-israel-go-dont-leave-scorched-earth/> [the orthodox group will almost assuredly get a great deal of their funding cut and or face huge pressures on military service for their thousands of students, some of whom are students for ages. – rdb]

**Likud MK says Bennett, Sa’ar like ‘suicide bombers’ facing ‘death sentence’**

***While acknowledging ‘world of difference,’ May Golan says PM-designate and his partner in the emerging new government are ‘like terrorists who don’t believe in anything anymore’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 8:28 pm*

A day after the head of the Shin Bet security service urged politicians to express themselves responsibly and avoid radicalized discourse amid rising incitement, Likud MK May Golan on Sunday called the right-wing leaders of the so-called change bloc “suicide bombers.”

Golan used the phrase repeatedly during an interview with the Knesset Channel, doubling down on her assertion as the two anchors urged her to retract it, while qualifying the statement by saying there was still a “world of difference” between the two politicians and jihadist terrorists.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/vsadvdsavasv.jpg) “The most dangerous thing about public leaders is people who have nowhere to go back to, and [prime minister-designate] Naftali Bennett and Gideon Sa’ar have no place to go back to,” Golan said, in reference to the perception that the heads of Yamina and New Hope, respectively, have plummeted in popularity since allying with the center-left to oust Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu from power. She said that “while there is a world of difference, I would compare them to suicide bombers.”

***Likud MK May Golan on the Knesset Channel, June 6, 2021. (video screenshot)***

Asked by the anchor if she was not going too far, Golan replied, “No, and I’ll tell you why… They’re like terrorists who don’t believe in anything anymore, who go out on their suicide mission, and even if they know it’s their death sentence, they don’t care because they’re Shiites.”

Golan was apparently referring to a political death sentence, but did not clarify the matter. [Obviously this woman is a ideologue who is of the opinion that her way and her party is the only way for the Holy Land. It is much like any other ideologue who doesn’t really recognize the rights of other people nor their opinion – My way or the Highway. This is very much the same situation in the USA today. – rdb]

The anchors repeatedly suggested that Golan take back her statement, but she refused. Mentioning the biblical Samson, Golan said the two had decided “to die with the Philistines,” an expression for a person committing suicide to destroy one’s enemies.

When an anchor pointed out the potentially dire consequences of her accusations — “suicide bombers are hit with targeted assassinations” — Golan responded: “No, we can’t always do a targeted assassination.”

Repeating her use of the phrase “suicide bombers,” Golan added: “I will not take back these words.”

**Watch the interview (Hebrew) here:**

"מחבלים מתאבדים" – זו ההשוואה שבחרה [@GolanMay](https://twitter.com/GolanMay?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) לתיאור מהלכיהם של [@naftalibennett](https://twitter.com/naftalibennett?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) ו-[@gidonsaar](https://twitter.com/gidonsaar?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw): "להבדיל אלף אלפי הבדלות, הם כמו מחבלים שלא מאמינים יותר בכלום, יוצאים למשימת התאבדות, וגם אם הם יודעים שיש להם גזר דין מוות, זה לא מעניין אותם" [pic.twitter.com/dBCw6x33yu](https://t.co/dBCw6x33yu)

— ערוץ כנסת (@KnessetT) [June 6, 2021](https://twitter.com/KnessetT/status/1401555034828070913?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

On Saturday, Shin Bet chief Nadav Argaman issued a rare warning against rising incitement and hate speech on social media, and the danger that it will spark political violence, as the coalition that aims to oust Netanyahu appeared increasingly likely to be sworn in.

“We have recently identified a serious rise and radicalization in violent and inciting discourse, specifically on social media,” Argaman said, warning that such online speech could lead some groups or individuals to take violent action and even harm others.

“This discourse may be interpreted among certain groups or individuals as one that allows violent and illegal activity and could even lead to harm to individuals,” he said.



Shin Bet chief Nadav Argaman, at a press conference after the Gaza ceasefire, May 21, 2021. (Screenshot)

As the so-called “change government” has become increasingly likely, right-wing social discourse has become increasingly alarmist, with frequent declarations that the government bringing together the right, center, and left could doom Israel and bring about dark times; angry protests outside politicians homes; the burning of political posters; and allegations of treason issued via traditional and social media.

Prime minister-designate Bennett and his partner at the helm of the right-wing Yamina party, Ayelet Shaked, have come under intense attacks from others on the right for their decision to join the so-called “change government,” and have had their security increased due to the potential threats to their safety. Netanyahu has [declared](https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-swipes-at-yamina-woos-saar-in-bid-to-pry-right-wingers-from-lapid/) that the new government endangers the Land of Israel, the State of Israel, and the Israel Defense Forces.

Argaman said politicians, public opinion leaders, religious figures, and educators across the political spectrum must speak clearly against any violence.

“It is our duty to come out with a clear and decisive call for an immediate cessation of the inciting and violent speech. The responsibility for restraining the discourse rests on the shoulders of us all,” he added.

Channel 13 reported that the security establishment is concerned at the possibility of “physical harm” to Bennett and members of his party, “religious Zionists who are facing… calls for physical violence against them.”

An unnamed security official told the TV station: “We are familiar with this: Somebody will read this [material castigating the planned new government] and will think that he has to ‘save the country’ — that if the change government is established, the Zionist project will be over — and will take action.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/amid-shin-bet-warnings-likud-mk-compares-bennett-saar-to-suicide-bombers/> [What Likud is doing is no different than what the leftists did 5 years ago when The Donald was elected and they simply couldn’t conceive or accept the fact. – rdb]

**Study finds 1 in 3 young teens had COVID, fueling debate over need for vaccine**

***Government launches campaign for minors as planned, though immunity from illness more widespread among them than previously believed***

*By* [*Nathan Jeffay*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/nathan-jeffay/) *Today, 5:55 pm*

Nearly one-third of young Israelis who became eligible for COVID vaccines today have already had the virus, new data has indicated, raising questions about the necessity of the additional vaccination campaign.

Some 21 percent of under-17s had antibodies for the virus, according to the results of a Health Ministry survey seen by The Times of Israel on Sunday. Among 12 to 15-year-olds, who became eligible for vaccines on Sunday, some 30% of those sampled tested positive for antibodies.

“It’s a higher number than we expected, and we understand from this that widespread immunity among kids has been supporting Israel’s wider herd immunity,” Dr. Arnon Afek, deputy-director of Sheba Medical Center and an adviser to the coronavirus czar, told The Times of Israel. [there are a number of articles out indicating that those who have had the disease should not take the JAB because there are questions of increased harmful effects if they do. – rdb]

According to another expert, Prof. Mordechai Gerlic from Tel Aviv University’s Center for Combating Pandemics, the data “suggests that there’s some type of herd immunity among young people, at least right now, which partly explains why there are hardly any outbreaks among schoolchildren despite school studies having resumed weeks ago.” [Children may with some frequency get the disease from the virus and never even know it. – rdb]

 Children, ineligible for vaccines until this week, have been seen as the Achilles heel of Israel’s COVID protection. [That is purely hypothetical and probably not really true. Kids don’t get very sick from the virus and from previous reports rarely actually significant spreaders of the problem. – rdb] Regardless of the new data, the government still sees vaccinating them as important, and launched inoculations for minors as planned. But Gerlic thinks that the new data, which indicates many are already immune, should prompt a policy rethink.

“This supports the idea we don’t need to rush to vaccinate kids,” he said, noting that high vaccination rates among adults have brought coronavirus spread to an all-time low, and that the vaccine has only been approved on an emergency-use basis.

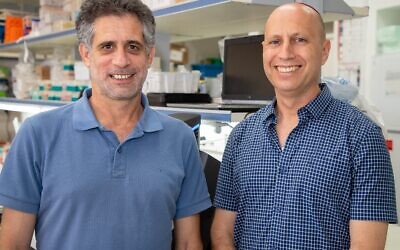
“I don’t think we need to go and vaccinate our kids right now,” Gerlic added.

Prof. Arnon Afek of Sheba Medical Center (Shai Pereg)

Afek strongly disagreed, saying that Israelis need to recognize that the pandemic is still in full swing internationally, and should continue taking steps to protect their children from infection.

The data was drawn from serological tests for 2,700 children collected and collated by the Health Ministry between January and March. It suggests that the number of children who caught COVID is far higher than the number confirmed positive by swab tests.

Blood samples were taken from populations across a wide geographical, ethnic and socioeconomic background, the Health Ministry stressed in correspondence with The Times of Israel. “The rates were higher in children of low socioeconomic status, and from the Jerusalem and Tel Aviv districts,” the ministry noted.



Mordechai Gerlic (left) with his colleague Ariel Munitz from Tel Aviv University’s TAU Center for Combatting Pandemics (courtesy of Tel Aviv University)

“Now we are not in an emergency situation in Israel, and we should not act as if we are,” Gerlic said, adding that the country now has the luxury of allowing more time to fully understand any possible vaccine side effects, including myocarditis.

The Health Ministry found a probable link between the Pfizer-BioNtech vaccine, the main shot Israel is using to vaccinate its population, and cases of myocarditis. It focused on 275 cases of myocarditis that were reported between December 2020 and May 2021, among more than 5 million vaccinated people.

But Afek said that people should be clear that the dangers of the coronavirus far outweigh side effect worries, and argued: “It’s a parental choice, but there is still a very clear rationale for children taking the vaccine.” [That is absolutely a lie. The dangers of the virus for kids is miniscule. – rdb]

He said the state is right to apply less pressure for the vaccination of children than it did with adults, but that putting vaccine plans on hold would be going too far.

“I believe we should vaccinate the children because the epidemic in the entire world is still ongoing, we might have more vaccine-resistant variants coming to Israel, because children have immuno-compromised relatives whom they can harm if infected, and also because some children might get sick and also have complications from the coronavirus,” Afek said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/study-finds-1-in-3-young-teens-had-covid-fueling-debate-over-need-for-vaccine/> [I am absolutely appalled at the worldwide medical profession who have done nothing more than parrot a bunch of false information from WHO and NIH/CDC with false statistics which have often hidden the truth of the hazards of the JAB and the real statistics from the disease which is little worse than a bad yearly flu when you actually evaluate them. – rdb]

**Entering position, new IDF spokesman vows to remain truthful**

***Head of Operations defends military’s actions in Gaza, says it called off missiles in mid-air due to concerns over casualties***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 10:24 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/WhatsApp_Image_2021-06-06_at_18.48.59_1.jpg)

***From left, incoming IDF Spokesperson Ran Kochav, head of IDF Operations Aharon Haliva, outgoing IDF Spokesperson Hidai Zilberman salute during a ceremony at the IDF Spokesperson's Unit's headquarters in northern Tel Aviv on June 6, 2021. (Israel Defense Forces)***

The former head of Israel’s air defenses Brig. Gen. Ran Kochav took over as military spokesperson on Sunday evening, replacing Brig. Gen. Hidai Zilberman, who will soon travel to Washington, DC, to become the next defense attaché to the United States.

The switch took place at the Israel Defense Forces Spokesperson’s Unit headquarters in north Tel Aviv, at a ceremony overseen by the outgoing head of IDF Operations, Maj. Gen. Aharon Haliva, who was himself scheduled to be replaced in his position shortly, as he moves to take over as head of Military Intelligence.

In their speeches, Haliva and Kochav touted the importance of truthfulness for military spokespeople, as well as the achievements of the IDF during last month’s 11-day battle with terror groups in the Gaza Strip, known as Operation Guardian of the Walls. The IDF Spokesperson’s Unit is facing ongoing allegations that it misled journalists during the conflict by telling reporters the military was launching a ground invasion when it was not, as part of an elaborate ruse meant to trick Hamas into sending its fighters into harm’s way.

 “The basis of our actions is and will always be the truth. The IDF is a reliable, responsible, honest and straightforward source with no replacement. We are solely committed to speaking the truth,” Kochav said in his remarks. “We have the professional responsibility to bring [information] to the public transparently, responsibly, and in light of the security needs of the State of Israel,” he said.

Incoming IDF Spokesperson Ran Kochav speaks during a ceremony at the IDF Spokesperson’s Unit’s headquarters in northern Tel Aviv on June 6, 2021. (Israel Defense Forces)

Haliva recalled the first IDF spokesperson, Moshe Perlman, who was forced to explain the military’s decision to shoot down five British planes during the Independence War after they entered Israeli airspace.

“Perlman, who set the foundational principle that while the IDF spokesperson may not release all of the information, it can never say anything that is untrue, was not lazy. He rented a taxi and took journalists with him in order to hear about the aerial battle that the Royal Air Force had with the Israeli Air Force from a primary source: the British pilot who was taken captive after he landed in Israeli territory,” Haliva said.

In his remarks, Haliva, who oversaw many aspects of the fighting in Gaza last month, defended the IDF’s actions in the enclave last month, saying it strived to avoid Palestinian civilian casualties.

“I can tell you now: The IDF during Operation Guardian of the Walls fired five costly missiles, of the most advanced variety we have. While they were in the air, new, up-to-date intelligence came in and it became unclear if uninvolved people were at the target. We decided to divert the munitions from their target, into the sea. We called off the strike at the last second. This was one case. There were many others like it,” Haliva said.



Incoming IDF Spokesperson Brig. Gen. Hidai Zilberman speaks at a ceremony in which he took over for outgoing spokesman Brig. Gen. Ronen Manelis on September 15, 2019. (Israel Defense Forces)

Zilberman was due to move to the US in the coming months to take over for the current Israeli defense attaché, Maj. Gen. Yehuda Fuchs, who will become the next head of the IDF Central Command.

Zilberman has served as IDF spokesperson for some two years, entering the position amid controversy, as the initial candidate for the job, Gil Messing, bowed out after it came to light that he had acted as an undercover police agent during a 2015 corruption investigation of the Yisrael Beytenu party.

Concurrently with Zilberman’s tenure, public trust in the military dropped to its lowest level since 2008, according to [a poll by the Israel Democracy Institute](https://www.timesofisrael.com/over-half-of-israelis-believe-democratic-system-is-in-danger-poll/) released earlier this year.

Kochav is the latest in a line of career military officers to command the IDF Spokesperson’s Unit, ending a previously common practice of naming civilians with a deep background in journalism or communications for the role.

Kochav, who is married and has four children, has served in the military since 1989, mostly in the Israeli Air Force’s air defense array. From 2016 to 2018, he served as the commander of the Military Police. Kochav has a bachelor’s degree in communications and business administration from Tel Aviv’s College of Management and master’s degrees from both the US military’s Air Command and Staff College, and Haifa University. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/entering-position-new-idf-spokesman-vows-to-remain-truthful/> [Getting the truth from someone involved in government or career military? Unique idea! – rdb]

**From swords to scalpels: IAI, Soroka hospital to use army tech for medical edge**

***IAI’s subsidiary Elta and Soroka will set up joint innovation center for medical tech where doctors and defense engineers will brainstorm and seek out solutions***

*By* [*Shoshanna Solomon*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/shoshanna-solomon/) *Today, 4:02 pm*

Israel’s Soroka Medical Center in the southern city of Beersheba and a subsidiary of Israel Aerospace Industries, the nation’s largest aerospace and defense company, will be working together to adapt military technologies to the medical field.

IAI’s subsidiary Elta Systems Ltd. and Soroka said Sunday they had signed an agreement to set up an innovation center for the development of medical technologies, by converting developments from the defense and security field to the medical sector.

Elta develops advanced intelligence electronic systems, including radars, sensors, communication systems, cybersecurity and AI-based software. All of this knowledge will now be directed toward the medical field.

The idea behind the joint innovation center is to create an incubator for brainstorming ideas. As part of the incubation process, doctors at the medical center will raise medical and engineering needs, and the aerospace engineers will try to come up with solutions.

 A joint steering committee will then select the most relevant projects that should be advanced at the innovation center.

Elta’s CEO, Yoav Turgeman, left, and Dr. Shlomi Codish, Director Geneal of Soroka Medical Center at the signing of the agreement to set up a joint medical innovation center; June 2021 (IAI)

During the coronavirus pandemic, IAI, Microsoft and Soroka hospital [developed](https://www.timesofisrael.com/iai-microsoft-soroka-hospital-develop-covid-19-monitoring-cockpit/) a COVID-19 monitoring cockpit to supervise patients and collect real-time data about those who were on ventilators, making it easier for medical teams to monitor their progress from afar.

The new medical innovation center will join the cybersecurity and smart- transportation activities that IAI is setting up in Beersheba – initiatives that will help bring new jobs and economic growth to the Negev region, the statement said.

IAI’s VP and Elta’s CEO, Yoav Turgeman, said in the statement that the collaboration will help promote IAI’s efforts “to convert advanced technologies to the civilian field and enable a business path for the implementation of various technologies from the security to medical field” for the development of “unique medical technologies.”

The engineering prowess demonstrated during a global pandemic underlines the potential for the growth of an “entirely new business line for IAI,” he added.

“Innovation is a strategic value for us,” said Dr. Shlomi Codish, director general of Soroka Medical Center, in the statement. The collaboration with IAI will allow the hospital to jointly develop systems that arise from the needs of medical staff, who will bring to the collaboration real-world experiences from the wards, operating rooms and clinics.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/from-swords-to-scalpels-iai-soroka-hospital-to-use-army-tech-for-medical-edge/>

**In first, Israeli F-35s train in Italy — with Iran in their sights**

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/WhatsApp_Image_2021-06-05_at_22.03.11.jpg)***Advanced stealth fighter jets take part in exercise alongside Italian, US, UK pilots in their largest, farthest-away drill yet***

*By* [*Judah Ari Gross*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/judah-ari-gross/) *Today, 2:01 pm*

***Israeli pilots pose for a photograph in front of an F-35 fighter jet ahead of an air force exercise in Italy in June 2021. (Israel Defense Forces)***

Six Israeli F-35 stealth fighters landed in Italy last week to take part in a two-week air exercise in Italy with its air force, alongside those of the United States and United Kingdom, in the largest and farthest drill that the aircraft have taken part in to date, the military said Sunday.

Though the explicit goal of the exercise is to improve the overall capabilities of the F-35 jet, which entered military service in late 2016, a senior Israeli Air Force officer acknowledged that in part, this drill — dubbed Falcon Strike 2021 — was meant to prepare Israeli pilots for using the fighter aircraft against Iranian forces.

“Iran is in our focus,” the senior officer said, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity.

The exercise will be held from June 6 to June 17, but will kick off in earnest on Monday. Though Israeli F-35 jets have taken part in international exercises in the past, this will be the first time that the aircraft will fly alongside F-35 planes from three other countries.

In addition to the F-35 jets from Israel, the US, UK, and Italy, American F-16 fighter aircraft will take part in the exercise, along with one IAF Gulfstream “Eitam” reconnaissance plane, two IAF Boeing “Re’em” refueler jets, an Italian KC767 refueling plane, an Italian KC130J refueling plane, an Italian Gulfstream “Eitam” reconnaissance plane and a British Voyager A330 refueling plane.

Those planes will face off against a fleet of Italian aircraft that will act as a “red team,” simulating an enemy air force, including Eurofighter Typhoons, AMX International fighter jets, Panavia Tornados, Predator drones and Bel Augusta helicopters.

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| An American F-16 fighter jet takes off during air force exercise in Italy in June 2021. (Israel Defense Forces) | An Israeli technician stands in front of an F-35 fighter jet ahead of an air force exercise in Italy in June 2021. (Israel Defense Forces) |

The British aircraft carrier the HMS Queen Elizabeth will also be used during the exercise, which will be held both over Italian territory and the Mediterranean Sea.

According to the IAF officer, a large number of surface-to-air missile batteries will be used in the exercise against the F-35 fighter jets in order to create an “atmosphere full of threats.”

The Israeli F-35 fighter jets will take part in two sorties each day. In the first, the Israeli planes will fly with the Americans, while in the second they will fly with the British and Italian air forces.

During these missions, the Israeli pilots will simulate airstrikes on targets behind enemy lines and ground support missions, while flying over unfamiliar terrain.

In addition to facing off against surface-to-air missile threats, the Israeli jets will also take part in aerial dogfights.

These exercises are meant to improve the capabilities of the F-35 fleet as well as the Israeli Air Force’s ability to operate with foreign militaries, according to the officer.

The IAF received its first F-35 fighter jets in December 2016 and has been adding more of them to its fleet in groups of twos and threes in the interim four and a half years up to its current level of 27 planes. Another 23 F-35 jets are due to arrive in Israel by 2024 to fill the IDF’s current order of 50 aircraft, though Israeli officials have said they plan to purchase more. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-first-israeli-f-35s-train-in-italy-with-iran-in-their-sights/> [HUMMM? Does one suspect that something significant is in the near future? With the new government that would be a bit questionable however not impossible. Israel has a long history of frequent intense operations because they live under a constant threat. – rdb]

**Police seek to reroute right-wing Jerusalem march to avoid Muslim Quarter**

***Commanders back alternative path in order to avoid friction with Palestinians, but final approval from government still required***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 11:41 pm*

Senior police commanders have reportedly backed a plan to reroute a planned right-wing nationalist march through Jerusalem later this week to avoid the Damascus Gate and Muslim Quarter of the Old City due to fears that the demonstration could spark further violence in the capital and beyond.

The decision was made following consultations held Sunday evening, though police want the government to sign off on the plan, Channel 12 and Army Radio reported.

The flag march is held annually on Jerusalem Day, which was on May 10 this year. However, it was canceled midway through, after Hamas fired several barrages of rockets toward the city, sparking an 11-day military conflict between the Gaza-ruling terror group and Israel. Hours before, the government agreed to reroute the march to avoid Damascus Gate and the Muslim Quarter, following pressure from the Biden administration, concerned that the parade could cause tensions to boil over. [You don’t think that beginning this last bout of fighting/war on Jerusalem day was simply coincidental? Not at all. – rdb]

The parade does traditionally go through the Muslim Quarter, though the route has long been deemed as provocative by Israeli and Palestinian critics, given that local Arab shop owners are forced to shutter their stores so law enforcement can secure the Palestinian-majority area for the mainly nationalist Jewish revelers.

Right-wing lawmakers and religious nationalist groups were furious over the decision to reroute the parade last month, and briefly considered cancelling the event altogether.

On Friday, organizers announced that the parade had been rescheduled for Thursday and would go through the traditional, controversial route. The outcry was swift, with the Biden administration reportedly sending messages to Jerusalem urging that the march once again be rerouted.

On Saturday, Defense Minister Benny Gantz held consultations over the matter and subsequently issued a statement in favor of moving the event.

Additionally, Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi penned a letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warning of the “international sensitivity” that surrounds Israel’s actions in Jerusalem.

In the letter, received by Channel 12, Ashkenazi wrote to Netanyahu: “Even before [the Gaza war], and even more so after it, we are witnessing a significant increase in international sensitivity in relation to what is happening in Jerusalem.

“This is reflected in the events surrounding the legal discussions on the issue of [evictions in the] Sheikh Jarrah and Silwan neighborhoods as well as around the events at the Temple Mount and arrests made there,” Ashkenazi said.

Earlier Sunday, the Palestinian Fatah party called on its members to mobilize to confront the planned march.

Fatah told its cadres “to stand together effectively, to defend Jerusalem and the Islamic and Christian holy sites, and to confront the march of the extremist settlers.” [to defend “Christian Holy Sites”? HUM? Are you aware of what has been the usual and customary fate of Christians and Christian sights under the Islamic regimes in Israel? Look at Bethlehem! It used to have a predominantly Arab Christian population but under the “PA” it has only a skeleton group of Christians left in the city. They have either been driven out or murdered. Most of the Christian businesses have been commandeered by the Fatah group. My last visit to Bethlehem was in about 1997 with the exception of one trip to Rachel’s tomb which is technically in Bethlehem but we had to leave rapidly because our bus came into a ‘security situation’ with gunfire between IDF guards and terrorists. – rdb]

Fatah has suffered criticism in Palestinian domestic circles in recent weeks. Its leadership, including Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, has been attacked as ineffectual in opposing Israeli policies in Jerusalem, which Palestinians hope to see as the capital of their future state.

Its main rival Hamas, meanwhile, has seen a boost in popularity following the recent mini-war between the terror group and Israel. Hamas claimed the thousands of rockets it fired at Israeli cities and towns were a response to Israeli actions in Jerusalem, especially on the Temple Mount holy site.

As reports of the planned re-routing spread Sunday night, far-right Religious Zionism MK Itamar Ben Gvir issued a statement vowing to use his parliamentary immunity to march through the Muslim Quarter with Israeli flags if police refused to allow the event to move forward.

“It is unacceptable for the Israeli government to surrender to Hamas and allow it to dictate the agenda. It is the right of every Jew to march throughout Jerusalem, and that is precisely why I was elected to the Knesset — in order to preserve the right of the Jewish people in the Land of Israel,” he said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/police-seek-to-reroute-right-wing-jerusalem-march-to-avoid-muslim-quarter/> [It was cancelled – see article at Arutz Sheva. – rdb]

**Ex-head of Israel space program dies weeks after injured in Acre hotel attack**

***Rocket scientist Avi Har-Even, 84, succumbs to wounds sustained when rioters torched Efendi Hotel at peak of Arab-Jewish violence last month***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:26 pm*

An Israel Prize-winning former head of the country’s space program died on Sunday, weeks after he was critically injured when Arab rioters torched the hotel where he was staying in the northern town of Acre. Avi Har-Even, 84, sustained significant burns and suffered from smoke inhalation as a result of the attack. He had been unconscious and attached to a ventilator since his arrival at Haifa’s Rambam Medical Center on May 11.  
 His funeral will be held at 4 p.m. on Monday at the Ramat Hasharon cemetery.  
 Several more guests were injured when the Efendi Hotel was set on fire.  
 During his long military career, Har-Even held various research and development positions that saw advanced weaponry brought into the military’s arsenal, and during which he headed a group that was awarded the Israel Prize for security.  
 After leaving the army, Har-Even began working for the Israel Aerospace Industries in 1982, leading a team that developed Israel’s Shavit satellite rocket launcher.  
 Between 1995 and 2004, Har-Even directed the Israel Space Agency.  
 Since 2008, he has been a research fellow at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University.  
 In addition to Lod, Acre was one of mixed cities that was hardest hit by Arab-Jewish rioting that broke out against the backdrop of the war in Gaza, from May 10 to 20. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/ex-head-of-israel-space-program-dies-weeks-after-injured-in-acre-hotel-attack/>

**Palestinian said shot, badly hurt in clash with Israeli troops**

***Young man wounded near Ramallah during confrontations, Palestinians say; no comment from IDF***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:51 pm*

A young Palestinian was shot by Israeli troops and seriously injured during clashes north of Ramallah, Palestinian media reported. The military did not immediately comment on the matter. The cause of the clashes was not immediately clear.  
 Media reports said the man had been shot in the head with live fire in the village of Nabi Saleh. He was taken to a Ramallah hospital.  
 Tensions have been rising in Jerusalem and the West Bank ahead of a planned right-wing nationalist march to be held in Jerusalem later this week, with security officials concerned it could fuel a broader Israeli-Palestinian conflagration over the city.  
 The Flag March, a controversial annual parade, was rescheduled for Thursday after it was canceled mid-event on May 10, Jerusalem Day, when Hamas fired rockets toward the city, setting off 11 days of fighting between Israel and Palestinian terrorists in the Gaza Strip.  
 Several former top police commanders have urged police not to allow the event to go forward.  
 Defense Minister Benny Gantz on Saturday said he will demand the parade through the Old City be called off if it “requires extraordinary security measures and endangers public order and diplomatic processes.”  
 Police have not yet said whether they will okay the event, or possibly demand that its route be changed to prevent it from passing through particularly sensitive areas such as the Old City’s Damascus Gate and Muslim Quarter.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/palestinian-said-shot-badly-hurt-in-clash-with-israeli-troops/>

**UNRWA finds attack tunnel under one of its Gaza schools**

***The Agency also took issue with IDF activity, noting that the school was an emergency shelter and should have been immune from attack.***

*By* [*TOVAH LAZAROFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/tovah-lazaroff) *JUNE 6, 2021 21:36*

A tunnel used by Palestinian militants in Gaza was discovered under one of the schools run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency last month.  
 The [UNRWA](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/unrwa-continued-teaching-hate-after-claiming-it-dropped-content-659345) Zaitoun Preparatory Boys’ School “A” and Elementary Boys’ School “A” was one of two of the organization’s facilities damaged during the 11-day Gaza war that ended on May 21.  
 At the end of May, UNRWA found what “appears to be a cavity and a possible tunnel, at the location of the missile strike,” the organization reported over the weekend.  
 “The depth of the cavity is approximately 7.5 meters below the surface of the school. UNRWA discovered the existence of a possible tunnel in the context of the investigation of the fired missile,” it explained in a statement to the media.  
 UNRWA said that the tunnel was not connected to the school. There is no “indication of the existence of any entry or exit points for the tunnel within the premises,” it added.  
 The organization condemned both Palestinians who built the tunnel and the IDF for its attacks, which it alleged caused damage to the school.  
 “UNRWA condemns the existence and potential use by Palestinian armed groups of such tunnels underneath its schools in the strongest possible terms. It is unacceptable that students and staff be placed at risk in such a way,” the organization stated. [If you wonder why “PA” folks get killed, it is because the “PA” implants itself literally inside, beside, under and anywhere they can near the “PA” population. They literally hide behind the skirts of their population.   
 But it also took issue with IDF activity, noting that the school was an emergency shelter and should have been immune from attack.  
 “The Agency’s installations, like all United Nations facilities, are marked as such and fly a United Nations flag on the roof. UNRWA shares the coordinates of all of its installations periodically with relevant Israeli authorities and in times of conflict, the coordinates of designated emergency shelters are shared daily,” UNRWA noted.  
 Such actions by Palestinian arms groups and the IDF violate UNRWA’s “inviolability and neutrality” which must be respected at all times, the organization stated. [Much of that complaint is just plain nonsense because they often are aware of the Hamas involvement and in fact stores of arms are frequently found in UNRWA facilities. – rdb]  
 “UNRWA demands that all parties desist from any activities or conduct that put beneficiaries and staff at risk and undermine the ability of UNRWA staff to provide assistance to Palestine refugees in safety and security,” UNRWA stated.  
 UNRWA’s call for safety at its facilities followed an announcement by its Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini Thursday that he had asked the organization's Gaza Director [Matthias Schmale](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/palestinians-declare-unrwa-gaza-director-persona-non-grata-669915) to exit the Strip and come to Jerusalem after threats were issued against him.  
 “UNRWA strongly protested and contested the position conveyed by the De Facto authorities in Gaza that they could no longer guarantee the safety and security of our staff. Regrettably, such a position left the Agency with no other choice than to ask the staff to leave the Gaza Strip as their security is of paramount priority to UNRWA,” Lazzarini said.  
 Threats were issued after Schmale gave an interview to Israel’s N12 television on May 22, in which he said he did not dispute Israel’s assertion that its air strikes were “precise.”  
 Schmale has apologized for his remarks in which he was commenting on the ferocity of the air strikes and said: “... precision was there but there was unacceptable and unbearable loss of life on the civilian side”.  
 An UNRWA official told Reuters that Deputy Commissioner-General Leni Stenseth would temporarily lead the Gaza team.  
 “UNRWA has unequivocally condemned the killing and wounding of all civilians, including Palestine refugees, and has consistently called on all parties to ensure the protection of civilians during the recent hostilities in Gaza and the recent escalation of violence in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem,” Lazzarini said.

<https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/unrwa-finds-attack-tunnel-under-one-of-its-gaza-schools-670262> [Realize and accept the fact that UNRWA is simply an extension of the “PA”. They lost their legitimacy years ago if they ever had any. – rdb]

**Iran: ‘Iraq and Iran are one soul with two bodies’**

***The Iranian ambassador to Iraq threatened Israel in a speech he gave on Iran and Iraq's oneness.***

*By* [*SETH J. FRANTZMAN*](https://www.jpost.com/author/seth-j-frantzman) *JUNE 7, 2021 00:12*



***IRAQI MILITIA head Faleh al-Fayyad, Deputy Commander Abdul Azizi Al-Mohammedawi, and Iranian Ambassador Iraj Masjedi mark the first anniversary of the killing of Qassem Soleimani and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, in Baghdad, Iraq, in January. (photo credit: THAIER AL-SUDANI/REUTERS)***

Forty years ago Iran and Iraq were locked in a brutal conflict. Today, the countries are basically the same, says Iran’s ambassador to Iraq, [Iraj Masjedi.](https://www.jpost.com/opinion/turkey-and-irans-power-struggle-in-iraq-opinion-662107) Masjedi previously served in the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

In recent years, Iran has come to influence key militias in Iraq and has sent drones and missiles to Iraq to target US forces.

Iran also uses Iraq to [traffic weapons to Syria and Lebanon](https://www.jpost.com/defense/in-depth-how-iranian-weapons-go-through-syria-to-hezbollah-314313) and to threaten Israel. Iran has made Iraq dependent on Iran, ruined its economy and sent drugs to Iraq, according to local reports and allegations.

“Masjedi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Iraq, stressed that the Resistance Front is moving towards increasing its capabilities,” according to Fars News.

“The Islamic Republic is proud to defend the oppressed Muslims of the world,” Masjedi said at a ceremony marking the anniversary of Imam Khomeini's death.

Masjedi stated at the ceremony that the relations between the nations of Iran and Iraq are deep and the two countries are "one soul in two bodies." He said no power can separate Iraq and Iran. It seems Iran has now completely taken control of Iraq.

He claimed that Iran has supported the Palestinians against Israel, which he called the “Zionist regime.”

Masjedi praised the late Qasem Soleimani and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis. Soleimani was the Quds Force leader in the IRGC, while Mohandis ran Kataib Hezbollah in Iraq.

“The Iranian diplomat pointed out that all the enemies of Imam Khomeini's movement had joined the garbage bin of history, noting that the current US administration was also forced to negotiate with Iran because the US realized the power of the Islamic Republic in the Middle East,” the report noted.   <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-iraq-and-iran-are-one-soul-with-two-bodies-670289> [Thanks a bunch DUBYAH for all you help in promoting Shiite islam in the Iraqi leadership so they could bond so well with their Shiite neighbors in Iran and form a more formidable adversary for everyone else in the ME. His ideas of promoting equitable representation were ill founded. – rdb]

**The lies have it: How COVID-19 destroyed America's 'fact'-checkers**

***'Scientific questions are settled not through derision but through examination of the evidence'***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published June 6, 2021 at 3:31pm* ***By John Hirschauer & Chandler Lasch*** *Real Clear Politics*

[*Editor's note: This story originally was published by* [*Real Clear Politics*](https://www.realclearpolitics.com/)*.*]

While the precise origin of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, remains unknown, several fact-checkers and media outlets found themselves in an embarrassing position when a theory they had previously dismissed as “baseless” gained new attention from scientists. That theory holds that the novel coronavirus did not originate from human contact with an infected animal, but instead was leaked – intentionally or otherwise – from the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

Several prominent figures recently have acknowledged the possibility that the pathogen escaped from a laboratory. On May 11, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci said he is “[not convinced](https://thehill.com/changing-america/well-being/prevention-cures/555057-fauci-bombshell-not-convinced-covid-19-developed)” the virus developed naturally. In a May 24 interview on CNBC, former FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb suggested that a [growing](https://www.cnbc.com/2021/05/24/gottlieb-says-theres-growing-circumstantial-evidence-that-covid-may-have-originated-in-a-lab.html) body of circumstantial evidence supports the lab-leak hypothesis. President Biden recognized the possibility that the virus may have spread as a result of a laboratory accident in a [statement](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/biden-covid-china-virus-origins/2021/05/26/4f574a24-be44-11eb-9c90-731aff7d9a0d_story.html) to reporters last week.  
 For months before elite opinion on the subject began to turn, fact-checkers, media figures, and [social-media platforms](https://www.nationalreview.com/news/how-big-tech-silenced-the-earliest-lab-leak-theory-proponents/) dismissed the lab-leak theory out of hand while relying on questionable evidence.  
 In September 2020, for example, Chinese virologist Li-Meng Yan expressed a version of the theory on “Tucker Carlson Tonight” that drew the ire of fact-checkers. “This virus, COVID-19 SARS-CoV-2 virus, actually is not from nature,” Yan told Carlson, echoing sentiments she expressed in a [controversial](https://www.centerforhealthsecurity.org/our-work/pubs_archive/pubs-pdfs/2020/200921-in-response-yan.pdf) [research paper](https://zenodo.org/record/4028830#.YK6JDJNKjvX) on the subject. “It is a man-made virus created in the lab.”  
 On Sept. 16, PolitiFact’s Daniel Funke [penned](https://www.politifact.com/li-meng-yan-fact-check/) a polemical fact check of Yan’s claim. He described the idea that COVID-19 originated in a laboratory as a “debunked conspiracy theory” whose exponents dissented from the “consensus of the scientific community and international public health organizations” on the natural origin of COVID-19. He argued that the virus’s genetic structure precluded “the possibility that it was manipulated in a lab.”  Funke called Yan’s claim “inaccurate and ridiculous” and awarded it the “Pants on Fire!” verdict.Bottom of Form

The day after the publication of the PolitiFact article, FactCheck.org published a similar piece by Angelo Fichera titled [“Report Resurrects Baseless Claim That Coronavirus Was Bioengineered.”](https://www.factcheck.org/2020/09/report-resurrects-baseless-claim-that-coronavirus-was-bioengineered/) Fichera described the conclusions of Yan’s research paper as “faulty,” and dismissed what he described as her “unsubstantiated claim that the novel coronavirus was bioengineered in a Chinese lab.”  
 Both PolitiFact and FactCheck.org added editor’s notes to their pieces in May acknowledging that, contrary to their previous statements, the lab-leak theory could not be ruled out. PolitiFact went a step further and “[archived](https://www.politifact.com/li-meng-yan-fact-check/)” the original fact check, thus removing it from the site’s database. “When this fact-check was first published in September 2020, PolitiFact’s sources included researchers who asserted the SARS-CoV-2 virus could not have been manipulated. That assertion is now more widely disputed,” the editor’s note reads.  
 PolitiFact has archived at least three other fact checks before, in [2012](https://www.politifact.com/barack-obama-paul-ryan-medicare-archived/), [2013](https://www.politifact.com/tommy-thompson-obesity/), and [2016](https://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/clinton-email-half-true/). In the last instance, after new data was discovered on the claim in question – that Hillary Clinton insisted she had never sent nor received classified emails on her private server – an editor’s note was added to say, “This claim will remain rated Half True, because we base our rulings on when a statement was made and on the information available at that time.” Later, however, PolitiFact  archived the piece and changed the rating to [False](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2016/jul/06/hillary-clinton/fbi-findings-tear-holes-hillary-clintons-email-def/).  
 In a [2011 article](https://www.politifact.com/article/2011/jun/22/are-us-actions-libya-subject-war-powers-resolution/), PolitiFact noted that it set out to check a claim made by President Obama, but ultimately decided against doing so when the “experts we spoke with … told us this is a complicated case and perhaps not a checkable fact.” We asked why PolitiFact considered the origins of SARS-CoV-2 a settled fact rather than a similarly complicated case, but a representative declined to comment.  
 In addition to adding an editor’s note to the fact check of Yan’s claim, PolitiFact posted an [explainer](https://www.politifact.com/article/2021/may/17/debating-origins-covid-19-virus-what-we-know-what-/) in May that detailed the state of the debate over the virus’s origins. “Officials and researchers are also paying more attention to the possibility that the virus somehow leaked from the lab,” wrote Tom Kertscher and Noah Y. Kim. They concluded, “Claims of complete certainty on either side remain unfounded.”  
 Many other outlets followed a similar pattern. As journalist Drew Holden has [documented](https://twitter.com/DrewHolden360/status/1397334751774658562), [Politico](https://twitter.com/DrewHolden360/status/1397335253740630018), [Reuters](https://twitter.com/DrewHolden360/status/1397335262720630787), [NPR](https://twitter.com/DrewHolden360/status/1397335273286115329), [The Hill](https://twitter.com/DrewHolden360/status/1397335285063630855), [BBC News](https://twitter.com/DrewHolden360/status/1397335302004412417), [Business Insider,](https://twitter.com/DrewHolden360/status/1397335312334995458) and [Fortune magazine](https://twitter.com/DrewHolden360/status/1397335334858498048), among others, all minimized the idea that the virus leaked from a Wuhan lab as a baseless conspiracy theory, but all have now reversed course.  
 In February, for instance, CNN fact-checker Tara Subramaniam [quoted](https://www.cnn.com/2020/02/18/politics/coronavirus-cotton-fact-check/index.html) an infectious-disease specialist from Vanderbilt University who said, “I think at this point you can draw a line through [the lab-leak theory] and say that didn't happen.” That same day, Chris Cillizza, CNN editor-at-large, also [dismissed](https://www.cnn.com/2020/02/18/politics/tom-cotton-coronavirus/index.html) the theory and quoted Subramaniam’s fact check. But on May 24, CNN [reported on new evidence](https://www.cnn.com/2021/05/23/politics/us-intelligence-report-wuhan-lab-researchers-coronavirus-origin/index.html) that supports the lab-leak possibility.  
 The New York Times also [dismissed](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/17/business/media/coronavirus-tom-cotton-china.html) the lab-leak hypothesis as a “fringe theory” in February, but on [May 13](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/13/science/virus-origins-lab-leak-scientists.html), it reported that a prominent group of scientists had called for further investigation. The Washington Post similarly [reported](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/02/16/tom-cotton-coronavirus-conspiracy/) in a since-revised headline that the lab leak is a “conspiracy theory that was already debunked,” and lead fact-checker Glenn Kessler claimed it was “[virtually impossible](https://twitter.com/GlennKesslerWP/status/1256267931220049920)” for the virus to have come from a lab. Yet [Kessler](https://twitter.com/GlennKesslerWP/status/1397294859099283456) has since written an [article](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2021/05/25/timeline-how-wuhan-lab-leak-theory-suddenly-became-credible/) for the Post demonstrating how this theory “suddenly became credible.”  
 Even Facebook, which in February started [removing](https://about.fb.com/news/2020/04/covid-19-misinfo-update/#removing-more-false-claims) posts that claimed COVID was man-made or manufactured, announced last week that it will no longer delete such claims from its platforms.  
 The lab-leak theory’s newfound credibility is due in part to reporting by Nicholas Wade, a former science reporter at the New York Times. Wade, who was cited in PolitiFact’s May explainer on the virus’s origins, wrote a lengthy piece in [Medium](https://nicholaswade.medium.com/origin-of-covid-following-the-clues-6f03564c038) on May 2 arguing that media claims of a “scientific consensus” on the natural origin of the virus relied on questionable sources. He contended that two scientific groups’ statements – one in [The Lancet](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)30418-9/fulltext) and another in Nature spearheaded by Dr. Kristian Andersen – were taken as evidence of a scientific “consensus” but were “not at first examined as critically as they should have been.”  
 “The [Peter] Daszak and Andersen letters were really political, not scientific statements, yet were amazingly effective,” Wade wrote. “Articles in the mainstream press repeatedly stated that a consensus of experts had ruled lab escape out of the question or extremely unlikely. Their authors relied for the most part on the Daszak and Andersen letters, failing to understand the yawning gaps in their arguments.”  
 The Lancet statement, which denounced “conspiracy theories suggesting that COVID-19 does not have a natural origin” and declared its signatories had “no competing interests,” was in fact riddled with undisclosed conflicts of interest that raise questions about the impartiality of its signatories.  
 According to internal emails [obtained](https://usrtk.org/biohazards-blog/ecohealth-alliance-orchestrated-key-scientists-statement-on-natural-origin-of-sars-cov-2/) by the public-health-transparency group U.S. Right to Know, the Lancet statement was organized and drafted by [EcoHealth Alliance CEO Peter Daszak](https://usrtk.org/biohazards-blog/ecohealth-alliance-orchestrated-key-scientists-statement-on-natural-origin-of-sars-cov-2/). EcoHealth Alliance is a nonprofit that [funds](https://www.nature.com/articles/nature12711) research on genetically mutated bat coronaviruses, and Daszak has collaborated [with scientists](https://www.wsj.com/articles/chinas-bats-expert-says-her-wuhan-lab-wasnt-source-of-new-coronavirus-11587463204) from the Wuhan Institute of Virology on the study of these coronaviruses. Neither fact was disclosed in EcoHealth Alliance’s statement. USRTK also discovered that four of the Lancet letter’s signatories had undisclosed affiliations with EcoHealth Alliance.  
 Both [PolitiFact](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2021/feb/08/worldnetdaily/no-dr-anthony-fauci-did-not-fund-research-tied-cov/) and [FactCheck.org](https://www.factcheck.org/2020/08/new-plandemic-video-peddles-misinformation-conspiracies/) cited the Lancet statement as evidence of a supposed scientific consensus about COVID-19’s natural origin, but neither mentioned Daszak’s connection to the Wuhan institute.  
 The massive media about-face on the lab-leak theory should caution fact-checkers against pronouncing victory in still-unsettled debates about matters of science. Fact-checkers should avoid the temptation to treat claims around scientific theories, which are by their nature opinions, as matters of plain and objective fact. Scientific questions are settled not through derision but through open debate and an honest examination of the evidence. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/covid-19-destroyed-americas-fact-checkers/> [There are multiple videos on the web giving a chronology and demonstrating quite well that the NIH and associated groups had funded Gain of Function research in the China Lab which developed the China Virus and was ultimately paid for by our tax dollars even though Fauci and others at NIH deny it they are on video explaining the Gain of Function process and research several years ago. They are caught in a huge lie which they have given the public AND CONGRESS and they need to be under oath in a Congressional hearing and then need to be indicted for their complicity in the death of millions. – rdb]

**Fauci Brushed Off Email Suggesting Hydroxychloroquine Was Effective Against COVID-19: “Too Long for Me to Read”**

*by* [*Veronika Kyrylenko*](https://thenewamerican.com/contributor/veronika-kyrylenko/) *June 5, 2021*

Dr. Anthony Fauci, in March 2020, received an email from Erik Nilsen, the co-founder and interim CEO at Bio-Signal Technologies, regarding China covering up the Wuhan Lab outbreak as well as two effective drugs for treating patients with COVID-19. Dr. Fauci brushed the message as “too long” for him to read.

[Bio-Signal Technologies](https://www.biosig.com/about-biosig), which Nilsen works for, is a Texas-based company that develops sophisticated tools for neuroscience research and applications of neuroprosthetics and brain-machine interfaces (BMIs).

Nielsen, in [the email](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/20793561-leopold-nih-foia-anthony-fauci-emails), said he had instructed members of his family to get “Alvesco (ciclesonide) for emergency use only.” He claimed that his “colleagues on the front-line in Japan, China, and Korea found several pre-print papers, that it is an effective treatment for late-stage COVID-19 patients.”

The physicist continued, “Some patients on ventilators who were approaching death have fully recovered after treatment with ciclesonide,” noting “ciclesonide has much smaller particles than other corticosteroids, so it reaches deeper into lungs and alveolis,” while the treatment also seems to be a potent suppressor of virus replication.” All while being “safe for infant – 100+ year-old patients.”

  Neilsen claimed there was a second drug that could possibly be used, which he advised his family to get. He wrote to Fauci the drug “is called hydroxychloroquine,” which, he said, “also seems to be effective and safe.”

However, he noted, “Alvesco is better because it appears to prevent the virus from replicating so infection is wiped out and no longer contagious. Alvesco seems to be two silver bullets in one.”

Two days after this email, Fauci, to whom [most of the nation](https://today.yougov.com/topics/politics/articles-reports/2020/05/12/americans-trust-dr-anthony-fauci) looked for a trusted voice of science, [said](https://abcnews.go.com/Health/timeline-tracking-trump-alongside-scientific-developments-hydroxychloroquine/story?id=72170553), “The answer is no” when he was asked if hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) is an effective coronavirus treatment. Fauci stated that the “signs of the drug’s promise were purely ‘anecdotal evidence.’”

“Anecdotal evidence,” however, was published in 2005 by The Virology Journal — the official publication of National Institutes of Health (NIH) — in a [study](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16115318/) titled in a very explicit way: “Chloroquine is a potent inhibitor of SARS coronavirus infection and spread.” [That is an article that Fauci participated in. He knew very well that it was effective. He has had from the onset an unswerving drive to push for a vaccine. Why because he works with Gates on His foundation advisory boards and Gates has a huge vested interest (financial and aotherwise) in vaccines. – rdb]

Write the researchers, “We report … that chloroquine has strong antiviral effects on SARS-CoV infection of primate cells. These inhibitory effects are observed when the cells are treated with the drug either before or after exposure to the virus, suggesting both prophylactic and therapeutic advantage.”

In April 2020, a French [study](https://themuslimtimes.info/2020/04/11/a-study-from-france-1061-patients-treated-with-hydroxycholorquine/) showed HCQ combined with azithromycin, an antibiotic, was safe and effective in lowering COVID-19’s virus count in patients who had first contracted the disease. President Trump immediately cited the study — as it was good news. The world was at the height of the pandemic and HCQ had been approved and used by physicians for 85 years to treat both malaria and some autoimmune diseases.

The drug was generic, cheap, and widely available. It offered hope as the nation waited for Big Pharma to develop a vaccination.

In May, two respected scientific journals the *Lancet* and the *New England Journal of Medicine* reported studies purportedly showing HCQ increased the death rate of COVID-19 patients and caused heart problems. It seemed like a much-needed excuse for the media and the Democrats to shut the door on HCQ — except both studies were retracted within the following two months for shoddy work. Still, the damage was done.

“I’m not so sure it should be banned, but clearly the scientific data is really quite evident now about the lack of efficacy for it,” Dr. Fauci [said](https://www.wsj.com/articles/fauci-says-second-wave-of-coronavirus-cases-later-this-year-not-inevitable-11590588791) during a CNN interview, when asked whether the United States should ban the drug for treating Covid-19, as France did, following the *Lancet* and The *NEJM* publications.

Later in July, the Henry Ford Health Center in Detroit released a [study](https://www.henryford.com/news/2020/07/hydro-treatment-study) that found HCQ lowered mortality rates in hospitalized COVID-19 patients by more than 50 percent.

Another portion of information sent to Fauci by Nilsen, who said he had been “modeling this outbreak since January,” suggested China was lying about the number of coronavirus deaths.

“The data posted by China is not only garbage, it has misled the world into a false sense of security” vis-à-vis “death rate, age vs. death” and “I truly believe the outbreak tsunami in the USA is either already happened or is about to happen. As you know, as soon as a surge is sensed, the Tsunami will immediately follow. I believe we missed the containment boat quite a while ago,” Nilsen wrote.

The physicist mentioned that he had “lots of information about China” because of his “business, scientific, friendship, and other ties with many there, including immunologists & virologists at top-tier institutions and laboratories.”

Fauci forwarded the email to a member of the NIH, writing, “Too long for me to read.”

The newly released emails of Dr. Fauci were obtained by *BuzzFeed News* via the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

<https://thenewamerican.com/fauci-brushed-off-email-suggesting-hydroxychloroquine-was-effective-against-covid-19-too-long-for-me-to-read/> [By ignoring the efficacy of HCQ Fauci contributed to the media and medical system’s disregard of a curative agent that could have saved many lives had the treatment been used early for thousands of people. As a physician I have prescribed this a a preventive and treatment multiple times and am totally aggrieved at the despicable condition of those in the medical profession who haven’t done due diligence on investigating options for this problem and have simply played ‘follow the leader’ with the distorted and bad information from our nations supposed health experts. There is a much greater story underneath this outbreak and it is not pretty. Look up World Economic Council and Klaus Schwab, his history and listen to his video’s. He is a man with an agenda and is in cahoots with Gates Soros and others. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**Fauci’s Fraud***By* [*Roger Anghis*](https://newswithviews.com/author/roger/)*|June 6th, 2021* Ever since this fake pandemic began, we have been hearing from Dr. Fauci that this virus was very dangerous.  First of all, this virus wasn’t as dangerous as a typical flu season.  Yes, there are certain segments of society where this virus was specifically dangerous; the elderly eighty and over, those that had underlying health issues such as heart conditions, diabetes, and other situations.  But those same people are susceptible to the regular flu as well.  The H1N1 flu that hit in 2010-11 was much more dangerous than CV19.  It had a mortality rate of 2.5% and 60 million Americans were affected by it.  
 COVI-19 is a much different story. In an article published in August of last year[1] there were 161,392 deaths from CV19 but we are finding that the vast majority of those deaths had underlying conditions.  Some reports go as far as saying only 6% actually died as a result of CV19.  This means that there is a high probability that only 9,683 actually died from CV19.  We already had a survival rate of 99.98% which is better than the regular flu so why did we have shutdowns, quarantines, mask mandates?  
 Agenda is the only answer.  The Democrats were desperate to find a way to discredit Trump because if they didn’t, he would win the 2020 election in a landslide just like Reagan did in 1984.  I believe that he did win it with 84 million votes to Biden’s 66 million votes but they had planned a massive voter fraud scheme to win the election.  Biden even stated that they had put together the most extensive voter fraud organization in the history of America.[2]  
 Another part of the agenda is to make the people fear this virus.  They have succeeded with a large amount of the people. How many of you have seen a person alone in a car, windows up, wearing a mask?  I’m sorry but that is as dumb as a rock.  Masks are actually dangerous to wear all the time.  ***An email Dr. Anthony Fauci sent in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic is reinvigorating outrage about face masks. In the email, first obtained by the***[***Washington Post***](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/interactive/2021/tony-fauci-emails/)***and BuzzFeed News via public records requests, Fauci said that masks “are not really effective” at keeping out COVID-19.***  
 ***The longtime director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases wrote, “Masks are really for infected people to prevent them from spreading infection to people who are not infected rather than protecting uninfected people from acquiring infection.”***  
 ***Dr. Fauci added that a “typical mask you buy in the drug store” doesn’t really keep the virus out, because the particles pass through the material, but said it might “provide some slight benefit … if someone coughs or sneezes on you.”***[3] The store-bought masks can stop a particle that is about 3 microns in size but the CV19 virus is about .012 microns in size so wearing the mask is like putting up a chain-link fence to keep out mosquitoes.  
 I believe that it was a test run to see just how far we could be pushed.  Some people are not capable of critical thinking and will do whatever they are told. I’m sure that we will see people wearing masks at the drop of a hat in the future.  
 The liberals have pushed the envelope on violating a person’s rights.  I know of no case where the government has the right to suspend our constitutional rights, except for Marshall Law, so to force us to accept medical treatment or procedures is illegal.  The Nuremberg Code concerning medical experiments, and the CV19 ‘vaccine’ is an experiment, can only be used on consenting people: ***“The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential”***[4] A business cannot demand customers or employees to get this ‘vaccine’.  
 These ‘vaccines’ are not really vaccines.  First of all, these have been authorized under the Emergency Use Authorization and are NOT FDA approved.  Consequentially, any negative side effects you may have, even death, will not be covered under your insurance. Some of these side effects are very dangerous. The mRNA can cause 21 severe side effects including stroke, anaphylaxis, autoimmune disease, thrombocytopenia, and even death.[5]  
 Here’s where critical thinking comes in handy.  You can go to a restaurant for dinner but you have to have a mask to walk to your table but you can take it off to eat.  That’s like having a peeing section in a swimming pool.  How about basketball players have to wear a mask on the sidelines but when they get out on the court, they breathe on each other, handle the same ball, and sweat on each other for 48 minutes.  Remember the peeing section?  Even in the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic most of the people that died wore masks and died of bronchial pneumonia caused by wearing the mask, not the Spanish Flu.  
 We say Democrat-controlled states overreach their power to try to take absolute control over the people.  Banned churches from meeting but allowed strip joints to stay open.  California just lost a case where a church sued them and won.  Think about it, big box stores could stay open, Home Depot, Lowe’s, and grocery store could stay open but not a church.  Call me a conspiracy theorist but this was done for a reason. Control!  
 The masks that Fauci told us were a must are totally ineffective: ***The existing scientific evidences challenge the safety and efficacy of* *wearing facemask as preventive intervention for COVID-19. The data* *suggest that both medical and non-medical facemasks are ineffective to* *block human-to-human transmission of viral and infectious disease such* *SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19, supporting against the usage of facemasks.***  
 ***Wearing facemasks has been demonstrated to have substantial adversephysiological and psychological effects. These include hypoxia, hypercapnia,shortness of breath, increased acidity and toxicity, activation offear and stress response, rise in stress hormones, immunosuppression, fatigue, headaches, decline in cognitive performance, predisposition for*  
*viral and infectious illnesses, chronic stress, anxiety and depression.Long-term consequences of wearing facemask can cause health deterioration,developing and progression of chronic diseases and prematuredeath. Governments, policy makers and health organizations shouldutilize prosper and scientific evidence-based approach with respect towearing facemasks, when the latter is considered as preventive intervention*  
*for public health.***[6]  
 *There is a picture of Fauci, Melinda Gates, and Obama at the Wuhan Lab. Fauci’s National Institute of Health gave the Wuhan lab millions for research into ‘bat viruses’.  Is he at the least partially responsible for this worldwide catastrophe?  I would have to say yes.  The emails that have come out will take some time to study to find out just how much he was involved and just what he is guilty of.  I’m sure it will be a lot.*  
 *This cannot be allowed to be swept under the rug.  The people that died must be given justice.*   
**Foot Notes**  
[CDC says covid only deaths mere 6](https://www.telegram.com/story/news/2020/08/31/cdc-says-covid-only-deaths-mere-6/42447839/)  
[Biden we have the most extensive and inclusive voter fraud organization](https://freebeacon.com/elections/biden-we-have-the-most-extensive-and-inclusive-voter-fraud-organization%20/)   
<https://www.dailydot.com/debug/fauci-email-masks-dont-work/>  
[The Nuremberg Code the universal right of informed consent to medical interventions has been recognized in us law since at least 1914](https://medicalkidnap.com/2021/04/06/the-nuremberg-code-the-universal-right-of-informed-consent-to-medical-interventions-has-been-recognized-in-us-law-since-at-least-1914/)  
 Steve Anderson, “CBER plans for monitoring COVI-19 vaccine safety and effectiveness”, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 10-30-20, https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/downloads/slides-2020-10/covid-anderson.pdf  
 Defining America’s Exceptionalism, Roger Anghis (Westbow Press, Bloomington, IN) pp. 154-155  
 <https://newswithviews.com/faucis-fraud/>

**What Exactly Are These People ‘Experts’ Of?**[*Derek Hunter*](https://townhall.com/columnists/derekhunter/) *Posted: Jun 06, 2021 12:01 AM* The year of the pandemic was the best thing to happen to cable news – a captive audience stuck at home with a reason to tune in regularly. They really hate to see it end. CNN’s ratings have cratered even greater than their credibility, which didn’t seem humanly possible considering they employ Chris Cuomo. The other networks and print outlets haven’t suffered the same fate, at least not yet. But whatever media emerges from this year of failure, mis- and disinformation should be viewed with the same skepticism and contempt CNN rightly finds itself in the center of.  
 Everyone got something wrong in the last year, just as everyone gets something wrong every year. We’re human, screwing up and getting things wrong is what we do. But we’re different from the animals because we can learn from those mistakes. We’re supposed to, it’s a key part of growing up.   
 Yet, the media not only doesn’t appear to have learned anything from the past year, they’ve doubled down on their failures. The soothsayers they employ predicted pretty much every possible outcome, at one point or another. That’s a lot of things, but it’s not news or even insight. It’s the equivalent of putting a dollar on every number on a roulette table – sure, you’ll “win” and be able to brag about your winning streak, but you’ll lose money each time.   
 Anyone with an MD was on TV talking like they knew what they were saying, like they were an “expert.” They weren’t, and some weren’t even close. And so were people without MDs.  
 In fairness, it’s hard to be an expert on something no one knows anything about, and when this started no one knew anyone about COVID-19, it was brand new. That never stopped any TV doctor or paid contributor from speaking like they’d just published THE paper on the subject. It’s not their fault, ultimately, it’s the fault of the news outlets. If you’re reached for a quote by a newspaper or asked to go on cable TV to discuss a story, it’s the kiss of death to say, “I honestly have no idea, and no one does,” even when it’s true. You won’t be quoted again, and you’ll never get back on TV. And being a media doctor/pundit is the pathway to a lot of money.   
 Even local TV stations couldn’t escape screwing up. I remember watching one local station interviewing a doctor at the start of the pandemic who, it turns out, was a dermatologist but the audience wasn’t told this. I know this because I looked her up – she was someone I’d never heard of and wasn’t really saying anything I couldn’t have said if I’d read a couple AP articles. She was fine, said pretty much what everyone else was saying at the time, but still…  
 But that’s what the “news” business has become – people who have zero firsthand knowledge of a story/bill/law/situation/pandemic speaking as though they are the authority on the subject.  
 Cable news, in particular, is bad. Each network has about 12 people they talk to about everything. I know many of those people, they aren’t experts. They can string together a coherent sentence for a 5 minute “debate” on any subject with about 10 minutes to prepare, but nothing about their thoughts is newsworthy. If they didn’t call themselves “news” networks, I wouldn’t have a problem with it, and if the country hadn’t been pushed into a panic it wouldn’t much matter.   
 At a time when we needed level heads and factual information, the media delivered bomb-throwers and partisan hacks. To this day, it is not rare to tune into a cable news show to see one host interviewing another host or panel of hosts and employees of whatever network. That’s not news, that’s a conversation you’d ask to be moved away from if it were happening in a restaurant at the table next to you.   
 But it sells, and that’s all that matters. I asked one of these hosts why they had someone on multiple times per week to talk about subjects they knew very little about and was told, bluntly, the audience loves them. There is no news value in that, no one learns anything when Chris Cuomo and Don Lemon banter between their shows, but then there’s no news value in talking to anyone they talk to when they aren’t directly involved in the story. It’s just someone with an opinion talking to someone else with an opinion. The “experts,” insofar as they exist, aren’t experts in anything but BSing.   
 Sadly, there’s not much we can do about it. It sells. Even CNN is making money, mostly because of the screwed-up way ad buyers value their small audience more highly than larger audiences. So don’t expect anything to change because there’s enough money either way.   
 In the meantime, “experts” will continue to get everything wrong with no repercussions and audiences seeking information will go away with a belly full of empty calories and very little, if anything, useful in their heads. Who would’ve thought “experts” could do so much damage in the name of “news”? <https://townhall.com/columnists/derekhunter/2021/06/06/what-exactly-are-these-people-experts-of-n2590529>

**Time to Call out the Most Evil Act of Mass Murder Since Hitler, Stalin and Mao Zedong**[Wayne Allyn Root](https://townhall.com/columnists/wayneallynroot/) Posted: Jun 06, 2021 12:01 A  
 I don't mean to say, "I told you so." But ... I told you so. Check the records. Check the archives of my national radio show, "Wayne Allyn Root: Raw & Unfiltered," on USA Radio Network. Check my hundreds of newspaper columns and online commentaries. I said from day one, in early March 2020, as we knew a deadly pandemic was headed our way, that this China flu (aka COVID-19) was manmade in a Chinese biowarfare lab in Wuhan. I also said it seemed likely Dr. Anthony Fauci had used American taxpayer money to fund the creation of COVID-19. And I predicted we were experiencing a massive cover-up by China, the Chinese Communist Party, the World Health Organization, Fauci and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, simply because they'd all be on the hook for $10 trillion in damages.  
 Suddenly, people are admitting this deadly virus was probably made in a Chinese biowarfare lab.  
 Since my gut has been right on the money for 15 months now, while everyone else has been blind, deaf and dumb, what else am I right about? Could my second prediction be right on the money, too?  
 I've said all along this was no mistake, no coincidence, no bad fortune. This was an attack on the United States by China.  
 In my opinion, there are only two possibilities for why and how this pandemic happened. Either way, China is guilty of the worst acts of mass murder since Hitler, Stalin and China's Mao Zedong.  
 First, behind door No. 1: It's possible the virus escaped a Wuhan research lab. If true, there's no way that was an accident. China clearly developed it as a bioweapon of mass destruction. Even if it got out by accident, China is responsible for the deaths of millions.  
 It's possible once the virus was out and Chinese officials knew, they made the deadly decision to let thousands of infected Chinese fly to America and other Western countries to spread the virus worldwide. They clearly believed in former Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel's famous saying: "Never allow a good crisis to go to waste."  
 Behind door No. 2 is even more evil: Did China purposely send this bioweapon of mass destruction to America to end the trade war and, as a bonus, destroy us, our economy and then-President Trump?  
 My gut says this was a purposeful attack on America. Look at the timing. Look at what China achieved.  
 This pandemic just happened to wipe out Trump's economy -- the greatest economy in modern history. Overnight, America went from prosperity to what amounted to a Great Depression. The stock market collapsed. Millions of small businesses were closed. Millions of Americans lost their jobs and a large portion of their life savings. We added trillions in debt to prop up the economy with stimulus, bailouts and welfare.  
 Many of the structural problems from the pandemic remain. Supply chains are destroyed. Hyperinflation is here. The price of gas, food, homes and ammo is through the roof. The middle class is decimated. America's famous work ethic has been destroyed. We have a massive worker shortage.  
 Under Trump, we had reestablished our economic dominance in the world. Now it's all reversed. Guess who's back in the driver's seat.  
 The China flu pandemic changed everything. It allowed Democrats to cheat and steal a presidential election. Suddenly, Biden was president, a man I believe is owned lock, stock and barrel by the Chinese Communist Party. During his first week as president, Biden showed his cards by signing a memorandum condemning the use of phrases like "Wuhan virus." Really?  
 Suddenly, the trade war was over and forgotten. The borders are wide open, and China is making hundreds of billions on human trafficking, sex trafficking, and manufacturing fentanyl and opioids to smuggle across. The U.S. military's No. 1 objective is protecting gay and transgender rights. Black Lives Matter flags are flying at U.S. embassies.  
 This is China's greatest dream.  
 The debate is over. Of course China developed COVID-19 in a biowarfare lab to be a weapon of mass destruction. The question to investigate now is: Did China send it our way purposefully? Either way, I believe China is guilty of the worst acts of mass murder since Hitler, Stalin and Mao Zedong.  
 Wayne Allyn Root is the author of the new No. 1 national bestselling book "TRUMP RULES." Wayne is a CEO, entrepreneur, and host of the daily nationally syndicated show "Wayne Allyn Root: Raw & Unfiltered" on USA Radio Network, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. EST and the "WAR RAW" podcast. To find out more about Wayne Allyn Root and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com). <https://townhall.com/columnists/wayneallynroot/2021/06/06/time-to-call-out-the-most-evil-act-of-mass-murder-since-hitler-stalin-and-mao-zedong-n2590515>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Suspected infiltration at northern border, residents ordered to stay at home**

***Flares fired following suspicious movement near fence on Lebanese border. Locals asked to remain in their homes.***

*Kobi Finkler , Jun 06 , 2021 11:22 PM*

Following the identification of suspicious movement in the vicinity of the fence on the Lebanese border, a number of flares were fired in the area on Sunday evening.

IDF forces have been called to the scene and are conducting searches.

For security reasons and as part of the procedures, residents of Shlomi, Hanita, Betzet, Matzuva and Yaara have been instructed to remain in their homes. Several roads in the area have been closed to vehicular traffic.

Gabi Naaman, head of the Shlomi Council, told *Galei Tzahal (Army Radio)*, "There was an infiltration of two people; clothes and blood stains were found at the scene – it appears they were injured by the fence." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307578>

**Patriotic 'Flag Parade' event in Jerusalem cancelled**

***Arutz Sheva informed that police refused compromise deal for Flag Parade event in the capital - even in western Jerusalem.***

*Hezki Baruch , Jun 07 , 2021 12:49 PM*

The Flag Parade planned in Jerusalem this Thursday has been cancelled, following a meeting Monday morning between event organizers and police officials at the Russian Compound in the capital.

The event is held annually on Jerusalem Day, marking the liberation of eastern Jerusalem.

Due to the wave of Arab riots and a spate of rocket attacks from the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip, however, this year’s event was postponed.

Organizers rescheduled the event, which had originally been slated for May 10th, to June 10th. But police urged organizers to nix the parade entirely, claiming that the event could spark renewed Arab riots.

*Arutz Sheva* has learned that during Monday morning’s meeting between police officials and event organizers, the police department refused to back any compromise arrangement, even one which limited the event to western Jerusalem.

The Zionist activist group Im Tirtzu blasted the decision, calling it part of a “dangerous decline”.

We are saddened by the police's decision to not allow a march with Israeli flags in Israel's capital city. This is a severe mistake by the police that harms democracy and surrenders to terrorism," said Im Tirtzu CEO Matan Peleg.

"The State of Israel needs to stop the dangerous decline that it is experiencing on all fronts. The IDF is restricting navigation exercises in the Negev out of fear; in Jaffa soldiers can't walk in public with their uniforms; residents of mixed Jewish-Arab cities are being called settlers and are being targeted; and in the capital of Israel, terrorist groups are dictating whether or not people can march with Israeli flags. If we don't wake up, there won't be a state left for our children." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307605>

**Shas MK: 'We will make life miserable for the government'**

***'This is a paralyzed government, there's nothing they'll manage to push forward together,' Shas MK Michael Malkieli says.***

*Ben Shaul , Jun 07 , 2021 1:23 PM*



***Michael Malkiel Shlomi Cohen/ Flash 90***

Ahead if the upcoming vote on the proposed government, Shas MK Michael Malkieli warned that the [new government](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307096) will have to deal with a combative opposition.

"Anyone who thought he will be facing a sleepy opposition is mistaken and his imaginations are in error," Malkieli told Kol Hai Radio. "We are very good parliamentarians and we will ensure that the life of this government is very not simple. We will try to embarrass it as much as possible, and believe me, this is a government that it's not hard to embarrass, because of the contrasts and the lack of understandings between them, on a variety of issues."

"They have succeeded in bringing their vengeful desires to fruition, but the day afterwards you need to run the country as well. This is a paralyzed government. There is nothing that they will manage to push forward together."

Regarding the claims made by Yesh Atid's chief MK Yair Lapid and Yamina's chief MK Naftali Bennett that subjects of disagreement will be put aside, Malkieli said: "After two years without a stable government, there are a lot of things that need to be pushed forward."

"Let's talk for instance about the issue of regulating settlements. There's no such thing as leaving it all paralyzed. There are towns in Judea and Samaria which need permits in order to expand - if you don't approve it, that's not called doing nothing, you definitely are doing something - you are actively boycotting the settlements."

Regarding the negligible chance of forming a right-wing government, he said: "In politics it's hard to say that there is no longer any chance, but the hatred there towards [Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu is right now holding them very strongly. I don't think Netanyahu is at fault for this situation. Someone who examines everything I do will find what to criticize about me as well - there is what to criticize about every person. At the end of the day, Netanyahu is a good prime minister who has achieved great things."

When asked why he does not support a candidate other than Netanyahu, if it would help his voters, Malkieli answered: "Shas announced from the first moment that it would go with Netanyahu. We have to be faithful to our voters." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307603> [The governance of Israel is in real trouble now and has been for 2 years. There is a complete lack of the ability by anyone to look at the issues from another’s point of view. This will bode very poorly for the country as a whole. It is much like the status of the USA at this time and in reality much of the world. – rdb]

**Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu: 'This is what silencing people looks like'**

***'This discussion is just about silencing people,' Tzfat's Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu says.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Jun 07 , 2021 11:57 AM*



***Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu Yonatan Sindel/Flash90***

Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu, Chief Rabbi of Tzfat, responded to criticism [of a letter signed](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307555) by several rabbis, which called to "do everything" to stop the formation of the proposed government.

"I think that in a country in which the Prime Minister's display is hanging from a rope called 'freedom of speech,' this entire philosophical discussion is simply a circus," Rabbi Eliyahu told *News 12*. "I have no other word for it."

"They take a word that no one intended and no one understands it that way - we're not dealing with stupid people, so this discussion is just about silencing people," he said.

The interviewer responded, "We are against silencing people. And still, I ask you: especially when the most important rabbis are signatories - " At that point, Rabbi Eliyahu cut him off, saying that, "when you [justify by] saying, 'and still' - that is silencing people."

"I don't want to explain, because if I explain, it'll turn into a discussion. No one said and no one thought that anyone would say something inciting to violence. It is permissible to protest against people who promised that they absolutely would not join the Left, and who are joining the Left and stealing nearly 200,000 votes from people who did not want that." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307597>

**Report: New government to immediately resume talks with Palestinian Authority**

***Officials in Change Bloc tell US they plan to renew final status talks with Palestinian Authority as soon as new government is sworn in.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Jun 07 , 2021 9:24 AM*

The incoming national unity government will renew final status talk with the Palestinian Authority as soon as it is sworn in, several officials from the Change Bloc have reportedly told the Biden administration.

According to a report Monday morning in Israel Hayom, sources in the Change Bloc told senior officials in the Biden administration that they plan to renew final status talks with the PA on the basis of the two-state solution as soon as the new government is formed.

The Israeli sources cited in the report also said that Defense Minister Benny Gantz (Blue and White), who is slated to retain his position in the new government, made similar comments to senior US officials during his trip to Washington last week.

The report also claimed that the messages were conveyed to US officials without prime minister-designate Naftali Bennett’s approval or knowledge.

Bennett’s office said the Yamina chairman was unaware of any such messages to the Biden administration.

If talks are renewed between Israel and the PA, it will end a decade-long hiatus in final status negotiations. MORE -

<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307593> [This is not a good start for this new group. – rdb]

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**06/06/2021 NEWS AM**

**תדליק את האש | AISH | Shwekey Live Park**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-tj6BXYKNZQ>

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| Some people - do not feel  A flame that burns from within  She is inside the soul - bright and warm  There are people - who are looking  The lights in distant places  The constant spark - in every Jew | This is the secret - there is no other besides him  So we go hand in hand - and we dance  Time To Light The Fire Now  Light the fire - tell me if there is  Illuminate the whole night  Light the fire - tell me if there is  **We will sing until the morning comes** |

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| **"We can hardly expect the nation-state to make itself superfluous, at least not overnight. Rather what we must aim for is really nothing more than caretakers of a bankrupt international machine which will have to be transformed slowly into a new one. The transition will not be dramatic, but a gradual one. People will still cling to national symbols." -- Henry Morgenthau, Jr. (1891-1967) U.S. Secretary of the Treasury for Franklin D. Roosevelt, CFR member** |

**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 West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for DH – Mother going into hospice.**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  NOTE: Our prayer list was getting very long and there will little follow up.  If you have people you want to have on the list please resubmit since we are revising it now– rdb]  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 30:37And Jacob took for himself white rods of a fresh tree, and the almond and plane tree. And he peeled white stripes in them, laying bare the white on the rods. 38And he set the rods which he had peeled by the troughs, by the water troughs where the flocks came to drink, across from the flocks. And they were in heat when they came to drink. 39And the flocks were in heat before the rods and bore striped, speckled and spotted *offspring*. 40And Jacob separated the lambs, and he set the faces of the flock toward the striped, and every black one in the flocks of Laban. And he put his own droves by themselves, and did not put them with the flock of Laban.**

**Shin Bet head in rare warning: Stop violent discourse now, someone will get hurt**

***Nadav Argaman says agency seeing spike in online incitement, urges leaders to speak out clearly; statement comes as ‘change government’ takes form to oust Netanyahu***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:17 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2017/03/F170320YS07.jpg)***Head of the Shin Bet security service Nadav Argaman attends a Foreign Affairs and Defense committee meeting at the Knesset on March 20, 2017. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)***

In an extraordinary statement Saturday, the head of the Shin Bet internal security service Nadav Argaman warned of rising incitement and hate speech on social media, and the danger that it will spark political violence, as the coalition that aims to oust incumbent Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appears increasingly likely to be sworn in.

“We have recently identified a serious rise and radicalization in violent and inciting discourse, specifically on social media,” Argaman said, warning that such online speech could lead some groups or individuals to take violent action and even harm others.

“This discourse may be interpreted among certain groups or individuals as one that allows violent and illegal activity and could even lead to harm to individuals,” he said.

As the so-called “change government” has become increasingly likely, right-wing social discourse has become increasingly alarmist, with frequent declarations that the government bringing together the right, center and left could doom Israel and bring about dark times, angry protests outside politicians homes, the burning of political posters, and allegations of treason issued via traditional and social media.

The leaders of the right-wing Yamina party Naftali Bennett and Ayelet Shaked have come under intense attacks from others on the right for their decision to join the so-called “change government,” and have had their security increased due to the potential threats to their safety. Netanyahu has [declared](https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-swipes-at-yamina-woos-saar-in-bid-to-pry-right-wingers-from-lapid/) that the new government endangers the Land of Israel, the State of Israel, and the Israel Defense Forces.

Argaman said politicians, public opinion leaders, religious figures, and educators across the political spectrum must speak clearly against any violence.



Right-wing activists protest against the ‘change government’ outside Yamina MK Ayelet Shaked’s home in Tel Aviv on June 3, 2021. (Avshalom Sassoni/ Flash90)

“It is our duty to come out with a clear and decisive call for an immediate cessation of the inciting and violent speech. The responsibility for restraining the discourse rests on the shoulders of us all,” he added.

Channel 13 said the security establishment is concerned at the possibility of “physical harm” to Bennett, the prime minister-designate, and the members of his Yamina party, “religious Zionists who are facing… calls for physical violence against them.”

An unnamed security official told the TV station: “We are familiar with this: Somebody will read this [material castigating the planned new government] and will think that he has to ‘save the country’ — that if the change government is established, the Zionist project will be over — and will take action.”

 Argaman and the Shin Bet fear that somebody will “misinterpret” the criticisms of the planned change government, the TV report said, “will grab a weapon, will carry out a violent act, and will harm either Bennett or one of the MKs” heading into the change government.

Right-wing activists chant slogans and hold signs during a demonstration against the possibility of the Yamina party being part of a new government, in Tel Aviv, May 30, 2021. Placards read: Leftists. Traitors. (AP Photo/Sebastian Scheiner)

The report said the Shin Bet does not have any specific alerts regarding concrete threats to Bennett or members of his party, but that Argaman chose to sound the alarm over the fear that “we are getting closer and closer to 1995, to the months before the Rabin assassination.”

Argaman issued his warning, it said, amid ongoing Shin Bet monitoring of the “social media discourse,” having seen a “very significant surge in recent days of references to ‘treason against the state,’ [and the ostensible imperative to] ‘save the state from the change government’.”

During protests outside the homes of Yamina members over the past week, some characterized Bennett’s move to sit in a coalition with centrist Yesh Atid and the Islamist Ra’am party as “treason,” and carried placards proclaiming “Leftists. Traitors.”

Political incitement, and in particular the use of the term “traitor,” is a highly contentious issue in Israel as it is an accusation that was made by right-wing protesters against prime minister Yitzhak Rabin before he was assassinated in 1995 by a far-right Jewish extremist. The incitement against Rabin, which included him regularly being called a traitor by protesters, was seen as contributing to the motivation of his killer Yigal Amir.

“It seems we have not learned the necessary lessons from past events,” Defense Minister Benny Gantz tweeted on Saturday, referring to the 1995 assassination, in the wake of the Shin Bet warning.

“Anyone who tries to deny the legitimacy of basic democratic processes and ignites the fire of incitement, also bears responsibility,” Gantz said, adding that he calls on everyone, especially public leaders, to speak out against the incitement.

Likud MK and Finance Minister Israel Katz said he joined the warning against incitement. “You can have a profound argument without crossing dangerous lines. We all have the responsibility to act this way,” Katz said.

Yesh Atid MK Merav Ben Ari tweeted: “No MK should have to go through this, the violence against them comes from the Prime Minister’s Residence].”

Meanwhile the head of the Religious Zionism Party, Bezalel Smotrich responded with disdain.

“Several weeks ago Jewish citizens were killed and wounded here in severe rioting carried out by many of Israel’s Arabs. The Shin Bet under your leadership did not expect, warn of prepare for this in advance,” he tweeted. “Israelis deserve an explanation as to where you were, and how you missed the incitement and nationalism ahead of those riots.”

Likud’s Transportation Minister Miri Regev vowed to “continue to protest the theft of right-wing votes in a democratic and dignified manner, without violence.” She also complained of alleged “censorship and violation of the right to protest, while painting the entire right-wing camp as violent and dangerous.”

On Friday, Netanyahu posted a message on Facebook referencing the weekly Torah portion and the attempts to form a government booting him from power, invoking the Biblical account of the spies who sought to weaken “the spirit of the people.” MORE -<https://www.timesofisrael.com/shin-bet-head-in-rare-warning-stop-violent-discourse-now-someone-will-get-hurt/> [This is probably the most radical response to an event in Israel since the assassination of Rabin. Unfortunately much of this is coming from the far right religious groups. Much of Likud is at least modern orthodox. Most unusual. Obviously the lust for power denigrates people– rdb]

**Al Jazeera reporter detained in Jerusalem’s Sheikh Jarrah for ‘assaulting’ cops**

***Givara Budeiri released after several hours, denies allegations; Qatari network condemns the ‘shameful’ arrest***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 1:00 am*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/UFA5oEb4koVoiTkL.jpg)

Al Jazeera correspondent Givara Al Budeiri is detained by Israeli police in Jerusalem Sheikh Jarrah on June 5, 2021. (Screenshot/Twitter)

An Al Jazeera journalist was arrested in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood of East Jerusalem on Saturday, with Israeli police accusing her of attacking officers.

The correspondent was identified by Al Jazeera as Givara Budeiri, the Qatari network’s Jerusalem correspondent. She was released hours later and has denied the accusations against her, according to Al Jazeera.

“They came from everywhere, I don’t know why. They kicked me to the wall,” Budeiri said. “They kicked me inside the car in a very bad way … they were kicking me from everywhere.”

Footage from the scene showed the correspondent’s broken camera equipment on the floor after she was taken into custody.

According to reports, Budeiri received a 15-day restraining order barring her from the neighborhood following her release from custody.

The police had announced they arrested in the neighborhood two suspects, a man and a woman, for assaulting officers after they refused to identify themselves. A spokesperson for the police told The Times of Israel that the journalist was among those arrested.

זה צילום יותר קרוב. מי התגרה במי? כתבת עם אפוד וצלם מחברת ומיקרופון ביד, איזה איום?המשטרה נמסר :כוחות משטרה אשר פועלים לשמירת הסדר בשכונת שיח ג'ראח במהלך מחאה המתקימת במקום עצרו לחקירה אשה וגבר שסירבו להזדהות במהלך פיזורם של המשתתפים ותוך כדי כך תקפו פיזית את השוטרים במקום". <https://t.co/l7t8sUQv71> [pic.twitter.com/3vqxCV11xy](https://t.co/3vqxCV11xy)

— Jack khoury.جاك خوري (@KhJacki) [June 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/KhJacki/status/1401247335821328392?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

The network condemned the arrest, calling it “shameful behavior and a new chapter in a series of Israeli attacks,” and demanded Budeiri’s immediate release, which occurred shortly after.

The Palestinian Ministry of Information also condemned the arrest, saying that it “indicates what level of brutality the occupation has reached, which has waged at the same time a fierce war against journalists, especially in occupied Jerusalem,” Wafa, the official Palestinian Authority news agency reported.

According to the police, demonstrations were taking place in the neighborhood at the time, which included protesters hurling stones and launching fireworks toward officers.

They broke Al Jazeera’s camera, assaulted both the cameraman and the journalist, then arrested her.   
This is what US tax payers are funding. A brutal repression apparatus that has no respect for life, let alone free speech. This is the reality of Israel [pic.twitter.com/DNvKwKVSOH](https://t.co/DNvKwKVSOH)

— Dima Khatib ديمة الخطيب (@Dima\_Khatib) [June 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/Dima_Khatib/status/1401219258487611394?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

In recent months frequent clashes have occurred in the East Jerusalem neighborhood over the pending eviction of several Palestinian families from homes claimed by Jewish nationalists. The Supreme Court is set to hear an appeal from the families in Sheikh Jarrah, but will only convene on the matter in December.

The looming Sheikh Jarrah evictions were a central reason for the major unrest in Jerusalem last month that ended up sparking an 11-day conflict between the Gaza-ruling Hamas terror group and Israel, after violent protests spread to the Temple Mount and Al-Aqsa Mosque and prompted Hamas to fire rockets at Jerusalem.

The evictions are based in part on a 1970 Israeli law that allows Jews to reclaim East Jerusalem land owned by Jews before 1948. No similar law exists for Palestinians who lost their homes in what is now Israel during the 1948 Israeli War of Independence. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/al-jazeera-reporter-detained-in-jerusalems-sheikh-jarrah-for-assaulting-cops/> [I would caution you to consider with great skepticism to comments of the reporter because they have a real agenda to denigrate the police force and often either get in the way or actively participate in the “islamist activities”. -rdb]

**Gantz indicates he’ll demand cancellation of Jerusalem right-wing parade**

***Defense minister says he will oppose holding highly charged event on Thursday if it requires extraordinary security measures and endangers public order***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *6 June 2021, 12:25 am*

[](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)

Defense Minister Benny Gantz on Saturday said he will demand a right-wing nationalist parade through Jerusalem’s Old City be called off if it “requires extraordinary security measures and endangers public order and diplomatic processes.”

The controversial march is set to take place in Jerusalem’s Old City on June 10, after police canceled the annual Jerusalem Day march mid-event May 10 when Hamas fired a barrage of rockets toward the city.

Gantz released the statement following a meeting with the military and police chiefs, the attorney general, and other top security officials. The defense minister said he stressed to all officials present the need for responsible, sensitive behavior.

Leaders of the left-wing Labor, Meretz and Joint List parties warned earlier Saturday of the potential negative consequences of the march and indicated they believed it could be a deliberate attempt to thwart the formation of the so-called “change government.”

 Police chiefs were set to hold a meeting Sunday to decide whether to approve the march. According to Channel 12, the parade was likely to be approved, though possibly with changes to its route, including a refusal to allow participants to pass through the volatile Damascus Gate area that was at the center of unrest in the capital last month.

Jewish women some covered with Israeli flags pray on Jerusalem Day, which celebrates the unification of the Old City during the 1967 Mideast war, at the Western Wall, in the Old City of Jerusalem, May 10, 2021. (Oded Balilty/AP)

Yesh Atid MK Ram Ben-Barak on Saturday said the parade was an attempt to reignite the region and thwart plans to swear in a new government.

“We are at the beginning of difficult days in which a lot of pressure and attempts will be made to thwart the change government, but in the end, a new era will begin here. The will to form a government that will unite the division in Israeli society will overcome all attempts to thwart it,” Ben-Barak said.

After previous unrest in Jerusalem was seized upon by Hamas to fire at the city on May 10, sparking 11 days of Israel-Gaza conflict and days of Arab-Jewish violence inside Israel, some critics of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accused him of stoking the flames in the capital to foil his rivals’ attempts to form a government that would remove him from power. Amid the violence, Ra’am party chief Mansour Abbas withdrew from coalition talks and Yamina party chief Naftali Bennett briefly ruled out a government by the change bloc.

However, both eventually returned to the table, and on Wednesday night the bloc announced it had agreed on forming a government. The planned coalition, which has a wafer-thin 61-59 majority, is set to be voted on by the Knesset on either June 9 or June 14.

Labor party leader Merav Michaeli in a Saturday interview with Channel 12 also said the rescheduling of the march seemed like an attempt to reignite the violence, adding that “the whole drama we saw because of provocations in Jerusalem only just calmed down, it would be blatantly irresponsible to allow it again.”

“If Netanyahu and Smotrich reignite Jerusalem next week, there will be no more doubt about the motive and goal,” Meretz leader Nitzan Horowitz said, referring to the involvement of the leader of the Religious Zionism Party, Bezalel Smotrich, in the planned march.

“We won’t allow them to burn the country on the way out of Balfour,” Horowitz added, referring to the premier’s official residence. [Notice this very carefully. Horowitz is in Meretz a far left party (like the US progressive garbage) and he is stating “on the way out of Balfour”. The land of Israel was literally facilitated and established BY the Balfour declaration. The leftist groups are openly implying (or saying) that they really don’t want the Balfour declaration and the land of Israel for the Jewish people. These nitwits have no religious orientation and no sense of the fact that the land of Israel is their God Given Right and Inheritance which they are commanded to inhabit. This is why there are such problems in Israel. It is also why those on the right are so distressed that in order to avoid another election groups joined these leftists groups. – rdb]

Arab Israeli lawmakers Ahmad Tibi of the Joint List and Meretz’s Issawi Frej both issued letters to the chief of police, demanding the march be canceled.

“This is a provocation that looks like an attempt to reignite violence in our region, perhaps with the hope that it will serve certain political interests,” Frej wrote.

Tibi said the planned march poses a “great danger of violence.”

Former prime minister Ehud Barak said the planned march “appears like a clumsy attempt to reignite violence during a sensitive time,” adding that it was in the hands of Defense Minister Benny Gantz, Police Commissioner Kobi Shabtai and Head of the Shin Bet security service Nadav Argaman to prevent it.

Meanwhile far-right MK Itamar Ben Gvir said the parade will take place regardless of the warnings it may reignite violence.

“In face of the anger of the far-left government, we will march in Jerusalem,” Ben Gvir said. “Jerusalem is our capital forever and ever, and we will march everywhere, happily.”

Ben Gvir’s [decision to “relocate” his office](https://www.timesofisrael.com/tv-netanyahu-office-warned-ben-gvir-of-gaza-rockets-if-he-didnt-leave-e-jlem/) to East Jerusalem during tensions there last month is seen as having been a central cause of unrest there that later spread to the Temple Mount, leading Hamas to fire rockets at Israel and thus igniting last month’s conflict with Gaza and inter-ethnic violence in Israeli cities.

The eight-party coalition that aims to oust Netanyahu [appears increasingly likely to secure the necessary majority](https://www.timesofisrael.com/tv-anti-netanyahu-coalition-seen-increasingly-likely-to-secure-knesset-majority/) support in the Knesset. The assessment among all members of the change bloc, led by PM-designate Bennett and Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid, is that the coalition will indeed be successfully sworn in, according to Friday television reports.

The intended coalition brings together eight parties from across the political spectrum: The right-wing Yamina, New Hope and Yisrael Beytenu, the centrist Yesh Atid and Blue and White, the left-wing Labor and Meretz, and the conservative Islamic party Ra’am. Bennett is set to serve as prime minister until mid-2023, with Lapid to succeed him for the subsequent two years.

But [the rescheduled march](https://www.timesofisrael.com/nationalist-groups-reschedule-controversial-jerusalem-march-scuttled-by-rockets/) could reignite violence in the capital and beyond, and could challenge the shaky alliance that is trying to oust Netanyahu.

The Hamas terror group on Saturday warned of “consequences” if the march passes through the Damascus Gate entrance to the Old City. Muhammad Hamadeh, the terror group’s spokesperson in Jerusalem, called upon Palestinians to arrive at the Al-Aqsa Mosque on Thursday, when the march is supposedly set to take place, to “protect it from the malice of Zionism and their schemes.”

The Islamic Jihad group, which was also heavily involved in the Gaza fighting, said a march would be seen as “a hostile action against the Palestinian people and Palestinian land.” It called on Palestinians to gather at Al-Aqsa and confront any attempt to breach the compound. MORE -<https://www.timesofisrael.com/gantz-indicates-hell-demand-cancellation-of-jerusalem-right-wing-parade/> Things just keep getting more and more interesting and divisive and confused in The Holy Land. – rdb]

**Poll: Public prefers Bennett-Lapid gov’t to election, but few expect it to last**

***Survey for Channel 12 also shows more Israelis trust Yamina chief than Netanyahu, and more Israelis blame the premier for the failure to form a right-wing government***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 8:44 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/70b7bb58-cafc-460a-9dd5-2b1807b8442b.jpg)

***Yamina chief Naftali Bennett and Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid are seen on Wednesday evening, as they inform President Reuven Rivlin they have succeeded in forming a government, June 2, 2021 (Courtesy)***

A plurality of Israelis prefer the prospective power-sharing government of Naftali Bennett and Yair Lapid to new elections, but only a quarter believe it will succeed, a poll indicated Saturday.

The Midgam survey for Channel 12 showed 46 percent of Israelis prefer the emergent government to a fifth national vote, while 38% would like to go to the polls again. Fifteen percent said they did not know. On the right, a third of right-wing voters said they preferred the change government, while 55% prefer elections.

Meanwhile 42% think the government will be sworn in but won’t last, 16% think it won’t even be sworn in, and only 24% believe it will be sworn in and last.

The poll also showed Israelis trust Bennett more than Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Asked who they trusted more, 44% said Bennett, while 35% said Netanyahu (21% did not know). On the right, 29% trust Bennett more, while 53% trust Netanyahu.

Asked who was to blame for the failure to form a right-wing government, 41% said Netanyahu, 24% blamed Bennett and 12% said Religious Zionism head Bezalel Smotrich.

Asked whether Netanyahu had been wrong to reject offers to allow a different candidate to temporarily lead Likud and the government, 52% answered in the affirmative and 21% said he should not have agreed. On the right, 46% said Netanyahu was wrong and 25% said he was right.

Finally, the poll also showed a plurality of Israelis oppose Islamist Arab party Ra’am joining the coalition, 48% to 40%.

The survey was conducted on June 3 among 507 adults representative of the population at large, with a margin of error of 4.4%.

According to multiple TV reports Friday, the eight-party coalition that aims to oust Netanyahu appears increasingly likely to secure the necessary majority support in the Knesset.

The assessment among all members of the “change bloc,” led by Prime Minister-designate Naftali Bennett and Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid, is that the coalition will indeed be sworn in, Channel 12 said, with a wafer-thin 61-59 majority. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/poll-public-prefers-bennett-lapid-govt-to-election-but-few-expect-it-to-last/> This next week is going to be most interesting. There are the potential of amazing prophetic implications. – rdb]

**Starting Sunday, 600,000 Israeli teens eligible for COVID-19 vaccine**

***Thousands aged 12-16 said to have booked appointments even as pandemic fades in country; Health Ministry campaign will start with those most at risk***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:55 pm*

Some 600,000 Israelis aged 12-16 will be eligible to receive a vaccine against the coronavirus from Sunday. Thousands have already booked appointments through the country’s health maintenance organizations (HMOs), according to Saturday reports.

The move comes six months after [Israel began its vaccination drive](https://www.timesofisrael.com/health-providers-launch-booking-for-vaccinations-first-appointments-on-monday/) for adults, and after the US Food and Drug Administration okayed the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for the age group. [Remember that US FDA ONLY gave an emergency use approval and not a real Okay for this JAB. This is moist sad because they are allowing this experimental chemical Jab to be used on children who normally have very little difficulty with morbidity and mortality from this virus. – rdb]

Some HMOs have already vaccinated children under 16 in at-risk groups and have seen no significant side effects from the shot.

According to the plan, children in that age group who are at greater risk of suffering severe symptoms from coronavirus infection will be the first advised to get the shots, along with those living with family members who are likewise at risk of serious illness.

Families that are expecting to travel abroad will also be included in the first round of vaccinations, the ministry said.

The ministry stressed to The Times of Israel that vaccination will not be compulsory for adolescents, only advised, and parents will be able to decide if they want their children to get the shots.

On Tuesday it was reported that a member of the Health Ministry panel that has been advising on COVID-19 vaccinations [received death threats](https://www.timesofisrael.com/vaccine-panel-adviser-gets-death-threats-over-planned-inoculation-of-children/) during the process of approval for the inoculation of children.

Prof. Galia Rahav of Sheba Medical Center received threatening messages from anti-vaxxers online, including images of tombstones with her name and a “pulsa dinura,” a Jewish death curse that literally translates as “lashes of fire,” Kan news reported.

The hospital said it was coordinating with police over the threats and will provide Rahav with security at all times.

Israel’s mass vaccination drive, which has already given both shots to over half the population, along with lockdown measures, brought down the number of new daily cases (based on a weekly average), from 8,600 at the peak of the health crisis to just 19 on Sunday.

On Tuesday, the last of a series of[restrictions in place for over a year lapsed](https://www.timesofisrael.com/back-to-normal-israel-lifts-nearly-all-covid-restraints-as-virus-fades-away/) as case numbers continued to fall. The only major restrictions remaining are the mandate requiring masks to be worn indoors, expected to be lifted soon as well, and quarantine requirements for those entering the country.

At the height of the pandemic, there were 88,000 active cases in the country and 1,228 serious cases; as of Friday, there were 199 active infections and 39 people in serious condition.

Since the beginning of the outbreak early last year, 839,539 people have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in Israel and there have been 6,417 deaths from the disease. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/starting-sunday-600000-israeli-teens-eligible-for-covid-19-vaccine/> [Unfortunately this entire process is a fraud. When you look at the statistics of how many people actually were infected with the virus (including those that simply tested positive and didn’t even have significant symptoms) and the actual mortality rate it is less than 0.1% which makes this infectious process no worse than a normal bad flu year. This is not a real ‘pandemic’ and is a PLANED-demic. The majority of those with problems are the elderly and those with multiple co-morbidities. It seems that many of the leaded emails are beginning to show this beside the complicity of Fauci and the corrupt NIH and CDC. – rdb]

**Amid civil unrest, Israeli rescue service emerged as beacon of coexistence**

***United Hatzalah, which relies on a nationwide network of thousands of Jewish, Muslim and Christian volunteer EMTs, paramedics and doctors, remained steadfast during weeks of racially motivated riots throughout the country***

*Maya Margit/The Media Line | Published: 06.05.21 , 18:54*

Sami Darwish had just returned home from prayers at al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem when a fateful series of events turned an otherwise peaceful afternoon into a close call with death.

The 60-year-old medic from the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sharafat has been a volunteer ambulance driver at United Hatzalah, Israel’s largest non-profit independent emergency medical service, since 2008.

At around 3 pm on the last Friday of Ramadan, Darwish was standing outside his home in Sharafat when he said he saw a white van begin driving around the neighborhood.

“There were two young men inside with a megaphone yelling out insults and unspeakable curses in Arabic,” says Darwish.

“They were driving around the area and I went to see what they were doing. I stood close to the car and they almost ran me over and insulted me.”

Though the rabble-rousers, whom Darwish described as being Orthodox Jews in appearance, did eventually leave without any further altercations, residents of Sharafat were shaken.

The incident occurred against the backdrop of a flare-up in Arab-Jewish violence across the country, which had seen lynching attempts, riots and clashes with police.



Sami Darwish, receiving an award from Jerusalem Mayor Moshe Lion in 2019 for his work in saving lives

(Photo: The Media Line)

After the van left, Darwish says, everyone in his neighborhood “was awake and keeping an eye out.”

“It was a holy day: the last Friday of Ramadan,” he says. “What brought these people here to our neighborhood? Why did this car come by and who helped them? Why didn’t the police do anything?”

Unfortunately, the story did not end peacefully.

 Several hours later, an ultra-Orthodox Jewish man passed through the same area.

***Palestinians rioting in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Shuafat (Photo: AFP)***

Thinking he was somehow connected to the Jewish extremists from earlier in the day, Arab residents suddenly crowded around the Jewish man and began attacking him.

Had Darwish not intervened in time, the man – whose identity has not been revealed – might have ended up getting killed.

“He was innocent and had nothing to do with what had happened before,” Darwish says. “I took the man and brought him away to a safe place to save his life.”

One of the reasons Darwish joined United Hatzalah was due to a lack of efficient first response services in Arab areas.

“Jewish ambulance drivers don’t know those areas very well,” he explained. “This means that when we call an ambulance it takes a long time for it to arrive.”

Through weeks of riots, rockets and civil unrest, United Hatzalah’s medical emergency service emerged as a beacon of coexistence. The organization relies on a nationwide network made up of thousands of volunteer EMTs, paramedics and doctors to provide life-saving first response care.

“We’ve had almost double the amount of calls over the last month daily than we have previously,” says Raphael Poch, international media spokesperson of United Hatzalah.

“Usually, we have about 1,800 calls in a day … since the end of Ramadan when the violence was getting really heavy, the calls spiked to about 3,000.”



***United Hatzalah ambucycles at the scene of an accident in Ramle (Photo: United Hatzalah)***

When they receive an emergency alert from the organization’s national dispatch center, volunteer first responders drop everything and rush to help save lives. In urban areas, the average response time is 90 seconds thanks to a fleet of ambucycles that can easily weave in and out of traffic.

“United Hatzalah takes pride in having over 6,000 volunteers from all walks of life,” says Gavy Friedson, director of International Emergency Management at United Hatzalah.

“Jews, Christians, Druze, Muslims: Literally anybody who wants to volunteer has a place here as long as they’re qualified and take the course to become either an EMT or a paramedic.”

About 10% of the organization’s volunteers are Muslim.

Khaled Rishek, who hails from the mixed Jerusalem neighborhood of Abu Tor, is one of them. The 54-year-old father of four, who joined United Hatzalah some 13 years ago, described the recent uptick in violence across Jerusalem as being among the “toughest periods” he had ever witnessed in the city.

“We had many calls to respond to, especially in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, Al-Aqsa Mosque and Damascus Gate areas, as well as during the [Jewish holiday] of Shavuot, where we also had the regrettable incident in Givat Ze’ev when the bleacher collapsed,” Rishek says, referring to an incident that took place two weeks ago.

On the eve of Shavuot, two people were killed and an additional 184 injured when newly installed bleachers in a Hassidic synagogue in Givat Ze’ev collapsed during holiday prayers.

The bleacher collapse in Givat Ze've in which two people were killed

Since observant Jews do not answer their phones or use electrical appliances over religious holidays, many Muslim first responders from United Hatzalah took the lead in treating those injured and alerting their loved ones.

Likewise, Rishek also has seen his fair share of injured people in the east Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah, which has been the site of protests over planned evictions of Palestinian families.



***United Hatzalah EMTs in the synagogue in Givat Ze’ev where the bleachers collapsed (Photo: TPS)***

“In Sheikh Jarrah, I helped a Jewish man who was hurt after getting hit in the head with a stone,” Rishek says.

“We evacuated him from there with a head injury. I gave him life-saving primary care. I also helped Palestinians who were shot with rubber bullets and beaten by police.

“United Hatzalah is a very important organization for us because it responds to and connects people, regardless of their faith, race or gender,” he added.

Despite the unpredictable nature of being a first responder and the risks associated with working under fire, United Hatzalah has become an inextricable part of Israel’s wider emergency response system, especially in times of war and civil unrest. In fact, the organization says it has treated over four million people across Israel since 2006.

“It takes a certain type of person to go out and drop whatever it is you’re doing and rush out to save someone you don’t know, but the amount of satisfaction that you get from doing that and from knowing you’ve helped, knowing you’ve saved a life – it’s incomparable to any other feeling in the world,” Poch says. <https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/H16HyWF900#autoplay> [While there are significant problems found IN INDIVIDUALS in all sectors of society one must be very careful and judicious when painting all with a broad brush. – rdb]

**Sinwar says next fight will reshape region, denies IDF crippled tunnel network**

***Hamas’s Gaza chief claims only 3% of so-called ‘metro’ ruined, after Al Jazeera airs new footage from subterranean passages***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 4:16 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/tunnel-e1622890833296.jpg)

Footage aired by the Al Jazeera network of the Hamas tunnel system under the Gaza Strip, June 5, 2021 (Screen grab)

Yahya Sinwar on Saturday said Hamas had only displayed half its strength during the most recent round of fighting with Israel, and denied the Israeli military’s claim that a significant portion of the terror group’s tunnel network had been destroyed.

“We showed only half our strength. We managed to launch 130 rockets on Tel Aviv in one barrage and we only launched our old rockets in the last campaign,” Sinwar said in comments at a conference in Gaza. “We shook Tel Aviv — there are a lot of things hidden from the public.”

Sinwar referred to the recent normalization between Israel and Arab countries, seen as a betrayal by many Palestinians. “Arab leaders made Tel Aviv the direction of their prayers. We turned it into a rag,” he said.

During May’s 11-day conflict, southern Israel suffered the majority of rocket hits. Most of the rockets fired at Tel Aviv and its suburbs were intercepted by the Iron Dome missile defense system, with a few getting through. Three people were killed — two in Rishon Lezion and one in Ramat Gan. In all, 13 Israelis (12 civilians) were killed during the conflict that saw thousands of projectiles fired at southern and central Israel.



***Hamas leader in Gaza Yahya Sinwar sits in his bombed Gaza office, May 27, 2021***

The terror leader also said that any future fighting would “reshape” the region, and cited the need to “defend” Jerusalem.

“Every Palestinian will defend us remaining in Jerusalem and in Sheikh Jarrah,” Sinwar said. “If the conflict breaks out again — the shape of the Middle East will change. We have proven that there are those who defend the Al-Aqsa Mosque.”

Sinwar [threatened](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-gaza-chief-threatens-to-renew-fighting-if-israel-violates-al-aqsa/) last week to resume rocket attacks if Israel “violates” the Al-Aqsa Mosque on Jerusalem’s Temple Mount, while a spokesman for Hamas’s armed wing told a crowd of supporters that it will respond to any Israeli escalation in kind, after some Israeli officials called for a harsher response to the terror group, including the renewal of assassinations of Hamas leaders.

Hamas used violence in the capital as a pretext to launch rockets on Jerusalem last month, sparking 11 days of intense fighting that saw more than 4,000 rockets fired at Israel and the IDF carry out some 1,500 retaliatory strikes on Gaza. [NOTICE “A pretext”. It was an excuse! – rdb]

The initial barrage was fired by Hamas during the controversial flag parade in Jerusalem’s Old City on May 10. Parade organizers [said](https://www.timesofisrael.com/nationalist-groups-reschedule-controversial-jerusalem-march-scuttled-by-rockets/) Friday they plan to hold a new march on June 10, including through the Muslim Quarter. It is not yet clear whether police will allow it to go forward.

Sinwar also pushed back against Israel’s claims that it had destroyed a significant part of the terror group’s Gaza tunnel system in recent fighting, known in the Israeli defense establishment as Gaza’s “metro.”

He said that “not even 3 percent was destroyed.”

The comments came a day after the Al-Jazeera network aired footage filmed in the tunnels in an apparent bid by Hamas to refute Israel’s claim that it had severely damaged the network.

In the footage, cited by the Kan public broadcaster, a Hamas operative admits that there was damage to the tunnels but asserts that it was limited and that the system has already been repaired.

Al-Jazeera said the footage was filmed after the end of the most recent round of fighting between Israel and the Gaza terror groups.

The report showed the concrete-lined walls of tunnels and a command and control room that was said to have been used during the recent fighting, as well as ammunition stores.

The claims by the terror group contradict the IDF, which has said that it destroyed upwards of 100 kilometers (60 miles) of Hamas tunnels in the Gaza Strip in recent fighting.

This rendered unusable large swaths of the terror group’s subterranean infrastructure — roughly a third of it, according to IDF assessments — and, more importantly, demonstrated to Hamas’s operatives that they were vulnerable to attack in their underground bunkers.

The IDF’s assault on Hamas’s tunnel network kicked off in earnest with a massive round of airstrikes on the fourth night of the conflict, which was accompanied by an elaborate ruse that was meant to convince the terror group that Israel was about to launch a ground invasion of the Strip and that it should therefore send its fighters into the passages beneath northern Gaza.

Defense officials initially boasted they believed hundreds of fights had entered the tunnels and been killed in the subsequent bombing. However, it eventually became clear that the ploy saw only limited success, and that perhaps several dozen Hamas men were killed.

Israel’s ability to consistently strike subterranean targets was also said to be aimed at sending a message to Hezbollah in Lebanon, which maintains its own [massive underground complex](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hezbollah-has-dug-network-of-tunnels-from-beirut-to-southern-lebanon-report/) of tunnels and bunkers. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/sinwar-says-next-fight-will-reshape-region-denies-idf-crippled-tunnel-network/>

**Qatar sent hundreds of millions of dollars to terrorist group- report**

***Qatar, whose monarchy was accused by Germany’s Development Minister Gerd Mueller of financing the terrorist movement the Islamic State in 2014, is slated to host the soccer World Cup in 2022.***

By [BENJAMIN WEINTHAL](https://www.jpost.com/author/benjamin-weinthal)   JUNE 6, 2021 00:28

A group of Syrians filed a legal action against the Qatari regime last week in London for allegedly sending hundreds of millions of dollars to the international-designated terrorist group al-Nusra Dront in Syria.

The Times front-paged the story on the alleged Qatar state-sponsorship of the al-Qaeda affiliate,  al-Nusra Front.

According to the paper, “a private office of the Gulf state’s monarch was at the heart of clandestine routes by which money was transferred to… the Nusra Front.” The London-based paper said “Two Qatari banks, several charities, wealthy businessmen, leading politicians and civil servants are among the defendants in a claim for damages lodged by nine Syrians.”

The nine Syrians claimed in the High Court in London, according to the Times, that “each played a part in an alleged conspiracy on behalf of the Qatari state, acting in co-ordination with the Muslim Brotherhood, the Sunni Islamist organization.”

Qatar, whose monarchy was accused by Germany’s  Development Minister Gerd Mueller of financing the terrorist movement the Islamic State in 2014,  is slated to host the soccer World Cup in 2022.

According to the legal action filed by the Syrians, the pro-al-Nusra Front plot was activated by “by high-ranking members of the Qatari ruling elite”  who issued money to “actively support and facilitate” to  al-Nusra Front terrorists in Syria.

The Times wrote that Qatari individuals and organizations acting “on behalf of the state of Qatar” provided  al-Nusra Front with hundreds of millions of dollars.

*The Jerusalem Post* [reported](https://www.jpost.com/international/us-team-to-qatar-to-probe-its-alleged-finance-of-hezbollah-report-638382) last year that the US sent a team to probe Qatar’s regime for its reported financing of  the US and EU-classified terrorist movement Hezbollah.

The US, UK and the United Nations Security Council have designated the al-Nusra Front a terrorist organization.

The Times reported that “among named defendants accused of involvement are Hamad bin Jassim al-Thani, Qatar’s former prime minister, and Abdulhadi Mana al-Hajri, the owner of London’s Ritz hotel. Their representatives said the allegations were completely baseless. Categorical denials were issued by every Qatari defendant identified in the claim that was contacted by The Times.”

According to the legal action, the Time said the "money was laundered for terrorism via significantly overpriced construction contracts, the purchase of property at inflated prices and overpayments to Syrian migrant workers. The claim alleges the clandestine funding operation was carried out with the Muslim Brotherhood and included meetings in Turkey between prominent Qatari individuals and representatives of jihadist groups operating in Syria."

The newspaper reported that" money was transferred from the bank accounts of Qatari companies and charities either to Syria directly or to Turkish banks, where the claimants say it was withdrawn and taken across the border into Syria."

The Syrians said they took heavy financial losses or were victims of "torture, arbitrary detention, threats of execution and other forms of persecution committed by Nusra Front," wrote the paper.

The Times reported "Central to the operation, it is alleged, was the private engineering office of the Amiri Diwan, a Qatari government agency that controls all major construction and development contracts. It receives its directives from Qatar’s emir, Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani."

The Syrians alleged that Qatar's financial system was embroiled in the financing of al-Nusra Front, including  the Qatar National Bank (QNB),  and the Doha Bank. The QNB is the bank for the World Cup.

The Times wrote "The new claim alleges that QNB and Doha Bank knew or ought to have known that they were being used to transfer funds to terrorists. If they were unaware of this, it is alleged that they acted unlawfully by failing to monitor their accounts. Doha Bank told The Times the allegations were untrue, as did the Khayyat brothers. QNB said the claims had no factual basis and were categorically untrue." <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/qatar-sent-hundreds-of-millions-of-dollars-to-terrorist-group-report-670212> [Way to go! Let’s fund and support more terrorism in a country that has been decimated by years of war killing hundreds of thousands of people. – rdb]

**‘You couldn’t make it up if you tried’: Twitter censors at home, but calls access to platform a ‘human right’ in Nigeria**

*5 Jun, 2021 18:04*



A man reads a newspaper at a newsstand in Abuja, Nigeria, after the Nigerian government banned Twitter, June 5, 2021 © Reuters / Afolabi Sotunde

Twitter is very concerned about its recent blocking in Nigeria, calling the free and open internet an “essential human right.” Back in the US, commentators pointed out, Twitter doesn’t care as much about this “right.”

Nigeria’s government “indefinitely” banned Twitter on Friday, after the US tech giant temporarily suspended President Muhammadu Buhari for a tweet promising a crackdown on armed separatists. Telecoms networks in the West African nation began enforcing the ban on Saturday morning, according to multiple media reports.

*“We are deeply concerned by the blocking of Twitter in Nigeria,”* the company stated on Saturday. *“Access to the free and #OpenInternet is an essential human right in modern society.”*

Twitter added that it would *“work to restore access for all those in Nigeria who rely on Twitter to communicate and connect with the world.”*

We are deeply concerned by the blocking of Twitter in Nigeria. Access to the free and [#OpenInternet](https://twitter.com/hashtag/OpenInternet?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) is an essential human right in modern society.We will work to restore access for all those in Nigeria who rely on Twitter to communicate and connect with the world. [#KeepitOn](https://twitter.com/hashtag/KeepitOn?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

— Twitter Public Policy (@Policy) [June 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/Policy/status/1401151115022979076?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

However Twitter’s recent actions in the US reveal a corporation much less concerned with its users’ ability to “communicate with the world” – especially if those users challenge the Democrat-supporting, Silicon Valley orthodoxy. Twitter’s executives used to describe the platform as *“the free speech wing of the free speech party,”* but bans and suspensions are now a threat to users posting *“misinformation”* – to be understood as content that [challenges](https://www.rt.com/usa/521186-veritas-okeefe-suspended-twitter/) the liberal media consensus, or harms the [political goals](https://www.rt.com/op-ed/509410-media-hunter-joe-biden/) of the Democratic Party.

Donald Trump, while still the sitting president of the US, found himself booted indefinitely from Twitter in January after his supporters rioted on Capitol Hill, and merely [posting](https://www.rt.com/usa/523013-twitter-bans-donald-trump-desk/) the ex-president’s statements can now incur deletions and suspensions.

With Twitter apparently happy to play censor at home, conservatives and opponents of Big Tech scoffed at the company’s professed commitment to openness in Nigeria. *“Man,”* former Republican Congressional candidate Joshua Foxworth [tweeted](https://twitter.com/FoxworthFor14/status/1401203965014933504), *“you have to admire the sheer cognitive dissonance here.”*

I am deeply concerned by the suspending of President Donald Trump on Twitter. Access to the free and [#OpenInternet](https://twitter.com/hashtag/OpenInternet?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) is an essential human right in modern society, even if you disagree with their politics.

— Lavern Spicer (@lavern\_spicer) [June 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/lavern_spicer/status/1401158219003744259?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

It's an essential human right?Well then you should be in the Hague. <https://t.co/RfxBDeLarf>

— Count Dankula🏴󠁧󠁢󠁳󠁣󠁴󠁿🏳️‍🌈 (@CountDankulaTV) [June 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/CountDankulaTV/status/1401193374070317056?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

The company blocking a former president’s content from their site believe “access to the internet” is an “essential human right.”You couldn’t make it up if you tried. <https://t.co/ACmzRAAKeY>

— Sara Gonzales (@SaraGonzalesTX) [June 5, 2021](https://twitter.com/SaraGonzalesTX/status/1401209652977807364?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Nigeria isn’t the only country that’s been treated by Twitter to a sermon on openness and freedom in recent months. When Russian regulators slowed down traffic to the platform in March, in response to violations of Russian law, Twitter complained that Russia was attempting *“to block and throttle online public conversation.”*

<https://www.rt.com/news/525790-twitter-responds-nigeria-ban/> [This is just great! NOTICE that this article is from a Russian media outlet. Perhaps those people in big tech are finally angering enough people that they may have to decide whether up is down or down is up. =- rdb]

**Rand Paul says he and his family have received ‘death threats’ as result of clashes with Fauci on Covid-19**

*5 Jun, 2021 17:58*

***©  Susan Walsh/Pool via REUTERS***

Senator Rand Paul (R-Kentucky) has said his public sparring with the US president’s chief medical adviser, Dr. Anthony Fauci, on Covid-19 and its origins has led to multiple death threats against him and his family.

“I don’t know what the world’s coming to. You can’t ask honest, difficult questions that, in the end, have proved that Dr. Fauci was not being honest with us, but as a repercussion, my family had white powder sent to our house, and five death threats phoned in,” Paul told Fox News’ Sean Hannity on Friday night.

The senator’s comments follow a report last month that a suspicious substance had been sent to his home, accompanied by a mocked-up picture of him with a gun to his head and the message: *“I’ll finish what your neighbor started, you motherf\*\*\*er.”* The threat was a reference to an assault on Paul by Rene Boucher in 2017.

Paul has been one of Fauci’s most vocal critics during the pandemic, with the two getting into verbal brawls on everything from the origins of Covid-19 to the value of masking.

One of their more virulent exchanges occurred recently, when the Kentucky senator questioned Fauci on the effectiveness of fully vaccinated Americans continuing to mask themselves in public, blasting it as theater. Fauci pushed back against this description, saying Covid-19 was still transmittable to those who were unvaccinated. Weeks later, Fauci appeared to change his position on masking, along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, saying new data showed masking in public for vaccinated Americans was unnecessary.

Paul has also questioned recent reports on Fauci’s apparent support of gain-of-function research – that is, into the act of altering a virus and making it more dangerous to humans in an effort to better combat it and others in the future – as well as his denial that funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to the Wuhan Institute of Virology had not included budgeting for such research.

*“There’s been no more prominent scientist in favor of gain-of-function research than Dr. Fauci,”* the senator said. *“He still hasn’t backed off of that position. He still believes that it’s OK to take animal viruses and make them into super-viruses to infect humans. Even if a pandemic should occur, he says the research is worth it.”*

Fauci has said no funding from the NIH went toward gain-of-function research, though he has also said he has no *“guarantee”* for where the money ended up. Paul has countered that multiple email exchanges show Fauci being unclear about where exactly NIH funding was going.

Fauci, who has seen calls for his resignation from conservatives gain momentum after the release of those emails, thanks to Freedom of Information Act requests, pushed back against attacks from Republicans on Friday night,  dismissing them as *“nonsense.”*

*“I mean, it is what it is. I’m a public figure – I’m going to take the arrows and the slings, but they’re just... they’re fabricated, and that’s just what it is,”* he told MSNBC in response to the accusations.

<https://www.rt.com/usa/525783-rand-paul-fauci-death-threats/> [Perhaps Rand Paul and other conservatives who actually understand the game that is being played by Fauci, NIH CDC FDA and other deep state operatives needs to look higher up and who is making the threats because the real culprits are those whose agenda is potentially going to be thwarted by the exposure of the lies and collusion that have been going on for quite a number of years. Those individuals are the eugenicists and globalist who have been planning on this for a long time to implement their great reset for the world. Take down any nation with nationalistic backgrounds like the USA and Israel and promote the EU/UN globalist ideology. This is the entire basis for the demon-ratic party of today. It was the basis for the Clintons, Bushes, Obamanations and Bidens not to mention the Pelosi/Schumer cabal. There are a significant number of rinos in that group as well. – rdb]

**Girl has Bible confiscated by school officials**

***'How could this still be happening in America?'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published June 5, 2021 at 3:55pm*

It's been some 30 years or more since the U.S. Supreme Court established some of the most significant precedents for students in schools, including one that the First Amendment does indeed apply to students in schools.

But still sometimes educators don't understand, as happened with a recent case in Illinois where officials confiscated a Bible from a second-grader simply because she was reading it during recess, and would talk about it with friends.  
 The documentation of the situation comes in a report from Francis J. Manion at the [American Center for Law and Justice,](https://aclj.org/religious-liberty/school-backs-down-after-confiscating-2nd-grade-little-girls-bible-at-school-a-victory-for-religious-liberty) whose founder, Jay Sekulow, argued some of those precedent-establishing cases at the Supreme Court.  
 "A little girl had her Bible confiscated by school officials. How could this still be happening in America?" the report wondered, then explaining it's because "local school officials still don’t seem to have gotten the message."  
 "We recently heard from the parents of Gabrielle, a second grader in Illinois. It seems Gabrielle likes to bring her Bible to school and read it during recess. Sometimes she reads it aloud, and sometimes other kids listen in and talk with her about what she's reading," the report said. "Constitutional crisis? It shouldn't be; but little Gabrielle had her Bible taken away by a teacher and was told, 'You just can’t be doing that.'"  
 The school then told the little girl's parents she was not allowed to read the Bible during recess.  
 They objected, and the school changed its course slightly, determining she "could read it during outside recess but not during inside recess," the report said.  
 That was after the school confirmed there were no complaints about the bible reading.   
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"It was a simple case of public school officials' hypersensitivity to the specter of a threat from the ACLU or some similar spreader of long-debunked propaganda about 'separation of Church and State,'" the organization reported.  
 Her parents then called the ACLJ, and its lawyers sent a letter with an explanation of what the law allows.  
 "We let them know about the now half-century-old Supreme Court case of Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District, 393 U.S. 503 (1969). In Tinker, students wore black armbands on their sleeves to exhibit their disapproval of the Vietnam War and were sent home and suspended from school. Ruling in the students’ favor, the Supreme Court in Tinker held that students do not 'shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate.'"  
 The school then reversed itself regarding the Bible reading, the report said.

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/girl-bible-confiscated-school-officials/>

**Government threatened with legal fight if it bans wrong kind of 'prayer'**

***Fight is over counseling people with gender dysphoria***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published June 5, 2021 at 2:27pm*

The government in Northern Ireland has been warned it faces a legal fight if it goes ahead with a suggested ban on "prayer" because it is used as part of counseling people with gender dysphoria.

It is the Christian Institute that announced it is threatening to go to court if needed.

Its detractors call it "conversion therapy" but what it involves essentially is counseling for a person to work through their unwanted feelings of gender dysphoria.  
 Several states in the United States have banned it, especially for minors, although they still allow counseling that encourages the dysphoria, including transgenderism.  
 In the United Kingdom there has been an issue raised by pro-transgender activists that prayer in churches is sometimes used with people who want to rid themselves of same-sex attractions, therefore they say such prayer is counseling and needs to be banned.  
 Now the Christian Institute has confirmed it "will not hesitate" to take legal action if the Northern Ireland Executive introduces a ban on "conversion therapy" that includes "the wrong kind of prayer."  
 The CI explained, "LGBT activists are pushing for a broad ban to criminalize prayer, preaching, pastoral support and even parenting which does not affirm same-sex relationships or a person's chosen gender identity."  
 But the organization explained a legal opinion from leading human rights QC Jason Coppel says such wide definitions would criminalize the legitimate expression of religious beliefs.Bottom of Form

The CI wrote to the Executive's Communities Minister, Deirdre Hargey MLA, warning that a "badly drafted ban 'could inadvertently criminalize those in churches and other faith communities who adhere to traditional beliefs about marriage and gender identity.'"  
 "Should any proposals from the department infringe upon the everyday church activities outlined within the enclosed opinion our client will not hesitate, where appropriate, to seek a judicial review," the letter said.  
 Coppel said under U.K. human rights law, it is "unlikely to be proportionate" to implement a ban on the basis that "all those who identify as LGBT are so vulnerable that any questioning of the legitimacy of their lifestyles must be prohibited."  
 He also said Christian beliefs are protected under Article 9 of the European Convention of Human Rights and that they "must be treated by the state with neutrality and impartiality."  
 Importantly, he noted, "one of the fundamental facets of freedom of religion or belief is the right of a religion to determine its own beliefs and practices, the legitimacy of which should not be questioned by the state."  
 "Protecting people from dangerous medical practices is one thing but banning preaching, prayer and pastoral care is quite different. It would be as tyrannical as it would be unworkable. It is not up to the police, prosecutors or the courts to decide which kinds of prayer are acceptable," said Ciaran Kelly, of the Christian Institute.  
 "Jason Coppel's advice is quite clear. Christian beliefs on sexuality are protected by human rights law. They may not be fashionable but that doesn't mean you can outlaw them. It is shocking to see activists trying to weaponize a 'harm' narrative to justify oppressing biblically faithful churches." <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/government-threatened-legal-fight-bans-wrong-kind-prayer/> [Just in case you might have forgotten just how insane the world has become. – rdb]

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| **Do YOU want to know what has really being going on with the Virus and Fauci? Watch the opening segment of Water’s world from June 5**  [**https://video.foxnews.com/v/6257583725001?playlist\_id=4607808626001#sp=show-clips**](https://video.foxnews.com/v/6257583725001?playlist_id=4607808626001#sp=show-clips) |

**Commentary:**

**Fauci Emails Show We Should Question the 'Science' on Climate Change**[*Katie Pavlich*](https://townhall.com/columnists/katiepavlich/) *Posted: Jun 04, 2021 2:20 PM* This week, thousands of emails belonging to National Institutes of Health Director Dr. Anthony Fauci were released after a Freedom of Information Act request was filed by Buzzfeed and the Washington Post.   
 The biggest revelations from the document dump include Fauci being told Wuhan coronavirus was "potentially engineered" in a lab, show him arguing drug store masks don't offer protection from the disease, that he frantically sent papers to colleagues about dangerous gain-of-function research and downplayed the need for a vaccine.   
 Publicly, Fauci was telling a different story, and in April 2020, he told the American people from the White House Brady Briefing Room that the disease was naturally occurring, meaning it jumped from an animal to a human outside of a lab. Facebook then removed information about the lab leak theory from its platforms before reversing course just one week before the FOIA emails were released.   
 "Tony: I wanted to send a note of thanks for your leadership and everything you're doing to make our country's response to this outbreak as effective as possible. I also wanted to share a few ideas of ways we could help you get your message out but I understand you're incredibly busy, so don't feel a need to reply unless these seem interesting," Zuckerberg wrote in an email to Fauci on March 15, 2020, adding that he wanted to help get "authoritative" information out to the masses.   
 Fauci responded, and it's obvious, given Facebook's censoring of the lab leak theory, that Fauci was heavily interested in squashing any kind of debate on the issue.   
 But new evidence and a year-long coverup by the Chinese Communist Party point to the Wuhan Institute of Virology as the source for the disease. Looking back, officials are speaking out about receiving threats for daring to mention the possibility.   
 "For most of the past year, the lab-leak scenario was treated not simply as unlikely or even inaccurate but as morally out-of-bounds. In late March, former Centers for Disease Control director Robert Redfield received death threats from fellow scientists after telling CNN that he believed COVID-19 had originated in a lab," Vanity Fair reports.   
 "I was threatened and ostracized because I proposed another hypothesis," Redfield told the outlet. "I expected it from politicians. I didn't expect it from science."  
 Why would Redfield get death threats for bringing up a valid lab leak theory? The answer is simple. Federal government scientists involved with gain-of-function research cannot afford to have the truth come out about a lab leak that led to a global pandemic. It would hurt their bottom line. After all, how can the United States continue funding dangerous research, both domestically and abroad, after millions of people have died?  
 Now that some of the layers of Fauci's response to the disease have been pulled back, showing NIH scientists and Fauci himself not "following the science" and lying about what they were seeing, it's crucial the issue of climate change is addressed with similar scrutiny. The Left, in the United States and abroad, plans to use government force for the sake of "science" and stopping climate change by controlling nearly every aspect of people's individual lives.   
 In the media, we see a similar pattern of censorship when the dogma surrounding climate change is questioned. Those who bring up different evidence and facts on the science are instantly called "science deniers," just as they were called "conspiracy theorists" for simply mentioning the lab leak theory. Big Tech, more specifically Facebook and its third-party "fact-checker" Science Feedback, are the worst offenders.   
 Most recently, Facebook and Science Feedback have rated a new book by former Under Secretary for Science at the U.S. Department of Energy Steve Koonin, a Democrat who worked for President Barack Obama, "false." His book and the arguments made within it about climate change, backed up by data and scientific study, aren't "false," they're simply different than what is accepted by Green New Deal-style climate zealots.   
 "Mr. Koonin is no 'climate denier,' to use the concocted phrase used to shut down debate," The Wall Street Journal writes in a review of the book. "The heart of the science debate, however, isn’t about whether the globe is warmer or whether humanity contributed…The important questions are about the magnitude of civilization's contribution and the speed of changes; and, derivatively, about the urgency and scale of governmental response. Mr. Koonin thinks most readers will be surprised at what the data show. I dare say they will."  
 Koonin is making a perfectly legitimate and sound argument, yet, it isn't "allowed." Why are so-called fact-checkers censoring experienced scientists with a different point of view?   
 Further, are scientists like the ones at Science Feedback, who are quick to censor and often reliant on government grants for research, actually interested in the facts of climate change? Or promoting a political agenda?   
 For more than a year, Facebook censored crucial information about Wuhan coronavirus and its origins. It's obvious it's doing the same with debate on climate change.   
 The censoring of scientific debate, whether it's on climate change or Frankenstein gain-of-function research or information on Chinese lab leaks, is not only anti-American, it's dangerous. Americans deserve to know the truth about science debate, whether on a life-altering pandemic or on climate change, which is increasingly used by government to punish and control individual behavior. <https://townhall.com/columnists/katiepavlich/2021/06/04/faucis-emails-show-we-should-be-questioning-the-science-on-climate-change-n2590491>

**Where's the Congressional Commission on the China Virus?**[*Larry O'Connor*](https://townhall.com/columnists/larryoconnor/) *Posted: Jun 04, 2021 2:45 PM* Yesterday, the Biden Administration announced it would not institute a special commission to investigate the events of January 6 in Washington, DC.   
 This move, along with the Senate filibuster stopping consideration of Nancy Pelosi's plan for a bicameral, partisan approach to a commission, leaves the speaker with the option of continuing the ongoing House investigations along with the relentless Justice Department probes that continue to treat the riot as the first sign of the apocalypse.   
 You'd think that would be enough, but Pelosi still [seems to insist on a Democrat-led](https://thehill.com/homenews/house/556394-pelosi-floats-democrat-led-investigation-of-jan-6-as-alternative-to-commission) investigation originating from the House chamber that will take the next year or so to get to the bottom of what really provoked the [bison-horned shirtless dude](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/man-who-wore-horns-capitol-riot-moved-virginia-jail-serves-n1256836) that day.   
 After all, there's a lot of money to be raised for the Democrats on this issue, and they have to pull something out of their hats to try to avert the 2022 disaster that looms in the mid-terms. It's not like they can run on their record or their accomplishments.   
 While the media and congressional Democrats continue the endless narrative on this January 6 commission business, you know what they aren't talking much about? You know what Nancy Pelosi doesn't seem too concerned with? You know what Joe Biden doesn't want to come 100 yards near?   
 They don't seem to want to investigate, in any real fashion, the question as to how the Covid-19 virus came to be, infected humans, and spread worldwide, killing millions, including hundreds of thousands of Americans. That, they don't seem too curious about.   
 Ask yourself: What impacted your life more in the past year, the events of January 6, or the coronavirus from China? (No, I'm not asking you, AOC, [we know which had a more traumatic impact on you](https://www.businessinsider.com/aoc-reveals-shes-attending-therapy-after-january-6-capitol-riot-2021-5).)  
 The party line from the communists in Beijing has maintained that the virus "somehow" transferred from an infected bat to a human and then spread worldwide organically and naturally through inevitable human migration patterns, and that's all anyone needs to know.   
 Inexplicably, Democrats, the media, and Dr. Anthony Fauci not only bought that pile of guano, but they also behaved as though anyone who dared challenge the commies' propaganda was a tin-foil hat-wearing conspiracy nut who had to be shamed and silenced and censored.   
 However, in the past several days, the Beijing BS has been unraveling before our eyes.   
 For anyone not in the Democratic Party of America or the Communist Party of China, the "official" story seems less plausible by the minute.   
 At this point, the more plausible explanations for the devastating pandemic seem to be these three variations:  
 1. The virus occurred naturally in bats at the Wuhan lab, and while it was being studied, it infected an employee, and it spread through the region from there.   
 2. The virus was manipulated and "created" in the Wuhan lab, and it accidentally leaked from there and spread.  
 3. The virus was manipulated and "created" in the Wuhan lab, and the Chinese government deliberately leaked it for malicious reasons.   
 Regardless of those three options, the behavior of the Beijing government in lying, covering up, denying access, withholding information, and allowing international travel with the full knowledge of the dangers of this virus are tantamount to acts of war and have devastated our country and our allies.   
 And yet, Democrats don't seem to care. They continue to distract with hyperbolic rhetoric about the January 6 riot, and they pretend this deliberate and destructive virus story doesn't even exist.   
 This is just another reason why it's so hard to take this party seriously.   
 A serious political party would recognize the need for a full investigation not only into the origins of the virus but also the actions of the U.S. federal government connected to this lab.   
 Why don't they care to have certain questions asked, let alone answered?   
 You'd think we'd have a robust discussion right now about a Covid-19 commission. You'd think we'd already be in the midst of testimony with robust subpoenas issued to Anthony Fauci and his gang in the bureaucracy.   
 You'd think we'd have a Republican leadership apparatus in the House and the Senate demanding this commission on a daily/hourly basis.   
 You'd think, wouldn't you?  <https://townhall.com/columnists/larryoconnor/2021/06/04/wheres-the-congressional-commission-on-china-virus-n2590493>

**Stop Enslaving Yourself***By* [*Michael Peroutka*](https://newswithviews.com/author/michaelp/)*|June 5th, 2021* When the founders of America decided to secure the Blessings of liberty for themselves and for future generations, they took up arms and risked their lives and fortunes in that noble cause.  
 They were willing to fight and die and otherwise suffer extreme deprivation for the benefit of those that came after them.  
 That is to say…for you and me.  
 Even though they never met you or me, they sacrificed immensely for us.  
 Today, America is again under attack by enemies foreign and domestic whose goal is also to reduce us to despotism and slavery.  
 The tactics are different.  Rather than an invading army, we are assaulted and manipulated by disinformation and propaganda.  Our liberties have been abused by the very officials whose sworn duty is to protect them.  We have been lied to by public health officials who have perpetrated a fake pandemic locking down our economy and society on a false pretext, and weaponizing our doctors and medical institutions against our interest and welfare.  
 This is not a physical attack but a mental one.  Our enemy’s strategy is to reduce us to slavery by mentally manipulating us to enslave ourselves.  
 Here’s the good news.  
 You can defeat this enemy.  
 But you need to decide to resist its lawless mandates.  
 No matter how inconvenient or embarrassing:  
 ***Stop wearing a useless mask.***  
 ***Stop staying distant from other healthy people.***  
 ***Stop taking experimental vaccines.***  
 Our founders risked their lives for you.  
 All you need to do for your grandchildren is stop enslaving yourself.  
 Sign up for a [FREE U.S. Constitution course](https://usccourse.instituteontheconstitution.com/#a_aid=ConstitutionJake&a_bid=83141944) with Jake MacAulay and the Institute on the Constitution. <https://newswithviews.com/stop-enslaving-yourself/>

You would also do well to read…

**China's Newest Export: Censorship**[*Will Coggin*](https://townhall.com/columnists/willcoggin/) *Posted: Jun 05, 2021 12:01 AM* When I taught English to students in Beijing, the most important lesson was one I learned: Government censorship works.   
 My class was conducted in the evenings for adults ranging from college students to middle-aged white-collar workers. We often talked about world events. One day, the topic of the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre in Beijing came up.   
 Older students spoke of the event in hushed tones, knowing it was taboo to discuss the Chinese Communist Party's massacre of pro-democracy students.   
 But younger students? They had little knowledge of the infamous event at all.  MORE -<https://townhall.com/columnists/willcoggin/2021/06/05/chinas-newest-export-censorship-n2590506>

**Backing The Blue Means You, Too**[*Congresswoman Kat Cammack*](https://townhall.com/capitol-voices/congresswomankatcammack/) *Posted: Jun 04, 2021 9:00 AM* Last month, we celebrated National Police Week on Capitol Hill. It wasn't an event just for lawmakers in Washington, but for Americans across the country to honor, remember, and recognize our hardworking men and women in blue who work tirelessly every day to protect and serve our communities.   
 In an age when supporting our law enforcement officers is not only politically unpopular but frowned upon by local leaders in towns and cities across the country, my support for these heroes will never waver. As the wife of a first responder and SWAT medic, I know just how difficult it can be to watch as loved ones respond to dangerous calls that risk their safety. The dreaded feeling never goes away when a call comes in at 3 o'clock in the morning and I get out of bed to make Matt a cup of coffee as he rushes out to respond to a scene.  MORE - <https://townhall.com/capitol-voices/congresswomankatcammack/2021/06/04/backing-the-blue-means-you-too-n2590448>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Yahya Sinwar: G-d has decreed that we must attack Tel Aviv**

***Yahya Sinwar, leader of Hamas in Gaza, reveals how terror group plans to destroy Tel Aviv, says Israel destroyed just 3% of Hamas tunnel system.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Jun 05 , 2021 9:20 PM*



*Yahya Sinwar Reuters*

Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar claimed that "G-d has decreed" that the terror group must attack Tel Aviv, Maariv reported.

According to Sinwar, the IDF destroyed just 3% of [Hamas' tunnels](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307007) during the recent Operation Guardian of the Walls, and the group is capable of demolishing Tel Aviv.

"God has decreed that we must attack Tel Aviv, and there are other capabilities we have not revealed," Maariv quoted Sinwar as saying at a Gaza meeting of academics on Saturday.

According to him, Hamas and Gaza's other terror groups can "destroy Tel Aviv" if they launch 130 missiles per minute, and Hamas used just "50% of its power" during Guardian of the Walls, when it aimed to "unite the people behind Hamas."

He claimed: "Israel has failed to destroy our capabilities to resist it. Their plan to kill ten thousand fighters failed. Israel did not destroy more than 3 percent of the tunnels in Gaza. The [tunnel system] was not destroyed because we love our land and it loves us back."

Sinwar also called on the international community to invest in Gaza and promising that the funds invested will not be used to harm Israel, *Maariv* added.

In addition, he claimed that Israel's recent agreements with Arab countries ignore the "Palestinian" community and lead to Israeli "aggression."

According to *Kan News*, Sinwar also admitted that Hamas military command centers are located within civilian areas of Gaza, saying, "We worked hard to transfer, gradually, many command centers, especially from the towers and residential buildings." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307511> [This dude is simply evil personified. – rdb]

**Arabs infiltrate Jewish town, set fire to synagogue**

***Arab terrorists infiltrate Oz Zion, attempt to set its synagogue on fire.***

*Orly Harari , Jun 05 , 2021 11:31 PM*



***The burned wall of the synagogue, following the arson attempt Oz Zion***

Arab terrorists from the Ramallah-area Arab town of Burka on Friday afternoon infiltrated Oz Zion, a nearby Jewish town, and attempted to set fire to its synagogue.

The attempted arson occurred just prior to the onset of Shabbat, the Jewish Sabbath, which begins Friday at sundown.The Arabs poured gasoline on one of the synagogue's walls and attempted to set the building on fire.

Residents who noticed the flames rushed to the site and succeeded in extinguishing the fire before it took hold.

So far, no suspects have been arrested.

The attempted arson follows [a similar incident](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/305485) last month, in which three Arab terrorists entered the town during the night, hurling firebombs at one of the homes. Miraclulously, no one was injured in the attack. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307517>

**State Department shuns the term 'Abraham Accords'**

***Biden State Department discourages employees from referring to peace agreements between Israel and its Arab neighbors by official name, calls them "normalization agreements."***

*Elad Benari, Canada , Jun 05 , 2021 12:52 AM*

The Biden State Department discourages employees from referring to the peace agreements signed by Israel and its Arab neighbors by its official name, the Abraham Accords, the Washington Free Beacon reported on Friday.

According to the report, the name has also been erased from a wide array of official State Department communications as the new administration presses officials to refer to the Trump-era deals as "normalization agreements."

The Abraham Accords were brokered last year by the Trump administration and paved the way for Israel to sign normalization deals with the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and, later, Sudan and Morocco.

The Free Beacon reviewed two internal State Department emails detailing to employees that the agreements will no longer be referred to as the Abraham Accords but only as "normalization agreements."

No reason was given for the policy, a source told the website. The department also purged the term "Abraham Accords" from its talking points, documents, statements, and official communications, the source said, adding that senior department officials have been very "cagey" about explaining the policy decision and have sought to keep it quiet.

Following inquiries to the State Department about the emails and the source’s information, a spokesman told the *Free Beacon*, “The Department would refer to the Abraham Accords as such."

The department declined to comment on the emails in question or make clear whether its statement represents another shift in policy. A State Department official, speaking only on background, said, "This administration is not focused on what these agreements are called but what they mean."

President Joe Biden last month spoke by phone with United Arab Emirates Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed and [stressed the strategic importance](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/305571) of the normalization of relations between the UAE and Israel.

[US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/295738) shortly after he took office that the Biden administration supports the Abraham Accords.

“We think that Israel normalizing relations with its neighbors and other countries in the region is a very positive development, and so we applauded them. We hope that there may be an opportunity to build on them in the coming months and years ahead,” he said at the time.

The *Free Beacon* noted that it is unclear what impact the Biden administration believes the change will have. The State Department declined to explain its position. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307507> [The entire problem is unmitigated jealousy and Trump hatred. They are sick from the Trump derangement syndrome almost unto death. – rdb]

**Report: Yamina, Yesh Atid to back Elazar Stern to head Jewish Agency**

***Yamina reportedly agrees to back Yesh Atid MK's candidacy to replace President-elect Isaac Herzog as head of Jewish Agency.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Jun 06 , 2021 2:26 PM*



***MK Elazar Stern Flash 90***

The new coalition being formed by Yair Lapid and Naftali Bennett will nominate MK Elazar Stern (Yesh Atid) as the next head of the Jewish Agency, the Times of Israel reported.

Stern would replace Isaac Herzog, who was elected as the next President of Israel last week.

The Yesh Atid and Yamina parties both agreed to this arrangement, according to the report. Stern would not be named in the coalition agreements, but would be officially nominated and supported by both parties once the new government is in place.

Sources in the Yamina party told *Arutz Sheva* that the report is false, however.

The Yesh Atid and Yamina parties agreed to form a unity government comprising eight parties ranging from right-wing to left-wing and even the Arab Ra'am list. As part of the agreement, Yamina chairman Naftali Bennett will serve as prime minister first in a rotation agreement, followed by Yesh Atid chairman Yair Lapid. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307557>

**Police investigate suspicions of corruption in health ministry**

***Suspects, including current and former public servants, manager of medical company and manager of lobbying company, detained.***

*Arutz Sheva Staff , Jun 06 , 2021 1:06 PM*



***Health Ministry ad urging mask compliance Flash 90***

The National Unit for Fraud Investigations in Lahav 433 began this morning, Sunday, an open investigation into suspicions of corruption in matters related to the Ministry of Health. As part of the investigation, four suspects this morning were arrested for questioning under caution and a number of other suspects were detained on suspicion of committing bribery, fraud and breach of trust.

Among the detainees are a public employee, a former public employee and a company manager from the medical field and another company manager from the field of lobbying. During the arrest, searches were conducted at several addresses in addition to the suspects' homes and offices.

Police noted that according to the suspicion, the public employee allegedly acted on a number of occasions together with those involved, motivated by greed, to promote and preserve the interests of large commercial companies in the economy, taking advantage of his status in complete conflict with the public interest. The suspects were brought for questioning by police and during the day they will be brought for a hearing in the Rishon Lezion Magistrate's Court.

"We will continue to act wherever there is a suspicion of public corruption that violates the rules of government, with the aim of exposing improper processes and reaching an investigation into the truth," police added. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307552>

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**06/05/2021 NEWS AM**

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sRaY8zv3Xc>

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| **"The smart way to keep people passive and obedient is to strictly limit the spectrum of acceptable opinion, but allow very lively debate within that spectrum." -- Noam Chomsky (1928- ) American linguist and political writer** |

**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 West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for DH – Mother going into hospice.**  **Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug**  NOTE: Our prayer list was getting very long and there will little follow up.  If you have people you want to have on the list please resubmit since we are revising it now– rdb]  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

**Genesis 30:34And Laban said, Yes, if it be so let it be as you speak. 35And he turned out in that day all the striped and spotted lambs, and all the speckled and spotted goats, every one which had white, and every black one among the lambs. And he gave *them* into the hands of his sons. 36And he put three days journey between himself and Jacob. And Jacob was feeding the remaining flocks of Laban.**

**Knesset to meet Monday on Lapid-Bennett government, vote likely on June 14**

***After announcement is brought to Knesset, Likud Speaker Levin has 7 days to bring new government for a vote of confidence; Likud vows to do everything to stop that from happening***

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

Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin announced Friday that he would bring Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid’s statement that he can form a government to the Knesset on Monday, setting in motion the process to hold a vote of confidence in the new government.

“After the announcement from the Speaker of the Knesset to the plenum, and in accordance with the timeframe laid out in the Basic Law of Government, the Speaker will set a date for the debate and vote on establishing the government,” Levin said in a statement.

The law holds that the vote must come within seven days of the announcement, leaving Monday June 14 as the most likely date for the vote.

The announcement comes as members of the nascent Lapid-lead coalition worked to keep all their members in line amid massive efforts by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s Likud party to scuttle the shaky, narrow alliance that seeks to oust him.

With only a 61-59 majority in the 120-seat Knesset, a change of heart from any MK in the new coalition could doom its chances of getting approved in parliament.

It also comes after a [failed effort on Thursday](https://www.timesofisrael.com/yamina-mk-seems-to-signal-he-wont-rebel-but-hope-of-quick-govt-approval-fades/) to replace Levin in a bid to speed up the process of getting the government confirmed.



Yamina MK Nir Orbach arrives for a meeting with Yamina party leader Naftali Bennett and fellow Yamina MKs, at Bennett’s home in Ra’anana, on June 4, 2021. (Avshalom Sassoni/Flash90)

On Thursday morning, the change bloc parties submitted 61 signatures, demanding a vote on a new Knesset speaker early next week. The move was intended to prevent Levin from stalling on a vote of confidence in the new government and to ensure that it happened next week, rather than the week after that.

However, Yamina MK Nir Orbach withdrew his support. The Arab majority Joint List, which is not part of the coalition, then moved to prop up the effort by adding its own six votes to the bid.

But bloc leaders Yamina and Yesh Atid quickly distanced themselves from the Joint List’s backing, saying it had not been sought. Though Islamist party Ra’am is part of the new coalition, the Joint List is seen as less palatable to many right-wing members of the change bloc.

Yamina then said it would only vote to replace the Knesset speaker once the government itself was approved.

As Knesset speaker, Levin can legally delay a vote on the new government for a week or more, giving Netanyahu’s Likud party more time to try to peel away rebels from the right-wing factions of the unity coalition.

Yamin chief Naftali Bennett, who is set to serve as prime minister first in a rotation deal with Lapid, on Friday hosted members of his party in his Ra’anana home amid efforts to consolidate the support of all the party’s MKs for the emerging “change coalition” with the center and left.



Yamina MK Ayelet Shaked arrives for a meeting with Yamina party leader Naftali Bennett and fellow Yamina MKs, at Bennett’s home in Ra’anana, on June 4, 2021. (Avshalom Sassoni/Flash90)

Also Friday, Bennett and Lapid called a Sunday evening meeting that will see the heads of all eight factions of the emerging “change government” meet together for the first time.

After the Yamina meeting ended, Yamina MK Abir Kara said it went “great.” He expressed confidence that Bennett had managed to prevent any further potential defections from the party — including by Orbach, who is reportedly on the fence — and could even manage to bring rebel MK Amichai Chikli back into the fold. Chikli, who has vowed to oppose the proposed government, did not attend Friday’s meeting.

“Bennett managed to keep everyone around him. Maybe we can get Chikli. I think it would be better for him to come with us too because he is another strong right-wing finger that can give us more strength and weight and be on the side that makes an impact,” Kara said.

Fellow Yamina MK Matan Kahana told Channel 12 news later Friday: “The feeling [at the meeting] was that we are going, united, to something that is very important to the State of Israel and we greatly want it to work. I’m sorry that Chikli made the decision he did,” Kahana added. “But Naftali Bennett and the rest of us are determined to pull Israel out of this insane chaos of endless elections, of rifts and division.”

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/F210604AVS38.jpg) The Bennett-Lapid coalition numbers 61 MKs in the 120-member Knesset, meaning that a single defection could prevent it from winning the parliamentary vote of confidence in needs to take power: Yesh Atid (17 seats), Blue and White (8), Yisrael Beytenu (7), Labor (7), Yamina (6 of its 7 MKs), New Hope (6), Meretz (6) and Ra’am (4).

Channel 12 news reported Friday that Orbach will announce his intentions at the beginning of next week.

Yamina MK Idit Silman arrives for a meeting with Yamina party leader Naftali Bennett and fellow Yamina MKs, at Bennett’s home in Ra’anana, on June 4, 2021. (Avshalom Sassoni/Flash90)

Yamina MK Idit Silman, [perceived](https://www.timesofisrael.com/likud-said-targeting-4-yamina-new-hope-mks-in-bid-to-torpedo-unity-govt/) by Likud as a possible weak link, said Friday afternoon that she would be backing the new government.

The meeting came after protests were held outside the homes of Yamina No. 2 Ayelet Shaked and Orbach, in a campaign said to be orchestrated by incumbent Netanyahu to sway them away from the “change government.”

Hundreds took part in [rallies](https://www.timesofisrael.com/likud-said-targeting-4-yamina-new-hope-mks-in-bid-to-torpedo-unity-govt/) outside their homes on Thursday night, a day after Lapid officially declared that he could form a government. If formed, it would end the premier’s run of 12 consecutive years in office and relegate his Likud party and allied factions to the opposition.

 On Friday, counter-protesters also showed up to support the new coalition — which will first be led by Bennett and then, from August 2023, by Lapid — with some holding up a banner reading: “Yes to a change government.”

Israelis demonstrate in favor of the so-called “change government” outside the home of Yamina party leader Naftali Bennett in Ra’anana, on June 4, 2021. (Avshalom Sassoni/Flash90)

Netanyahu’s Likud is also to meet Sunday. Netanyahu has urged all right-wingers in the “change coalition” to abandon it, and instead back him.

“We are of course fighting until the last moment,” Likud minister and close Netanyahu loyalist Tzachi Hanegbi said on Friday afternoon. “It’s not only about Netanyahu. We are a political camp with vast public support… If the government is sworn in, we’ll of course act, in opposition, according to all the well-known rules. [We’ll be] a fighting opposition. But until then, if there is a chance to prevent the establishment of a government based on votes that were stolen from the right, we of course will act to try to prevent it.” <https://www.timesofisrael.com/speaker-to-convene-knesset-on-monday-over-lapid-bennett-government/> [It is all about holding onto power and the ability to increase influence which increases personal wealth. = rdb]

**Nationalist groups reschedule controversial Jerusalem march scuttled by rockets**

***Organizers receive police permit for route through Damascus Gate, Muslim Quarter on Thursday amid warnings parade could reignite violence that spiked last month in city and beyond***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:01 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)***

Right-wing and national religious groups will go ahead on June 10 with a controversial Jerusalem flag parade that police canceled mid-event May 10 when Hamas fired a barrage of rockets toward the city, amid warnings that the rearranged march could reignite violence in the capital and beyond.

“We will once again be marching through the streets of Jerusalem with our Israeli flags raised. We will demand the unification of Jerusalem forever. Come in droves!” said Thursday’s announcement.

The annual march traditionally takes place on Jerusalem Day, when Israel commemorates the reunification of the city after Israeli forces captured East Jerusalem, including the Old City and its holy sites, in the 1967 Six Day War.

The organizers have received police permission to hold the event on June 10, including a permit to march to the Western Wall through the Damascus Gate entrance of the Old City and via the Muslim Quarter, a route long deemed as provocative by Israeli and Palestinian critics given that local Arab shop owners are forced to shutter their stores so law enforcement can secure the Palestinian-majority area for the mainly nationalist Jewish revelers.

There is no symbolic significance to the new date, but it will come days before an expected vote to swear in [a new “change bloc” government](https://www.timesofisrael.com/yamina-mk-confident-no-more-defections-ahead-change-bloc-heads-to-meet-sunday/) consisting of eight diverse parties, from the right-wing Yamina and New Hope to the Islamist Ra’am party, and could further challenge the shaky alliance that is trying to oust Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.



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

The Old City of Jerusalem, with the Temple Mount, site of the biblical Jewish Temples and now home to the Al-Aqsa-Mosque and Dome of the Rock shrine, has traditionally been one of the major flashpoints in the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

Netanyahu’s government agreed to reroute the flag march away from Damascus Gate and the Muslim Quarter hours before the May 10 celebration was slated to begin, buckling to pressure from the US, which worried the original parade route would cause tensions in the city to boil over.

all over again [pic.twitter.com/x7q8XrD2GQ](https://t.co/x7q8XrD2GQ)

— نير حسون Nir Hasson ניר חסון (@nirhasson) [June 4, 2021](https://twitter.com/nirhasson/status/1400739751540494336?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

They were already on edge due to widespread protests and clashes ahead of looming evictions of Palestinians in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah and a crackdown on violent protests at the Temple Mount compound during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Hamas used the violence in the city as a pretext to launch rockets on Jerusalem, sparking 11 days of intense fighting that saw more than 4,000 rockets fired at Israel and the IDF carry out some 1,500  strikes on Gaza. The march was officially suspended when the rockets were fired, but some participants completed it.



Israeli security forces and Palestinian Muslim worshippers clash at Jerusalem’s Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, at Temple Mount, on May 21, 2021. (AHMAD GHARABLI / AFP)

Twelve civilians were killed in Israel during the fighting, two of them from injuries sustained while running to a bomb shelter and the rest from direct rocket strikes, as well as one soldier who was killed in an anti-tank guided missile attack early in the fighting. Hundreds more were injured.

During the fighting, 253 Palestinians were killed, including 67 minors. The IDF maintains that most of the people killed were members of terror groups, including at least one of the minors, a 17-year-old. It also said some of the civilians killed were hit not by Israeli strikes but by errant rockets from Gaza that failed to clear the border and landed within the Strip.

 Since a ceasefire was declared on May 21, the Egyptian military has led an effort to negotiate a long-term ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, including a prisoner exchange. Hamas has warned that events in Jerusalem could see a resumption of hostilities.

Thousands of mostly young, Jewish teenagers wave Israeli flags as they march through the Muslim Quarter on their way to the Western Wall to celebrate Jerusalem Day on June 05, 2016. (Judah Ari Gross/Times of Israel)

In response to Thursday’s announcement, the Tag Meir civil society group issued a plea to Police Commissioner Kobi Shabtai urging him to rethink the decision, saying it would reignite tensions in the Old City, which have calmed since the fighting in Gaza ended last month.

“Past experience has unfortunately shown that the flag march in the Muslim Quarter of Jerusalem has been accompanied by hate songs, damages to [Palestinian merchant’s] stalls, banging on storefronts with flag poles and more,” Tag Meir wrote in a letter to Shabtai. “On calmer days it is possible that such a parade would have passed in peace.”

The group acknowledged that the majority of the tens of thousands of mainly young national-religious revelers do not resort to violence at these events, “but this time there is a real fear that those who participated in the property vandalism and mob beatings at the riots will infiltrate the march,” the statement said referring to widescale Jewish-Arab clashes that broke out in Israel’s mixed cities at the start of the fighting.

“Given the low number of detainees in the Jewish sector [following the riots], these fears are not unfounded,” Tag Meir said.

Matan Peleg, who heads the far-right Im Tirzu organization that is one of the march’s organizers said in a statement, “Jerusalem is the heart of our nation and therefore the enemies of Israel strive to cut us off from it. Without Zion there is no Zionism and the renewal of the flag march is the victory of Zionist Jerusalem, free and open, over the axis of evil and darkness.”

“We call on the entire public to come this coming Thursday and celebrate with us the unity of Jerusalem and the State of Israel,” he added. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/nationalist-groups-reschedule-controversial-jerusalem-march-scuttled-by-rockets/> [Acquiescing to the fear of promoting more problems is just one of the great signs of weakness that the islamics will take advantage of in order to gain their advantage. The response to their ideology has to be strength and consistency. – rdb]

**400 families evacuated as fire threatens Tzur Hadassah near Jerusalem**

***35 firefighter teams and 10 aircraft battle blaze that erupted in a forest near the town; residents taken to nearby sports hall***

***By*** [***TOI staff***](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) ***Today, 3:08 pm***

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| [Firefighters try to extinguish a blaze that threatens Tzur Hadassah, outside of Jerusalem, on June 04, 2021. (Nati Shohat/FLASH90)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/f210604NS07.jpg)  Firefighters try to extinguish a blaze that threatens Tzur Hadassah, outside of Jerusalem, on June 04, 2021. (Nati Shohat/FLASH90) | Firefighters try to extinguish a forest fire in the woods of Tzur Hadassah, outside of Jerusalem, on June 4, 2021. (Nati Shohat/FLASH90) |

Police and Fire and Rescue Services on Friday evacuated some 400 homes in Tzur Hadassah near Jerusalem as a large brush fire threatened the community.

Residents living in the first line of homes in the Rehasim and Karkom neighborhoods were evacuated and taken to a sports hall in the town that was not threatened.

Later Friday, officials announced that the blaze was under control and reopened the nearby Route 375 that had been was blocked to traffic. Residents were allowed back to their homes.

Thirty-five firefighting teams from across the country and 10 firefighting aircraft worked to extinguish the blaze, firefighters said amid concern that forecasted strong winds could spread the fire further.

A thick pall of smoke filled the air above Tzur Hadassah and spread to neighboring communities.

There was no immediate comment from authorities as to the cause of the fire.

There were no reports of injuries as a result of the blaze. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/homes-evacuated-after-large-brush-fire-threatens-town-near-jerusalem/> [That area is to the South and west of Jerusalem and is near/adjacent to some Islamic dominated areas. HUM? – rdb]

**Bridge for Jews entering Temple Mount in immediate danger of collapse — report**

***Engineer says the makeshift wooden Mughrabi Bridge is ‘in a state of extreme dryness,’ but any attempt to replace it is likely to trigger angry response from Jordan, Palestinians***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *and* [*AFP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/afp/) *Today, 12:07 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/f111211ns11.jpg)

A general view of the wooden footbridge leading up from the Western Wall compound to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem's Old City, December 11, 2011. (Nati Shohat/Flash90)

A bridge that serves as the sole entry point for Jews and tourists to Jerusalem’s Temple Mount is in immediate danger of collapse, a structural engineer has warned, according to a Thursday television report.

The Mughrabi Bridge leading from the Western Wall compound to the Mughrabi Gate was hastily constructed 15 years ago as a temporary replacement for an earthern access ramp that was in danger of collapsing at the time.

According to Channel 13 news, engineer Ofer Cohen has written in an official letter to the Western Wall Heritage Foundation, after examining the bridge, that the wood is “in a state of extreme dryness and has many longitudinal cracks.”

He wrote that efforts to extend the wood’s life have failed and its current state “doesn’t enable safe use of the bridge over time,” adding that his “unequivocal” recommendation is to replace the bridge with a metal one that would be more durable and fireproof.



A wooden footbridge leading up from the Western Wall to the Temple Mount compound, in Jerusalem’s Old City. April 17, 2012. (Noam Moskowitz/Flash 90)

However, that would likely inflame tensions with the Palestinians and with Jordan, who view any building activity in the area as a provocation against Muslims.

The Temple Mount plaza is considered the holiest place in Judaism as it is the site where the first and second Jewish Temples once stood. It also houses the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the third-holiest site in Islam.

Israel captured the Temple Mount, and the rest of the Old City and East Jerusalem, from Jordan in the 1967 war, and annexed it, but it allowed Jordan’s Waqf (Muslim trust) to continue to oversee the compound and other Islamic sites in Jerusalem. Israel allows Jews to visit the Temple Mount but not to pray there.

Jordan and the Palestinian leadership do not recognize the site as being holy to Jews. Anything that is viewed as changing the status quo in or around the compound is highly sensitive and often triggers strong responses from Jordan.

In 2014, Israel dismantled a partially built wooden access ramp that had been under construction and would have replaced the bridge.

Under heavy Jordanian pressure, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ordered that the structure be removed, saying its construction was “illegal” and had never received the proper authorization, a government source said at the time. [More caving in to the demands of the Islamic group. It is understandable to try to avoid conflict but sooner or later every concession will lead to your loss to these groups. – rdb]

Negotiations began in 2007 between Israel, Jordan, Washington and other players over a permanent replacement for the bridge, which ascends to the mount from alongside the main section of the Western Wall, a remnant of the retaining wall that supported the Second Temple complex and the holiest site at which Jews are allowed to pray. The talks apparently never progressed.

In 2011, the UN cultural agency UNESCO decided that all parties should be involved in the ramp’s design process and that neither side should take any unilateral actions that could affect the character of the site. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/bridge-for-jews-entering-temple-mount-in-immediate-danger-of-collapse-report/>

**No fruit, no milk: Israelis still suffering economic fallout of pandemic**

***Recent report shows that coronavirus outbreak and subsequent financial crisis have led to massive household cutbacks, more than half of entire population making tough choices about food, buying fewer dairy products, fruit and vegetables***

*Hadar Gil-Ad | Published: 06.05.21 , 08:54*

Israel may be celebrating its successful response to the coronavirus pandemic, but for many Israelis, the economic impact has taken a heavy toll that is still being felt. After repeated business closures, dwindling employment opportunities and the paltry economic aid offered during the crisis left many families who previously kept their heads above water suddenly finding themselves falling into poverty.

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| --- | --- |
| אנשים מחפשים אוכל בפחים בצל משבר הקורונה  An Israeli searches for food among the garbage at a market during the coronavirus pandemic (Photo: Nadav Abas) | תמרה  Tamara: COVID has destroyed us (Photo: Yair Sagi) |

One person who was hit hard during the coronavirus is 47-year-old Tamara, a single mother of two daughters. "I worked in sales in a large company and we lacked for nothing," she says. "We lived a normal life, I would buy [my daughters] whatever I wanted.”

But during the pandemic, Tamara was forced to enter isolation no fewer than seven times after her daughters were being exposed to verified virus patients at school. The repeated bouts of quarantine eventually cost Tamara her job and now she relies on a meagre stipend from the state.

“The money I get from the state is not enough to support a household," she says. "I am suffering severe financial anxiety. I pay for the upkeep of the house and there is no money left after that. It got to the point where I could not afford eggs to make an omelet for the girls,” Tamara says. “Fruit is not an option, it is a luxury. I even stopped buying cheese for the girls' sandwiches."

Tamara says even now the pandemic is largely over in Israel, employment is still hard to find.

"The coronavirus has disrupted our lives. To this day I am still looking for work," she says. "I want milk for my coffee but I can’t buy any. I have to think a hundred times about every shekel I spend. My daughter once asked me: 'Mom, when you get a salary can you buy me ice cream?’ I’m a healthy woman, I can work, but COVID has absolutely destroyed us.”

Avi, a 29-year-old father of two and his wife were also dealt a massive financial blow during the pandemic.

“My wife worked at a daycare center and was dismissed, and has been unable to find work for almost a year. I work part-time in communications but the salary is really low,” he says. “We face a dilemma about each shekel. We choose the cheapest cheese, even if there is a difference of no more than a shekel. The thing that hurts me the most is the kids. They need food, diapers and toys. Every time we go to the market we are filled with dread,” he says.

Tamara and Avi are far from the only ones in this position.

 A new report by the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews - a charity that helps Israel's needy - reveals a reality in which families living in post-pandemic Israel cannot afford even the most basic of products. According to the report, about a quarter of the public is receiving assistance from associations or family members in order to be able to afford enough food.

***A woman putting a sign on a closed business in Tel Aviv showing Benjamin Netanyahu and the slogan 'Closed because of me' (Photo: Moti Kimchi)***

About a third of the public has said that they were forced to postpone payments such as property taxes, rent, and existing debts in order to afford food. Nearly half of the public has said that their standard of living has dropped in the past year.

The report also shows that over the past year, 62% of the entire Israeli public were buying fewer dairy products due to price; 72% stopped buying fruit; and 65% were buying fewer vegetables.

“Fruit, vegetables and dairy products are basic and essential commodities that have become a luxury for too many Israelis,” says Fellowship CEO Michal Frank.

"The pandemic is almost over and most of us are relieved to be returning to the lives we knew,": she says.

"But it is important to know that not everyone managed to go back to their routine. There are tens of thousands of elderly and poor families who are still struggling to survive. We must make every effort to help them until they can make a decent living again.” <https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/Syk6wHf5u>

**Hamas threatens to renew fighting if Qatari funds don’t enter Gaza next week**

***Unnamed sources in Palestinian terror group tell Lebanese media it will consider options for escalation if Israel doesn’t approve the entry of tens of millions of dollars***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 3:07 pm*

If Israel does not allow the passage of Qatari funds to the Gaza Strip, Hamas will escalate the situation on the border with Israel, sources in the terror group told Lebanese media on Friday. With Israel’s approval, Qatar has in recent years distributed hundreds of millions of dollars in cash to enable Gaza’s Hamas rulers to pay for fuel for the Strip’s power plant, pay civil servants, and provide aid to tens of thousands of impoverished families. [so how much of the money gets into Hamas hands???? – LOTS! – rdb]  
 Hamas sources told the Lebanese Al Akhbar newspaper that the organization would wait until the end of next week for the money to enter, “and if this does not happen it will take an important decision regarding the mutual ceasefire” that took effect two weeks ago, after 11 days of fighting with Israel. [More blackmail. – rdb]  
 A senior Hamas official in January said [Qatar would be providing $30 million](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-official-says-qatar-to-provide-aid-to-gaza-for-another-year/) every month, meant for poor families in the Gaza Strip.  
 Qatar is a key backer of Hamas and has invested some $1.4 billion in the coastal enclave since 2012, Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani said at a financial conference in St. Petersburg, Russia on Friday. [enabling and supporting terror is what is ultimately happening. – rdb]  
 Al-Thani rejected frequent accusations that the Qatari money goes to the terror organizations in Gaza and argued that Israel knows how the money is transferred, the Ynet news site reported.  
 According to the Lebanese report, the group threatened to “use pressure in the border area,” and may also resort to options that could “renew the widescale confrontation,” without elaborating further.  
 Israel and Hamas concluded 11 days of fighting last month during which the terror group launched some 4,300 rockets at Israeli cities and towns, and Israel launched hundreds of retaliatory airstrikes in the Gaza Strip.  
 According to the Hamas-run Gaza health ministry, 253 Palestinians were killed during the fighting, including 66 children. Palestinian terror groups in Gaza have said 80 of the total casualties were combatants, while Israel says the true figure is much higher. Thirteen people in Israel, including a 5-year-old boy and a 16-year-old girl, were killed. Israel says dozens of the Gaza fatalities were caused by Hamas rockets that fell short and landed inside the Strip.  
 Since the ceasefire took effect on May 20, there has been no rocket fire from Gaza toward Israel. However, on Sunday night a Palestinian who crossed from the Strip [stabbed a security guard](https://www.timesofisrael.com/security-officer-stabbed-in-south-by-man-suspected-of-entering-israel-from-gaza/), lightly injuring him outside an Israeli town near the enclave. On Monday, [a fire in southern Israel](https://www.timesofisrael.com/suspected-gaza-arson-balloon-sparks-fire-in-south-in-apparent-violation-of-truce/) was apparently sparked by a balloon-borne incendiary device launched from the Gaza Strip.  
 Friday’s threats from unnamed officials in the terror group were not the first since the ceasefire began.  
 A leader of the terror group in Gaza [threatened](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-gaza-chief-threatens-to-renew-fighting-if-israel-violates-al-aqsa/) last Wednesday to resume rocket attacks if Israel “violates” the Al-Aqsa Mosque on Jerusalem’s Temple Mount, while a spokesman for Hamas’s armed wing told a crowd of supporters last week that it will respond to any Israeli escalation in kind, after some Israeli officials called for a harsher response to the terror group, including the renewal of assassinations of Hamas leaders. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-threatens-to-renew-fighting-if-qatari-funds-dont-enter-gaza-next-week/> [The cease fire is really simply a ‘hudna’ temporary pause in the fighting enabling the terrorist groups to rearm and reman itself so they can continue the fight. There is really only one solution and it is totally politically incorrect but it is a reality. Elimination of all of Hamas leadership and anyone affiliated with them. To solve the entire “PA” problem it would also require the dismantling and elimination of Fatah and the “PA” group. – rdb]

**Outrage in Gaza as Mansour Abbas signs onto new government**

***Palestinians in coastal enclave, with which Israel fought bitter 11-day war in May, accuse Islamist leader of being 'opportunist' who is motivated by self-interest and political ambition rather than seeking to represent the Arab community within Israel***

*Sanaa Alswerky/The Media Line | Published: 06.04.21 , 09:40*

The decision by Islamist Ra’am party Mansour Abbas to sign onto a coalition government put together by centrist Yair Lapid and right-winger Naftali Bennett has caused anger in the Gaza Strip, where Israel and Hamas fought a bitter 11-day war last month.

The Palestinians in Gaza have accused Abbas of being an “opportunistic” Muslim Brotherhood Islamist.

“As one of the Brotherhood, when the opportunity arises, he seeks his own interests only,” says Gaza resident Ounallah Abusafia, 67.

“During the escalation on the Gaza Strip, [Abbas] stayed away from [Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu out of fear of the harsh criticism and now he’s with Naftali Bennett. He claims to care and work for the good of the 48-Palestinians [Israeli Arabs] while the truth is he only cares about himself,” Abusafia says. [any recognition of ISRAEL and the Israeli government by the “PA” and most fundamentalist islamics particularly with participation in the management of the government is truly anathema. By their standards, Israel doesn’t exist, it is a creation of the ‘Zionist regime’ and not a real entity. – rdb]  
 Gaza-based political analyst and expert in Israeli affairs, Hassan Lafi, says Abbas’ motivations run deeper.  
 “Mansour Abbas is a controversial figure who, obviously, doesn’t represent the 48-Palestinians,” Lafi says. [i.e. those where were islamics in the state in 1948. What is really interesting is that Arafat the rat was actually Egyptian and not from the land he claimed to lead. – rdb]  
 “He wants to get in the new government to get as many personal gains as he can, and to create an alternative leadership of the 48-Palestinians, other than the currently existing one.”  
 Formed ahead of the 2015 elections, the Joint List led by Aymen Odeh was made up of four of Israel’s Arab-majority parties - Hadash, Ta’al, Balad and Ra’am - and became the government’s third-largest faction.   
 Ra’am ran separately from the Joint List in the March 2021 elections and garnered four seats. The Joint List won six seats.  
 In March, young demonstrators kicked Abbas, who has been a member of Knesset since 2019, out of a demonstration condemning “the killings and the complicity of the Israel Police” held in the northern city of Umm al-Fahm.  
 According to Lafi, Abbas thinks that he can coexist with the “Zionist Israeli project” by engaging in its political arena.   
 “I believe this is an elusive goal given the current Israeli attitude,” Lafi says.   
 “For example, Ayelet Shaked, Bennett’s deputy, has totally rejected any kind of Abbas’ influence in the Interior Ministry because she considers it an interference in Israeli features of the state built only for Jews, where no Palestinians or Arab can have any influence.”  
 Suhair Amer, a Gazan mother, says: “It’s shameful that one Palestinian prefers to join the Israeli government in killing his own people. He knows that any decision coming from their side will be against our existence. Anyway, it won’t make a difference on the ground because they will not give him what he wants.”  
 Palestinians do not expect there to be any fundamental difference in their situation under the new unity government, which comprises a coalition of parties from the center, right, and left, including Yesh Atid, Blue & White, Labor, Yamina, Yisrael Beytenu, Meretz, New Hope and Ra’am.  
 “Whether it’s Netanyahu or Bennett or anyone else, it won’t make a significant difference for us as Palestinians, especially in Gaza, because Israel’s policy toward us is the same and won’t change ever,” says 45-year-old Abdelraouf Alajouri.  
 Alajouri expects there to be another round of fighting between Israel and Gaza.   
 “Now Bennett wants to prove he’s strong enough to face the Palestinian revolution, especially in Gaza. Maybe more restrictions on our people in the West Bank will take place as a result, too,” he says.  
 With so many members of the new government coming from the right and far right, the Palestinian’s situation could get worse, Lafi suggests.  
 “The chaotic unrest surrounding the Israeli political scene now will force the [lawmakers in the new government] not to move forward with any strategic decision regarding the Palestinian cause. They will not go on with the two-state solution, for example, nor with a satisfying prisoner swap deal,” he says.   
 Lafi claims that “the leaked political program of [Bennett’s] government shows a focus on the internal economic and social issues only. Nothing is addressing the core Palestinian issues.”  
 This, he says, "absolutely reflects negatively on the Palestinian political future."  
 The members of the new government have agreed not to discuss issues that touch on the extreme differences in positions of the parties in the nascent coalition.   
 But because the agreed-upon government includes an inconsistent mix of different political and ideological backgrounds, Lafi does not expect it to last very long.  
 “With that much of ideological differences and disagreements, at the first discussion of a central issue the government will immediately collapse,” he says.   
 “But even if that happens, they are still winners because, in my opinion, everyone’s hidden goal is to remove Netanyahu from the scene.” <https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/HkryIH8qO> [Reading this it should be blatantly obvious that the concept of a peaceful resolution to the situation in Israel with two drastically conflicted groups is a complete delusion by the world’s UN and other nitwits who think that this is possible. There is a huge territory that is inhabited by various Islamic nations where these people could live but they insist on claiming Land that was given by the Creator of the Universe (who owns the title to everything) to the Jewish people. Unfortunately a huge proportion of those who are supposed to be Jewish have little faith in HIS promises and their right to the land and therefore refuse to stand up for it. This, in my opinion is part of the crucible of testing for the Jewish people. Just as the 12 spies refused to go into the land of Israel and receive their inheritance from God, many today refuse to acknowledge it as well. For the Gentile nations it is a major testing of who and whose house will your stand for. It all boils down to “do you know and recognize the power and authority of The Holy One who gave his word in the Scriptures”. Are they really true and valid? The answer to that question is crucial. – rdb]

**German army taps chief rabbi for 1st time in a century, 76 years after Holocaust**

***Rabbi Mordechai Eliezer (Zsolt) Balla says he will ‘help all Jews live a Jewish life,’ and will aim to curb far-right extremism; new military rabbinate budgeted 5 million euros***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *and* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *Today, 12:00 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/06/bala.png)

***Rabbi Mordechai Eliezer (Zsolt) Balla, appointed as the chief rabbi of the German army, speaks to the Kan public broadcaster on June 3, 2021. (Screenshot: YouTube)***

For the first time in 100 years and 76 years after the Holocaust ended, the German Army will appoint a chief rabbi and other rabbis to its military chaplaincy.

Rabbi Mordechai Eliezer (Zsolt) Balla’s appointment ceremony will take place in Leipzig in three weeks’ time, according to several reports said this week. At least ten other rabbis will also be appointed to various positions in the German army, the reports said.

“It is a great responsibility. We need to help all Jews [in the army] live a Jewish life, if they are looking for Kosher food, if they are looking for the opportunity to pray,” Balla told the Kan public broadcaster on Thursday.

Germany budgeted 5 million euros to establish the army’s new chief military rabbinate, Kan said.

The German army does not document the religious affiliations of its members. But according to estimates, about 300 Jews, 1,400 Muslims and 94,000 Christians are in the Bundeswehr armed forces, German media reported.

Balla told Kan he can’t say for sure how many Jews serve in the military, and the report said the true number could be lower than 300.

Germany’s armed forces have over the years repeatedly come under fire as far-right cells were discovered among its ranks, including in elite units. In March, a German soldier and a relative [were arrested](https://www.timesofisrael.com/german-soldier-and-relatives-arrested-over-far-right-extremism-hoarding-weapons/) on suspicion of illegally hoarding weapons and expressing far-right sympathies. Germany’s defense minister last year ordered the [partial dissolution of the elite KSK commando force](https://www.timesofisrael.com/germany-shakes-up-elite-army-force-over-far-right-links/) over right-wing extremism.

The Military Counter-Intelligence Service said in 2020 that some 600 Bundeswehr soldiers were suspected of right-wing extremism, including 20 in the elite unit.

In April 2017, revelers at a farewell party for a KSK commander allegedly threw pig heads, played right-wing rock music, and made the Nazi salute.

In 2018, then-defense minister Ursula von der Leyen ordered the military to cleanse itself of all links to the Wehrmacht after learning that steel helmets and memorabilia of the Nazi-era army were openly displayed at one of its barracks.

She also ordered some barracks still named after World War II figures to be renamed.

“Currently, they have nothing to do with Judaism, they don’t understand what Judaism is. They don’t know what goes on in Israel, everything they know is from the media,” Balla said when asked about the far-right and antisemitism occurrences in the army.

“This is also part of the education that we need to bring,” he said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/german-army-appoints-chief-rabbi-for-the-first-time-in-a-century/> [What is surprising is that there are that many Jewish people in Germany that would be serving in the German army. Before the rise of Nazism there were many loyal Jewish soldiers but with the rise of Hitler it was literally forbidden. Were I Jewish I would seriously doubt I would want to live in Germany or serve in their military knowing the history and watching the political actions, particularly in the more recent time with the advent of the Islamic invasion and all the anti-Semitism. – rdb]

**EU looked at ‘importing 70 million Africans’ by 2035, says German MEP Gunnar Beck, denouncing ‘disastrous’ new migration pact**

*4 Jun, 2021 15:40 By****Damian Wilson****, a UK journalist, ex-Fleet Street editor, financial industry consultant and political communications special advisor in the UK and EU.*

A leading figure in Alternative for Germany, tipped for victory in a German election this week, Gunnar Beck is attacking the EU’s ‘deeply dangerous’ migration pact before it’s enacted under cover of a feelgood summer.

As Germany’s ‘super election year’ focuses on the state of Saxony-Anhalt this Sunday, the disruptors in the nation’s biggest opposition party, Alternative für Deutschland (AfD), are [poised](https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-far-right-afd-poised-to-spoil-narrative-of-green-party-rise/a-57742250) for a shock win as its anti-immigration message resonates in the heartlands of former East Germany.

Sitting top of the most recent INSA opinion poll with 26% and having just announced its two lead candidates for September’s federal elections – both supporters of a hard line on immigration – AfD is not about to soften its message.

Germany (Saxony-Anhalt regional election), INSA poll:AfD-ID: 26% (+2)CDU-EPP: 25% (-1)LINKE-LEFT: 13%GRÜNE-G/EFA: 11% (-1)SPD-S&D: 10%FDP-RE: 8% (+2)+/- vs. 20-27 AprFieldwork: 17-23 May 2021Sample size: 1,000➤ <https://t.co/obOCVirbpF>[#ltwlsa](https://twitter.com/hashtag/ltwlsa?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)[#Ltw](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Ltw?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)[#ltwsa](https://twitter.com/hashtag/ltwsa?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)[pic.twitter.com/swS8fdXXmf](https://t.co/swS8fdXXmf)

— Europe Elects (@EuropeElects) [May 26, 2021](https://twitter.com/EuropeElects/status/1397609065359056900?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Senior AfD figure and Euro MP Gunnar Beck said a strong election result would prove a useful weapon in his party’s battle against the European Union’s controversial proposed Pact on Migration and Asylum that looks to enlist its members in a centrally-run redistribution of asylum seekers across the bloc.

“*I have myself been working on the EU migration pact for some time and for me the enactment of such a pact would be disastrous*,” Beck told RT.com. “*Because the EU not too long ago was talking about importing up to 70 million Africans into Europe by 2035. In my humble opinion this is not what we need to modernise our economy.*

“*And while the figure seems high, when the members of our migration pact campaign - including delegates from Denmark, Estonia, France and Belgium – met with the Commission just last year, that migration figure was brought up but no one at the Commission chose to deny it.* “

That suggestion of actively encouraging inward migration to the EU has been floating around Brussels for a while, as governments across the bloc look at ways to address the phenomenon known as the ‘greying of Europe’ where ageing populations aged 65 or older and low birthrates pose ‘considerable social, economic and political challenges in countries such as Germany and Italy’ [according to](https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/10/08/refugee-surge-brings-youth-to-an-aging-europe/) the Pew Research Center, a Washington-based think tank.

Some politicians, such as former European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker believe an influx of younger workers from Africa is the [solution](https://www.cnbc.com/2015/09/11/migrants-could-help-solve-europes-aging-problem.html).

Meanwhile, the migration pact currently appears stuck in parliamentary committees, the received wisdom is that it’s being deliberately stalled until the outcome of the German federal elections is known in September.

Beck suggests an alternative reason for the unusual delay.

“*It's not gone through all the committees in the European Parliament and the negotiations of the Council [of Europe] haven't started but I think the EU would like to push the legislation through from July onwards,*” he said.

“*Now that all the countries are phasing out the lockdown and people are generally feeling better about themselves and able to leave their homes again. So the possibility is that they’ll try to use the general feelgood atmosphere – summer combined with corona relaxations – to push ahead with this deeply dangerous legislative package,*” Beck said.

And maybe Beck’s right. Because the European Parliament’s final plenary session is early July and then it doesn’t sit again until mid-September. If the pact proposals are put to MEPs in July and inevitably passed, there is plenty of time for it to lose its sting over the extended summer break. It will be just like it was there all the time.

That should play well for AfD in the federal elections, which are slated for September 22, but Beck is not so sure.

“*It's possible that migration will become an important issue in the federal election,” he said. “And the EU migration pact to those of us in the EU delegation is an important campaign but whether that can be turned into an election campaign is a different story.*”

Nevertheless, a win on Sunday for AfD would indicate that despite a huge surge in Green Party [popularity](https://www.cleanenergywire.org/news/east-german-state-election-highlights-political-conflicts-energy-transition) nationwide, Germans are interested in more than climate change, particularly in states such as Saxony-Anhalt, home to one of Germany’s three main coal mines. A recent poll there found that climate change was considered important by just 6% of respondents, whereas a national survey found 75% of folk were concerned for the planet.

Observers liken the voters of Saxony-Anhalt – which has a population of 2.2million – to those ‘left-behinds’ who Donald Trump wooed, and the so-called ‘Red Wall’ voters in the UK who felt their traditional party no longer represented them. Beck agrees.

“*The election this week will probably be the first time that we become the strongest single party and that will be a huge success*,” he said. “*There’s widespread dissatisfaction in east Germany about the state of politics in this country and that dissatisfaction can translate very frictionlessly into increasing support for the AfD because our party is not stigmatised there. In west Germany it’s distinctly more difficult there. The campaign to stigmatise us has been more successful and some of the other parties profit from that dissatisfaction. But not us.*”

Those efforts to discredit a party, which would most likely sit alongside the Conservative right in the UK, take a huge electoral toll. Despite coalitions being commonplace in Germany, no one dares buddy-up with AfD. MORE -

<https://www.rt.com/news/525690-africans-migration-eu-german/> [This may not seem relevant to much of America but the ‘social planning’, people redistribution, ‘graying of Europe’ is all part of the one world agenda to remove distinctions in groups or people. This is all very strange when you see everything the US leftist/socialists are doing to increase the recognition of color and race but it is in reality part of the same process. The ultimate goal is a ruling class and a subordinate worker class, not unlike the slavery issue of years gone by. – rdb]

**China expert Gordon Chang: 'America must #MakeChinaPay' for COVID**

***'Researchers are now cooking up far more deadly pathogens'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published June 4, 2021 at 12:07pm*

China expert Gordon Chang is calling for America, and the international community, to "#MakeChinaPay" for what he describes as its attack on the rest of the world.  
 In his commentary at [Gatestone Institute,](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/17432/china-coronavirus) where he is a distinguished senior fellow and advisory board member, he charges that China "deliberately spread CVOID-19 beyond its borders."  
 Deterrence is needed because, he writes, "China's regime committed the crime of this century and may well be planning another horrific act."  
 After more than a year of being discounted, even suppressed, the idea that COVID-19 emerged from a virology lab in Wuhan, China, that has been working on those specific bat viruses, that train of thought finally is being given credence now.  
 Even President Biden has reversed himself on the issue and now has asked for a full report on the possible source.  
 "There are extremely disturbing indications that the People's Liberation Army of the Communist Party either engineered SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus causing this disease, or warehoused this pathogen in a laboratory, most likely the Wuhan Institute of Virology in Wuhan," Chang explained. "The lab was storing more than 1,500 strains of coronavirus, it conducted dangerous gain-of-function experiments, it failed to adhere to safety protocols, and it is located just miles from the first identified COVID-19 case."  
 He said there's no need to wait for "a determination of Beijing's culpability. Even if the coronavirus did not start out as a biological weapon, the world now has enough information to conclude that China's regime turned it into one."  
 He said human-to-human cases were confirmed in December 2019, but China waited weeks to admit that.   
 Bottom of Form

"Chinese leaders then engaged in a campaign of deception. They assured the World Health Organization that such transmissions were not likely. As a result of China's assurances, WHO issued a January 9 statement and its infamous January 14 tweet, both propagating the false Chinese assurance," he explained.  
 "Then Chinese ruler Xi Jinping pressured countries not to impose travel restrictions on arrivals from China while he was locking down, among other places, Wuhan and the surrounding areas of his own country. By locking down China, he was obviously thinking he was stopping the spread of disease. By leaning on other countries not to impose travel restrictions, he knew or had to know that he was spreading the disease. The passengers leaving China turned an epidemic that should have been confined to central China into a global pandemic," he charged.  
 He said the only explanation that fits the facts is that XI "maliciously spread COVID-19 to the world."  
 Holding China accountable, however, will be a long road, he said.  
 While lawsuits already have been filed in California, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Texas, John Houghtaling of Gauthier Murphy & Houghtaling, a leading class-action law firm, told Gatestone, three obstacles including the idea of China's sovereign immunity, the burden of proof and finally collecting a judgment.  
 He said China's "crimes against humanity" are so horrific that immunity should be removed.  
 "Beijing's spread of the coronavirus constituted such a crime. The spread was either deliberate or reckless and in any event Chinese leaders had to know that their unjustifiable acts would result in death around the world. As of this moment, 3,579,000 people have died from COVID-19, including 596,000 Americans. The Chinese regime committed mass murder," he said.  
 And technically, the Community Party of China is a political party, not a sovereign, he pointed out.  
 Two members of Congress also have introduced legislation that would allow families of COVID-19 victims to sue a country that "intentionally misled" the world on the outbreak.  
 "Punishing China, by seizing its assets, for example, would send a powerful message to Beijing that Washington will not tolerate the killing of Americans. It is absolutely essential that the Biden administration disabuse Chinese leaders of the notion that they can spread the next pathogen, or whatever else they are planning, without cost," he said.  
 After all, he noted, "In China's laboratories, researchers are now cooking up far more deadly pathogens than SARS-CoV-2, including those that would leave the Chinese immune but sicken or kill everyone else." <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/china-expert-gordon-chang-america-must-makechinapay-covid/> [Never forget that Gates and Fauci and those leftists and eugenicists at the NIH were all really complicit in this crime of the century. It hasn’t gotten up to the level of 12 million as in the Holocaust YET but given some time and the ultimate results of the JAB and it likely will far exceed that. – rdb]

**NIH resists answering COVID questions in public**

***Officials says agency 'offered to have a chance to simply get into a secure space and have a conversation'***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published June 3, 2021 at 7:46pm* ***By Eleanor Bartow*** *Daily Caller News Foundation*

The director of the National Institutes of Health wants to answer congressional inquiries about the agency’s links to a Wuhan lab in private, he told the Hugh Hewitt Show on Wednesday.

Referring to a congressional [letter](https://republicans-energycommerce.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/NIH-Investigation-COVID-origins.pdf) on his agency’s work with the Wuhan Institute of Virology, NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins [said](https://hughhewitt.com/dr-francis-collins-on-the-u-s-funding-of-the-wuhan-lab-and-congressional-oversight/), “in our response, we offered to have a chance to simply get into a secure space and have a conversation … Much of the information they’re asking for, we don’t have the answers to. Some of it is pretty sensitive, not quite classified, but getting close to that.” [If it isn’t classified for purposes of national security then there is no reason to have closed sessions. You and your group is funded by the US POPULATION and are answerable. We have a right to know exactly what and when and why you did what you did because it “MAY” have contributed to the death of 600,000 Americans and many more citizens of the entire world. The cloak of secrecy needs to stop immediately – rdb]

“No good. The public needs answers,” Washington Post columnist Josh Rogin [tweeted](https://twitter.com/joshrogin/status/1400102729066991617?s=11) in response.

We don’t need Fauci and Collins telling lies, again, in a “secure space.”

We need Fauci and Collins taking the Fifth, again and again, in televised public hearings, testifying under oath, subject to penalties for perjury.

— Richard H. Ebright (@R\_H\_Ebright) [June 2, 2021](https://twitter.com/R_H_Ebright/status/1400138965374705665)

The Wuhan Institute of Virology is at the center of speculation that COVID-19 could have accidentally leaked from a lab.

The NIH’s granting of funds that went to a Wuhan lab complied with regulations because it was for research on a bat virus, not a human one, and was to study how the virus transferred to humans, Collins said in separate [comments](https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/06/francis-collins-nih/619065/) published Wednesday in The Atlantic.

“The terms of the grant were limited to bat viruses, and absolutely did not allow gain-of-function research in the sense of studying human pathogens,” he said.  
 “The gain of function that is of much greater concern, and for which the United States has in place stringent oversight guidelines, relates to experiments that might make a human pathogen more transmissible or more virulent,” Collins [told](https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/06/francis-collins-nih/619065/) the publication.  
 Under [regulations](https://www.phe.gov/s3/dualuse/documents/p3co.pdf) created in 2017, federal funding for research on viruses with pandemic potential must be reviewed by a board that evaluates its risks. But the board does not review a grant proposal if the funding agency determines that the virus being studied is unlikely to be highly transmissible and deadly to humans.  
 Nor does the board review grant proposals studying “naturally occurring pathogens that are circulating in or have been recovered from nature, regardless of their pandemic potential,” the regulations say.  
 The research regulations are largely shrugged off, Vanity Fair [reported](https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2021/06/the-lab-leak-theory-inside-the-fight-to-uncover-covid-19s-origins) Thursday.  
 “If you ban gain-of-function research, you ban all of virology,” an unnamed longtime agency official told the magazine. “Ever since the moratorium, everyone’s gone wink-wink and just done gain-of-function research anyway.”  
 NIH grants to EcoHealth Alliance totaling [$600,000](https://dailycaller.com/2021/05/26/senate-amendment-ban-gain-of-function-china/) between 2014 and 2019 were subcontracted to the Wuhan Institute of Virology.  
 The NIH [subcontract](https://reporter.nih.gov/search/ZBjgKIfaCUyvJmxyKyn6xg/project-details/9819304) was to study viruses from bats living in caves in China, because bat viruses were the source of the human diseases SARS and MERS, respiratory diseases in humans that are also caused by coronaviruses, Collins said.  
 Collins still believes by far the most likely origin of SARS-CoV-2 is a natural zoonotic pathway from bats to some unidentified intermediate host to humans, he told The Atlantic.  
 He said the theory that the virus may have leaked from a lab was “muddled up with the intentional-bioweapon hypothesis,” leading to “too much credibility to the latter and not enough to the former.”

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/nih-resists-answering-covid-questions-public/> [You need to catch the last two nights of Tucker Carlson because he does a real job on explaining the disgusting and reprehensible events that have occurred concerning this issue and the duplicity and lies of Fauci, a person who needs to be prosecuted for murder.

Here is one video from last night: <https://video.foxnews.com/v/6257467716001#sp=show-clips> – rdb]

**Report: Hunter Biden-linked company pitched access to Clinton campaign**

***Emails reveal contact made with former Ukrainian prosecutor***

By [Bob Unruh](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published June 4, 2021 at 4:44pm*

A lobbying firm linked to Hunter Biden as well as the Ukrainian gas company Burisma "pitched" access to the Hillary Clinton campaign to a former Ukrainian prosecutor, according to a new report. [Fox News](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/blue-star-strategies-burisma-hunter-biden-ukraine-prosecutor-access-clinton-campaign-obama-official) on Friday reported it had obtained emails between former Obama State Department officials revealing the actions.

The report explained, "Former Ukrainian prosecutor Yuriy Lutsenko told former Obama State Department official George Kent he had been 'pitched' by a Hunter Biden and Burisma-linked lobbying firm to give him 'access' to 'high levels' of the Clinton campaign in the weeks leading up to the 2016 presidential election."

Blue Star Strategies, the company cited, now reportedly is under federal investigation for potential illegal lobbying, according to the report. It allegedly comes as Department of Justice is working to defeat the influence foreign governments try to exert over American politics and elections. "The probe into Blue Star … puts firms and operatives connected to the Democratic Party under the microscope," the report.

Fox reported that an email released to Citizens United as part of a Freedom of Information Act filing shows former deputy assistant secretary of state for Europe and Eastern Europe George Kent wrote to a number of Obama administration officials about a meeting he had with Ukrainian prosecutor Yuriy Lutsenko in September 2016 about Blue Star Strategies.

The subject line was "Lutsenko now likely not to go to DC with Blue Star, other Ukr issue comments" and it was dispatched to the former assistant secretary for fossil energy Christopher Smith, former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch and Alan Purcell, the chief political officer at the Kiev embassy from 2014 to 2017, the report said.

Kent explained he met Lutsenko "one on one after I’d SMSed him regarding stories that he was using a third party lobbyist to pull together a planned trip to DC turned into a chat over Thai food at the DCR."

Fox said, "Kent, a key witness in the first impeachment proceedings against former President Trump in 2019, said the two discussed options of a trip Lutsenko had been planning to the U.S., and 'confirmed he has been pitched by Blue Star, not sought them out.'"

"He said he honestly didn’t know how Blue Star was to get paid — he didn’t have funds — and that some BPP MP that we probably didn’t know 'and that’s good' (Truhubenko??) had introduced them to him," Kent said in the email.

Fox noted it was unclear who is "Truhubenko."

But Kent wrote, "Blue Star CEO [Karen] Tramantano’s pitch was that she could gain him access to high levels of the Clinton campaign (GPK note: she was Podesta’s deputy as deputy COS the last year of Bill Clinton’s tenure), and that was appealing—to meet the possible next Presidential Chief of Staff."

While Kent noted meetings were unlikely to develop only weeks before an election, he also commented on the link with Blue Star, which had represented Burisma, which was paying Hunter Biden tens of thousands of dollars a week to be on its board.

"Hunter Biden joined Burisma in 2014, and, at the time, reportedly connected Burisma with Blue Star to help the firm fight corruption charges. The founder of Burisma, Mykola Zlochevsky, the former minister of ecologies, had been under investigation in Ukraine," the report said.

President Trump in 2019 was targeted by the first of two failed impeach-and-remove attempts by Democrats over Burisma Holdings. He had asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky during a phone call to look into the Biden family's dealings in Ukraine. Kent was a key witness during those proceedings. He explained he raised concerns with Biden's office in 2015 that Hunter Biden’s role on the board of Burisma could present "the possibility of the perception of a conflict of interest."

Hunter Biden's scandals have plagued Joe Biden as candidate, and now as president. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/report-hunter-biden-linked-company-pitched-access-clinton-campaign/>

**Governor Abbott’s Disaster Declaration Closes Shelters for Illegal Migrant Children**

*by* [*Veronika Kyrylenko*](https://thenewamerican.com/contributor/veronika-kyrylenko/) *June 4, 2021*

Texas Governor Greg Abbott moved to block federal housing for child migrants in the Lone Star State by ordering child-care regulators to pull licenses for the facilities that house minors detained after crossing the border illegally.  
 Abbott [issued](https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/press/DISASTER_border_security_IMAGE_05-31-2021.pdf) a disaster declaration on Tuesday “in response to the border crisis, providing more resources and strategies to combat the ongoing influx of unlawful immigrants,” ordering the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to take all necessary steps to discontinue state licensure of any child-care facility under a contract with the federal government that shelters or detains unlawful immigrants. The move will affect 4,223 unaccompanied children who are being held in state-licensed facilities or child-placement agencies, the *Dallas Morning News* [reported](https://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/2021/06/01/gov-greg-abbott-orders-texas-child-care-regulators-to-yank-licenses-of-facilities-housing-immigrant-kids/).  
 There are also 52 state-licensed residential operations and child-placement agencies in Texas that have contracts with the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement.​  
 In his executive order, Abbott linked recent increases in immigration to the state’s ongoing foster-care capacity crisis and argued that “The unabated influx of individuals resulting from federal government policies threatens to negatively impact state-licensed residential facilities, including those that serve Texas children in foster care.” ​  
 He accused the federal government of “commandeering” state resources for their open-borders agenda.  
 “There are several counties in Texas, more than a dozen counties in Texas, that requested a gubernatorial disaster declaration for the border,” Abbott said. “I declared their disaster declaration.”  
   The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) said it would not be shutting down any facilities holding child migrants in Texas, despite an order from Governor Abbott to pull licenses from such facilities.  
 “HHS’s top priority is the health and safety of the children in our care. We are assessing the Texas directive concerning licensed facilities providing care to unaccompanied children and do not intend to close any facilities as a result of the order,” HHS spokesperson Sarah Lovenheim [said](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hhs-child-migrant-facilities-in-texas-despite-abbott-order).  
 However, a spokeswoman for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission later [stated](https://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/abbott-executive-order-puts-federal-childcare-partners-on-notice-to-stop-housing-migrant-children/2647654/) that “HSC is reviewing the Governor’s disaster proclamation and determining next steps as we plan for fully implementing the Governor’s direction.” The state agency released a notice to the 52 agencies partnering with the federal government, stating that “by August 30, 2021, you must wind down any operations at your child-care facility that provide care under a federal contract to individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States.”  
 As [reported](https://nypost.com/2021/06/03/gov-abbott-moves-to-block-facilities-for-child-migrants-in-texas/) by the *New York Post*, Representative Henry Cuellar (D-Texas), who was among a bipartisan group of lawmakers who toured the border on Wednesday and urged the Biden administration to address the surge of migrants, was asked during an appearance on Fox News about the viral video of [a five-year-old boy](https://kfoxtv.com/news/local/watch-5-year-old-migrant-child-screams-for-help-after-being-dropped-off-at-border-06-03-2021) who had been abandoned by smugglers at the border in Texas.  
 “What we’re seeing at the border is only a snapshot of what happens to these people. Imagine the hundreds of miles that they go without any U.S. interventions like we have here at the border​,” Cuellar said.  
 Commenting on the heartbreaking video of the smuggled and then abandoned child, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki [said](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTx6KjUkVj0) the administration is working on programs such as the Central American Minors (CAM) Refugee program that allows kids who are eligible to apply for refugee status within their country.  
 The CAM program was established in 2014 by the Obama administration to provide children from Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras who have parents or relatives with legal status in the United States with a way to apply for protective status in the United States from within their country. The program was terminated by the Trump administration in 2017, but was [restored](https://www.state.gov/restarting-the-central-american-minors-program/) on March 10, 2021 by the Biden administration as a “safe, legal, and orderly alternative” to kids traveling to the U.S. southern border on their own or with smugglers.  
 Biden is also [allocating](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/01/20/fact-sheet-president-biden-sends-immigration-bill-to-congress-as-part-of-his-commitment-to-modernize-our-immigration-system/) $4 billion “to address the underlying causes of migration in the region, conditioned on their ability to reduce the endemic corruption, violence, and poverty that causes people to flee their home countries.” [That is the standard dumb demon-rats response to anything – throw money at it. We know why they are coming - because the demon-rats literally invited them and Soros is backing it. Who is the US president now? – a combination of the Obamanation and George Soros. – rdb]  
 While trying to address migration “push factors” in the region, the Biden administration is [enhancing](https://thenewamerican.com/biden-will-spend-more-than-100m-to-bring-illegals-here-1200-to-stay-in-hotels-fly-to-new-destinations-wall-construction-delay-costs-millions/) “pull factors” into the United States. As a result, a staggering number of migrant children is drawn to the U.S. southern border. [According](https://cis.org/Arthur/Unaccompanied-Alien-Children-Swelling-Immigration-Court-Dockets) to the Center for Immigration study, in [April](https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-land-border-encounters), Border Patrol agents apprehended almost 17,000 unaccompanied alien children (UACs) who had entered illegally at the southwest border. Those apprehensions came on top of more than 18,700 UAC apprehensions in March, and 9,270 in February.   
 The Biden administration still seems to be in denial as to why so many children are entering illegally, and is blaming exclusively external factors, such as climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic — not law, policy, and the president’s rhetoric, which are much more likely sources. <https://thenewamerican.com/governor-abbotts-disaster-declaration-closes-shelters-for-illegal-migrant-children/> [So why did Abbott decide to wait until after the closure of the legislative session to call for this emergency. If he were really in favor of true government by the people he would have put this issue on their agenda and have the legislature mandate action on the border or at least request approval for a declaration of emergency. This fellow has a major god complex. It is no wonder Grass roots America We the people will not support Abbott in the upcoming primaries. Who should we find to replace him as a candidate??? How about Col. Alan West? He seems like a real conservative and he certainly has great administrative skills and knows the federal and state systems. – rdb]

**House Judiciary GOP members now focusing on 'woke' Microsoft**

***Accused of joining other tech giants in using power to silence conservatives***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published June 4, 2021 at 8:09pm* ***By Thomas Catenacci*** *Daily Caller News Foundation*

House Judiciary Committee Republicans would welcome the opportunity to question Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella about censorship of conservatives on his company’s platforms and antitrust issues, a spokesperson said.

While conservatives often aim their criticism of Big Tech at Facebook, Amazon, Apple, Google and Twitter, they often leave out Microsoft, Russell Dye, a spokesperson for House Judiciary Republicans and Ranking Member Jim Jordan, told the Daily Caller News Foundation. However, Microsoft has similarly wielded its massive power as one of the largest companies in the world to silence conservatives, he added.

“Big Tech censorship of conservatives is not limited to just Amazon, Google, Facebook, and Twitter,” Dye told the DCNF in a statement. “Microsoft has used its power to promote a woke agenda and to help Democrats.”

“Microsoft isn’t discussed as prominently as other tech titans, but perhaps it should be,” Dye said.

For example, the popular employment social media platform LinkedIn has [reportedly](https://nypost.com/2020/01/18/linkedin-has-discriminated-against-me-because-of-my-political-beliefs/) censored conservative voices and posts on numerous occasions, [according](https://newbostonpost.com/2018/01/14/linkedin-the-latest-platform-to-censor-conservatives-heres-proof/) to [conservative commentators](https://cnsnews.com/commentary/craig-shirley/linkedin-targets-conservative-journalist-infantile-censorship). Microsoft purchased LinkedIn for $26.2 billion five years ago, CNBC [reported](https://www.cnbc.com/2016/06/13/microsoft-to-buy-linkedin.html) at the time.

Like [Twitter](https://dailycaller.com/2020/10/14/hawley-hunter-biden-email-new-york-post/), LinkedIn prohibited its users from sharing stories related to leaked information [obtained from Hunter Biden’s laptop](https://dailycaller.com/2020/10/14/report-hunter-biden-introduced-joe-burisma-executive/) by the New York Post in October, according to [Reason Magazine](https://reason.com/volokh/2021/04/19/what-i-learned-when-linkedin-suppressed-my-post/). The platform even threatened users with indefinitely restricting their account if they shared censored articles multiple times.Bottom of Form

Twitter received [sharp criticism](https://dailycaller.com/2020/10/21/new-york-post-locked-out-twitter-account-7-days/) from conservatives for its decision to block posts related to the Hunter Biden story. The company’s CEO Jack Dorsey was [called to testify](https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Dorsey%20Testimony.pdf) before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Nov. 17 specifically about the alleged censorship.

LinkedIn received muted pushback in comparison.

Since 2016, Microsoft has banned users of its software from “communicating hate speech” and engaging in “harmful activity,” according to its [services agreement](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/servicesagreement/upcoming.aspx). The agreement, which users must sign before using Microsoft products, gives the company the right to review content and close a person’s account based on its investigation.

The agreement gives Microsoft broad legal powers to close accounts of users who use the company’s software to create content deemed to be harmful, according to [Forbes](https://www.forbes.com/sites/kalevleetaru/2019/07/26/censorship-comes-for-the-desktop-how-microsoft-has-infused-values-into-windows-and-office/?sh=a8af9567c5b6). Microsoft has declined to specify how it defines “hate speech.”

In addition, Dye told the DCNF that Microsoft could potentially face renewed antitrust scrutiny. In 2001, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled largely in favor of Microsoft in a [late 1990s case](https://www.lexisnexis.com/community/casebrief/p/casebrief-united-states-v-microsoft-corp) in which the Department of Justice attempted to break the technology company up due to its alleged anticompetitive behavior.

The Judiciary Committee [released](https://dailycaller.com/2020/10/07/oil-barons-railroad-tycoons-big-tech-amazon-apple-facebook-google-restructured-house-judiciary-report/) a [report](https://judiciary.house.gov/uploadedfiles/competition_in_digital_markets.pdf?utm_campaign=4493-519) in October highlighting the findings of its investigation into Big Tech antitrust issues, but Jordan and other Republican members of the committee [criticized the report as partisan](https://dailycaller.com/2021/04/23/jim-jordan-dissent-david-cicilline-report-big-tech-antitrust/). The report concluded that Amazon, Google, Facebook and Apple should be broken up, but only mentioned Microsoft a handful of times.

However, Paul Arnold, the founder of venture capital firm Switch Ventures, told the committee that it would be “nearly impossible” to overcome LinkedIn’s monopoly, according to the report.

Apple CEO Tim Cook, Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Google CEO Sundar Pichai all appeared before the House Judiciary Committee in a [July 2020 hearing on antitrust issues](https://dailycaller.com/2020/07/28/google-zuckerberg-bezos-antitrust/). Microsoft was able to avoid an invitation to testify at the hearing. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/house-judiciary-gop-members-now-focusing-woke-microsoft/> [the entire group needs to be broken up and the leaders incarcerated for accessory to insurrection of a duly elected government by contributing to a fraudulent election. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**The House That I Hide In***By* [*Sidney Secular*](https://newswithviews.com/author/sidney/)*|June 4th, 2021* That’s what we tend to do, internally/mentally if not physically, when surrounded by deluded, deranged libbers. In 1945, then young liberal Democrat crooner Frank Sinatra recorded a song about the meaning of America, “The House That I Live In”. He continued crooning that tune as his voice and his politics matured and moved rightward.  These are the lyrics:  
 The howdy and the handshake,  
 The air of feeling free  
 And the right to speak my mind out,  
 That’s America to me.  
 How quaint that Americans used to believe that. The list of topics that can be discussed in public, even in moderate and respectful ways, shrinks by the day. Conservatives of all stripes are increasingly reluctant to express their views and beliefs in public and even on the internet, that medium whose early proponents often championed as a vehicle for unfettered freedom of expression.  
 Indeed, many on the right had seen the internet as the key to bypassing the leftist domination of the other media. in 2020, however, the internet became just another venue in which the Left could assert its cultural dominance, as tech companies used algorithms, content warnings, suspensions and bans to limit the spread of ideas they didn’t like, a process that came to include even the former President of the United States. The impact of such open censorship is amplified by massive self-censorship, as people learn about careers sidetracked and even ended by the discovery of stray remarks made years before.  
 Something of this nature happened to Chris Harrison, the host of the ABC dating game show, “The Bachelor”, after he wondered aloud whether it was fair to bar a contestant for attending a party in 2018 in which the guests dressed like planters from the antebellum South. Harrison was forced to take a leave of absence as the censors took leave of their senses. Harrison will be replaced in the show’s future seasons. Even more pointedly, a member of a folk-rock band, Mumford & Sons was forced to take a leave of absence after it became known that they had dared praise Andy Ngo’s book, “Unmasked”, which is critical of Antifa,  
 These examples could be multiplied many times over, but the point is clear enough that Sinatra’s “air of feeling free” is now a suffocating miasma, and “The House I Live In” has become “The House I hide In”. There is an overarching attempt to cut off any appeal to the past, and American history is being buried. When the censors are compelled to allow us to see anything from the past they don’t like, warning labels are applied and commentary is applied to put them “in context” so the censors themselves are not censored by those who lord it over them and they can feel confident in their virtue-signalling. “Cancel Culture” is running on full throttle right now, running on all cylinders, as it throttles us.  
 The only way to throttle the cancel culture short of throttling its purveyors is to keep telling the truth as you see it–not recklessly, nor provocatively, but insistently. It doesn’t take long for beliefs that everyone knows to be true but that no one is willing to defend in public–to vanish. This has been the fate of of what the so-called conservative movement purportedly is out to conserve since that “movement” from its conception has been shot through with tactical timidity.  
 If we can’t stand up and defend what we know to be true, we may as well be locked in our homes.  
© 2021 Sidney Secular – All Rights Reserved <https://newswithviews.com/the-house-that-i-hide-in/>

**COVID-19 Has Forever Destroyed Americans' Trust in Ruling Class 'Experts'**[*Josh Hammer*](https://townhall.com/columnists/joshhammer/) *Posted: Jun 04, 2021 12:01 AM* As even many casual observers of America's fractious politics are aware, the overwhelming majority of lawmaking at the federal level no longer takes place in Congress as the Constitution's framers intended. Instead, the vast majority of the "rulemaking" governing Americans' day-to-day lives now takes place behind closed doors, deep in the bowels of the administrative state's sprawling bureaucracy. The brainchild of progressive President Woodrow Wilson, arguments on behalf of the modern administrative state are ultimately rooted in, among other factors, a disdain for the messy give-and-take of republican politics and an epistemological preference for rule by enlightened clerisy.  
 Put more simply, the most straightforward version of the argument offered by partisans of the administrative state amounts to, "Trust the experts." And over the century-plus since Wilson's presidency, the "trust the experts" leitmotif has moved well beyond the realm of prevailing dogma for mandarins in such agencies as the Food and Drug Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency. Rather, for large swaths of the citizenry and the elected official class, "trust the experts" now reigns supreme for everything from the military ("Trust the generals!") to public health ("Trust the epidemiologists!").  
 And therein lies the rub.  
 The trials and tribulations of COVID-19 in America have dealt an irreparable blow to the credibility of America's ruling class and the ruling class's implicit appeal to its authority as a coterie of highly trained and capable experts. No single person exemplifies this more than Dr. Anthony Fauci, who has attained celebrity status during the pandemic as the nation's leading immunologist and forward-facing spokesman for our public policy response. As Steve Deace and Todd Erzen detail in their new book, "Faucian Bargain: The Most Powerful and Dangerous Bureaucrat in American History," Fauci has repeatedly contradicted himself throughout the pandemic, waffling on what the "science" demands at any given moment while still always seeming to err on the side of draconian overreaction.  
 Recent Freedom of Information Act, or FOIA, requests by BuzzFeed and The Washington Post only underscore the point. Perhaps most damningly, the FOIA requests revealed a February 2020 email to former Obama-era Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Burwell explaining that store-bought face masks are "really for infected people to prevent them from spreading infection to people who are not infected rather than protecting uninfected people from acquiring infection." He also added that the "typical mask you buy in the drug store is not really effective in keeping out virus, which is small enough to pass through material."  
 Of course, barely over a month after Fauci's unearthed email to Burwell, Americans were required to wear masks pretty much every time they left their house -- and mask-skeptical posts were censored or deleted by the ruling class's preferred private-sector enforcement arm, Big Tech. And none of this is to even broach the separate issue of the extensive COVID-19-era societal lockdowns, which were never justified on the scientific metrics despite being ubiquitously promoted by those excoriating lockdown-skeptical conservatives to just shut up and "trust the science."  
 In addition to the Fauci FOIA cache, there is also the Democratic Party and the media's inexplicable 180-degree turn on the plausibility of the Wuhan lab leak theory -- that is, the idea that the COVID-19 pandemic has as its origins not a zoonotic transmission at a local "wet market" but an escape from the Wuhan Institute of Virology, which was conducting dangerous coronavirus research (partially subsidized by the U.S. taxpayer) and happens to be located within the immediate vicinity of the then-novel virus's first confirmed cases. The lab leak theory was *always*plausible, if not probable, but those who promoted it as a possibility from the onset -- such as Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., and then-President Donald Trump -- were routinely lambasted as Sinophobic conspiracy theorists.  
 There was never any compelling reason to dismiss the lab leak theory out of hand, and in retrospect, it seems that those who did so were likely motivated more by "orange man bad!"-style anti-Trump personal animus than anything else. The Biden administration has recently called for a 90-day intelligence community review into the origins of the pandemic, which is welcome news for those of us who have called COVID-19 a "Chinese Chernobyl" demanding serious geopolitical accountability since day one -- but sad news for those who may have presumed a modicum of intellectual honesty from our political elites.  
 American politics is currently in the throes of a populist moment. That populist moment is characterized by widespread distrust of elites and a perceived ever-widening chasm between the ruling class's prerogatives and the wishes of the American people at large. As we finally begin to emerge from COVID-19, that chasm will only grow wider. The ruling class has finally sullied itself one time too many. <https://townhall.com/columnists/joshhammer/2021/06/04/covid19-has-forever-destroyed-americans-trust-in-ruling-class-experts-n2590463>

And then…

**Big Tech's 'No Free Speech' Amendment**

[*Daniel Greenfield*](https://www.blogger.com/profile/13575285186581875356) [*June 03, 2021*](http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2021/06/big-techs-no-free-speech-amendment.html)

A few years ago the Computer and Communications Industry Association (CCIA) was demanding government regulations that would force internet providers to carry the content of members like Amazon, Google, Facebook, and Twitter. Now it's suing Florida to fight regulations that would force some of those same members to carry the content of ordinary Americans.  
 Net Neutrality, or forcing cable and DSL companies to carry all content without picking and choosing, "helps preserve free speech, access to information — and democracy," former CCIA boss Ed Black argued two years ago.

But when Governor Ron DeSantis signed a law barring Big Tech monopolies from deplatforming candidates for public office and journalists, and forcing Big Tech to adopt clear and consistent standards for how they treat users, including deplatforming, as is the norm in every other industry, the CCIA went to war against free speech, access to information -- and democracy.  
 Governor DeSantis says that Big Tech is suppressing free speech. Big Tech argues that DeSantis is taking away its free speech which it defines as censoring people’s speech.  
 “We are bringing this suit to safeguard the industry’s free speech," current CCIA boss Matt Schruers claimed. “A digital service that declines to host harmful content is exercising its own First Amendment rights.”  
 Does Facebook have free speech? And can speech consist of denying service to conservatives? Should Mark Zuckerberg’s speech nullify the speech of millions of Americans?  
 In 1948, the first program ran on a computer. It was also the year that George Orwell finished 1984 with its infamous slogan, “Freedom is Slavery” and “Slavery is Freedom.” Big Tech’s version of it is, “Free Speech is Censorship” and “Censorship is Free Speech.”  
 When Big Tech censors millions of Americans, it’s engaging in free speech. And when those Americans rise up and fight back against their illegal monopolies, that’s censorship.  
 But Big Tech already dismantled all the arguments it’s putting forward with Net Neutrality.  
 If a digital service picking and choosing its content is a First Amendment right, then why don’t cable companies have the same right to bar access to the harmful content on Twitter?  
 A trade association whose members include Twitter and Facebook insists they have a right to ban the President of the United States and any conservatives because that’s free speech, but that AT&T or Comcast don’t have the right to ban access to Twitter because of free speech.  
 If censorship is also free speech then that cuts both ways. Otherwise it’s free speech for me, but not for thee, which is exactly the argument that Big Tech’s lobbies and front groups are making.  
 Amazon, Google, Facebook, and Twitter want to force internet service providers to have no choice about carrying them, but they want to pick and choose whose speech they carry. And yet Google, Amazon, and Facebook have much broader monopolistic powers than internet service providers. The cable provider market has too little choice, but it’s incredibly diverse compared to an e-ecosystem with Google, whose search engine controls 80% of the market, Facebook, which controls 80% of the social media market, and Amazon’s massive ebook dominance.  
 If any aspect of the ‘net’ needs more neutrality, it’s the platforms, not the providers.  
 If Comcast’s control of 40% of the broadband market gives it so much power that it can’t be allowed to pick and choose what content it carries, what about Facebook’s 80% control?  
 And if Comcast potentially deciding not to carry Twitter is an assault on “free speech, access to information — and democracy”, then why isn’t Twitter’s decision not to carry President Trump and other conservatives an assault on “free speech, access to information — and democracy”?  
 Twitter, Facebook, and the rest of the Big Tech crew want to argue that denying access to platforms is an attack on free speech, but that platforms denying access to users isn’t.  
 Big Tech’s position is that only its monopolies have free speech and they should use that speech to deny everyone else free speech. That’s a surreal mockery of the First Amendment.  
 Big Tech’s trade group is relying on the same compelled speech argument that Christian bakers have used to avoid baking a cake for a gay wedding. But there’s a multitude of bakeries, most of whom will be happy to bake a cake for anything if you pay them enough.  
 How many Facebooks and Googles are there?  
 Christian bakers and photographers argued that they’re artists and taking part in a gay wedding would compel their speech. Are Mark Zuckerberg and Jack Dorsey artists? Are Facebook and Twitter their artistic creations that would be spoiled by allowing conservative speech?  
 And yet the same media that ridiculed the idea that a Christian baker should be allowed to pick and choose which cakes he bakes is insisting that telling a social media monopoly not to censor candidates for public office is a violation of Zuckerberg and Dorsey’s free speech rights.  
 But if the speech on Facebook and Twitter is the speech of these billionaires, then they can be held accountable for it. If it’s not their speech, then free speech isn’t an issue. The CCIA is in the absurd position of arguing that speech on platforms is and isn’t really theirs speech. And that platforms express their speech by taking away the ability of others to speak.  
 Call it the No Free Speech version of the First Amendment.  
 If Big Tech speaks by eliminating the speech of others, then maybe we would be better off without this novel black hole theory of speech on whose basis it’s going to war against Florida.  
 The CCIA was advocating for the so-called “Save the Internet Act” to impose Net Neutrality. But the internet appears to be in no particular danger from the lack of Net Neutrality. Despite all the alarmism about the end of the internet and even death threats (one activist was sentenced for threatening to kill the family of Trump’s FCC Chairman Ajit Pai), little has actually changed.  
 That’s not the case with Big Tech censorship which silenced millions of people from POTUS on down, influenced the outcome of a national election, and defined the national debate. Net Neutrality advocates could not point to any measurable harm caused to them, but opponents of Big Tech censorship can easily point to the harm being done to them and to the United States.  
 Florida is bringing real Net Neutrality to the table. Unlike Net Neutrality, which was an effort by platforms to enlist the government and dumber lefty internet users into their war against broadband providers, real Net Neutrality begins with monopolistic platforms not providers.  
 “The internet has been historically neutral. After decades of legal battles by those who want to either make money from discrimination or look the other way, we are glad to see legislation to protect consumers’ and businesses’ access to the open internet," the CCIA argued a mere two years ago in defense of Net Neutrality and the “Save the Internet Act”.  
 Unfortunately the internet hasn’t been neutral. It’s dominated by a speech cartel which deploys the rhetoric of an open internet and free speech when it serves its business interests, but is fighting tooth and nail when Governor DeSantis and Florida asked Big Tech to be neutral.  
 Conservatives looked the other way while Big Tech consolidated its control over the internet. They’ve gotten tired of looking the other way, but Big Tech is just as eager to gaslight them, to hire Republican lobbyists to argue that speech is censorship and censorship is speech.  
 We need a real Net Neutrality and a real Save the Internet Act.  
 The CCIA has unintentionally made some great points over the years. Americans paid for the internet, from the earliest networks down to Google. We put our economy and our political system on the internet. Now Big Tech monopolies are consuming our wealth and our freedom.  
 Americans deserve an open and neutral internet. Consumers and businesses need access to an open internet, but so do elected officials, journalists, and anyone who cares about the way that our country is run and has an opinion about government, culture, and education.  
 Big Tech engaged in blatant election rigging and voter suppression in the 2020 election. And it’s marginalizing and suppressing the views of half the country from the marketplace of ideas.  
 Its front group laughably claims that it’s suppressing half the country in the name of free speech.  
 A true net neutrality applied to the CCIA’s Big Tech bosses would "preserve free speech, access to information — and democracy." Florida’s move is a good first step in the war to take back free speech on the internet and force platforms to host political speech in an open and neutral way.  
 Big Tech claims that it loves free speech. Governor DeSantis and Florida are showing what real free speech looks like.

[*Daniel Greenfield*](http://sultanknish.blogspot.com/)*is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's*[*Front Page Magazine*](https://www.frontpagemag.com/)*.* <http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2021/06/big-techs-no-free-speech-amendment.html>

You would do well to look at …

**The Price of Friendship with Biden’s Washington***06/04/2021 Caroline Glick* In a week of unprecedented political upheaval, it’s hard to pay attention to anything other than what is before our face. As Naftali Bennett and Ayelet Shaked’s voters watch in shock as they betray every single thing that they claimed to stand for and form a government that gives unprecedented powers not only to post-Zionist parties but to the anti-Zionist Islamist party, it is hard to think about larger issues – like how Israel’s posture on Iran is about to change and what it means for the country.  
 But on Tuesday, in the midst of everything, the key strategic difference between Prime Minister Benjamin and members of the camp defined by hatred of Netanyahu came into full view.  
 In his speech at the ceremony marking the changing of the guard at the Mossad, as director Yossi Cohen transferred the baton of leadership to David Barnea, Netanyahu referred to Iran’s nuclear program as an “existential threat.” He then stated frankly, “If we must choose, and I hope this won’t happen, between our great friend the US and eliminating an existential threat – eliminating an existential threat takes precedence.”  
 Shortly thereafter, Defense Minister Benny Gantz, (long a core member of the Netanyahu haters camp), rejected Netanyahu’s assertion. “The US was and will remain Israel’s most important ally in preserving its security and its security superiority in the region,” Gantz said. MORE - . <https://carolineglick.com/the-price-of-friendship-with-bidens-washington/>   
AND…

**The Strategic Consequences of Bennett’s Megalomania***06/02/2021 Caroline Glick* There is little point at this stage of the game to mention the depths of moral depravity and treachery into which Naftali Bennett and Ayelet Shaked have descended. Now, as the two self-proclaimed “leaders” of the ideological Right defect from the nationalist camp and form a leftist government supported by pro-Hamas Arab parties, the time has come to discuss the strategic and national consequences of their actions.  
 The place to begin the discussion is by noting that ministers that support the Biden administration’s Middle East policies will hold a majority in the leftist government Bennett and Shaked are now intent on forming.  
 The Biden administration’s commitment to returning the US to the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran leads only in one direction. Biden’s Iran policy guarantees that Iran will achieve its goals of regional hegemony and membership in the nuclear club. MORE - <https://carolineglick.com/the-strategic-consequences-of-bennetts-megalomania/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**West won't push for anti-Iran resolution at IAEA board meeting**

***Britain, France, Germany and US will not push for resolution against Iran despite its failure to explain uranium traces found at three sites.***

*Elad Benari, Canada , Jun 05 , 2021 12:07 AM*

Britain, France, Germany and the United States will not push for a resolution against Iran at next week's meeting of the UN nuclear watchdog's board despite Tehran's failure to explain [uranium traces found at three sites](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/297162), diplomats told *Reuters* on Friday.  
 Earlier this week, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) [released a report](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307264) saying that Iran has failed to explain traces of uranium found at several undeclared sites.  
 "After many months, Iran has not provided the necessary explanation for the presence of the nuclear material particles at any of the three locations where the Agency has conducted complementary accesses (inspections)," the report said.  
 "The Director General is concerned that the technical discussions between the Agency and Iran have not yielded the expected results," it added.  
 A resolution against Iran could have prompted an escalation between Tehran and the West that would have jeopardized talks on reviving the 2015 nuclear deal taking place in Vienna.  
 At the last quarterly meeting of the IAEA’s 35-nation Board of Governors, the three European powers, with US backing, prepared a draft resolution criticizing Iran but did not formally submit it as IAEA chief Rafael Grossi announced new talks.  
 "The May 31 report can't be ignored just because the JCPOA talks are ongoing, but a resolution is not likely now," one diplomat told *Reuters* on Friday, referring to the 2015 deal by its official name, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.  
 Five other diplomats said there would not be a resolution but simply statements by countries on the board.  
 In a separate quarterly report also sent to member states on Monday and seen by *Reuters*, the IAEA said that Iran's quarterly increase in its stock of enriched uranium was the lowest since August 2019 at just 273 kg, bringing the total to 3,241 kg.  
 That total is many times the 202.8 kg limit set by the nuclear deal, but still well below the more than six tons Iran possessed before the deal.  
 Iran [has consistently scaled back](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/264672) its compliance with the 2015 nuclear deal with world powers in response to former US President Donald Trump’s withdrawal from it in May of 2018.  
 It has continued to do so even as the US under President Joe Biden began indirect talks with Iran on a return to compliance with the agreement. MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307506> [ In other words kick the can down the road until Iran has a bomb and can blow up Israel. My hope is that they try it out on the EU before they try it on Israel because the EU deserves it. There is such evil and wickedness there that it should be removed – rdb]

**Facebook bans Trump for two years**

***Facebook’s Oversight Board upholds suspension of former President’s Facebook and Instagram accounts for two years, will reassess after that.***

*Elad Benari, Canada , Jun 04 , 2021 8:13 PM | updated: 9:26 PM*

Facebook’s Oversight Board on Friday upheld its suspension of former US President Donald Trump’s Facebook and Instagram accounts for two years, citing his "praise for people who engaged in violence" during the January 6 Capitol attack.

"Given the gravity of the circumstances that led to Mr. Trump’s suspension, we believe his actions constituted a severe violation of our rules which merit the highest penalty available under the new enforcement protocols. We are suspending his accounts for two years, effective from the date of the initial suspension on January 7 this year," Facebook announced, according to *Fox News*.

"At the end of this period, we will look to experts to assess whether the risk to public safety has receded," it added.

In response, Trump said, “Facebook’s ruling is an insult to the record-setting 75M people, plus many others, who voted for us in the 2020 Rigged Presidential Election. They shouldn’t be allowed to get away with this censoring and silencing, and ultimately, we will win. Our Country can’t take this abuse anymore!”

Last month, Facebook Oversight Board — an independent group which reviews Facebook’s thorniest content rulings — [affirmed the decision](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/305625) to suspend Trump.

[Facebook banned Trump](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/294475) from the platform in the wake of the January 6 riots on the US Capitol, claiming Trump had encouraged the riots. MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307496> [Seems to me that “The Zucker” and his crew need a rapid long lasting trip to the woodshed with a stick. – rdb]

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