**07/15/2022 NEWS - Don’t miss Shorashim Insights – Link:**

[**https://madmimi.com/p/f592441?pact=178433-168577152-1683292940-b2e3c9c2fed12306d8c1725bb8a844b430f5de27**](https://madmimi.com/p/f592441?pact=178433-168577152-1683292940-b2e3c9c2fed12306d8c1725bb8a844b430f5de27)

**Why Israel is Growing Food Differently**

# <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQnceV6IGJY>

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| "From the standpoint of freedom of speech and the press, it is enough to point out that the state has no legitimate interest in protecting any or all religions from views distasteful to them... It is not the business of government to suppress real or imagined attacks upon a particular religious doctrine." -- Justice Tom C. Clark (1899-1977) U. S. Supreme Court Justice -- Doris Lessing (1919-2013) British author |

**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 CF – fell off ladder and bad fracture leg.**  **Pray for EL – Had stoke – doing better**  **Pray for KH – diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 22:8If the thief be not found, then the master of the house shall come near unto God, to see whether he have not put his hand unto his neighbour's goods. 9For every matter of trespass, whether it be for ox, for ass, for sheep, for raiment, or for any manner of lost thing, whereof one saith: 'This is it,' the cause of both parties shall come before God; he whom God shall condemn shall pay double unto his neighbour.

**US has clinched deal with Saudis for normalization steps toward Israel — official**

***Middle East diplomat confirms agreement is moving forward; will allow Israeli airlines to fly over Arab kingdom as well as direct flights from Israel for Muslim pilgrims***

*By* [*Jacob Magid*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jacob-magid/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:09 pm*

US President Joe Biden, during his visit to Jeddah this weekend, will announce the successful brokering of an agreement between Saudi Arabia and Egypt that will see Riyadh take steps toward normalization with Israel, a Middle East diplomat confirmed to The Times of Israel Thursday.  
 The normalization measures will include Saudi Arabia opening its airspace to Israeli flights to the Far East in addition to rolling out direct flights between Israel and Saudi Arabia for Muslim pilgrims, the Middle East diplomat said, confirming [reporting](https://www.axios.com/2022/07/14/saudi-israel-normalization-red-sea-deal) in the Axios news site.  
 The US has been seeking to finalize the transfer of the Tiran and Sanafir Red Sea islands from Cairo to Riyadh in time for Biden’s visit to Jeddah, where he will participate in the GCC+3 summit and hold a bilateral meeting with Saudi officials.  
 Israel handed over control of the two islands to Egypt as part of their 1979 peace agreement, but the sides agreed to demilitarize the islands and to allow the presence of a multinational observer force to remain. Israel had been seeking similar assurances from Saudi Arabia in order to sign off on the deal, but Riyadh has been hesitant to put the commitment in writing, the diplomat said last week.  
 Axios reported Thursday that Israel had now given its official agreement to the transfer of the islands.  
 The deal is legally complex because the countries do not maintain official ties and therefore are working through conduits. Riyadh has also been hesitant to put details of the agreement in writing, much to Israel’s discomfort, a diplomat previously said.  
 While the observer force will be transferred to another location, Saudi Arabia has committed to ensuring Israel’s freedom of transport around the islands, the diplomat said.  
 At a press conference with Prime Minister Yair Lapid earlier Thursday, Biden said he was “optimistic” about the prospects of being able to announce Saudi overflights when he arrives in Jeddah Friday. MORE -

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-has-clinched-deal-with-saudis-for-normalization-steps-toward-israel-official/>

**Saudi Arabia expected to grant access to Israeli air travel, U.S. official says**

***Biden to announce Saudi permission for Israeli pilgrims to visit as well as overflights, which could 'give Saudis leverage in future Israeli-Palestinian crisis,' foreign policy expert says***

*Reuters | Published: 07.14.22, 18:49*

Saudi Arabia will soon allow unfettered overflight to Israeli airlines and permit direct charter flights from Israel for Muslims participating in the annual hajj pilgrimage in Mecca, said a U.S. official.

The [announcement](https://www.ynetnews.com/article/sjcvlmhjc) is expected to come during U.S. President Joe Biden's [visit to Saudi Arabia later this week](https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/hyw6oy3jq), the official said. Biden has made it a focus to integrate Israel into the broader Gulf region, particularly with Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia did begin allowing Israeli airlines to fly over its territory in a special air corridor for flights to and from the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, after the signing of the Abraham Accords that normalized diplomatic relations between Israel and those two nations.

But Israel has yet to receive such access for flights to and from Asia, including China and India.

Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid was asked on Thursday at a joint news conference with Biden whether Saudi Arabia would approve the use of the air space, he said that it was Biden's announcement to make.

Biden replied, "I'm optimistic."

The Saudi government did not respond to requests for comment. MORE - <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/s1k11ho6oc>

**Accepting medal, emotional Biden says Israel’s success ‘close to miraculous to me’**

***US leader stresses his deep love for Jewish state, says it will never be alone,’ invites Herzog to White House***

*By* [*Lazar Berman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/lazar-berman/) *Today, 8:12 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/GPOHA1_5854-1.jpg)

President Isaac Herzog presents the Israeli Presidential Medal of Honor to US President Joe Biden at the President's Residence in Jerusalem. on July 14, 2022. (Haim Zach / GPO)

US President Joe Biden delivered a heartfelt speech alongside his Israeli counterpart Isaac Herzog Thursday night, calling his love for Israel “deep-rooted.”

In an address that ranged from Irish poetry to the Bible, Biden said “seeing Israel thrive, seeing the wildest dreams of Israel’s founding fathers and mothers grow into a reality that Israel’s children enjoy today, to me is close to miraculous.”

The US president, who regularly discusses his Catholic faith, quoted from the Torah portion of Balak in the Book of Numbers, in which Israel is called “the people that dwell alone.”

[A person standing at a podium talking to another person

Description automatically generated with low confidence](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/WhatsApp-Image-2022-07-14-at-7.12.32-PM.jpeg) “As I look out at these proud, strong Israelis in the audience,” he continued, “at the nation that made the desert bloom and built the Iron Dome, I see people who are growing more secure, more integrated, more confident and have greater relations with their neighbors. A nation that has forged peace before and can do it again.

“And a nation that will never dwell alone, because as long as there’s the United States you will never be alone.”

US President Joe Biden, left, speaks at the President’s Residence in Jerusalem, before President Isaac Herzog presents him with the Presidential Medal of Honor, on July 14, 2022. (Avishag Shaar-Yashuv / GPO)

Biden spoke before being awarded the Israeli Presidential Medal of Honor by Herzog, calling the decoration “one of the greatest honors of my career, and I mean that from the bottom of my heart.”

**White House invitation**

Before the speech, the two sat for a one-on-one meeting.

Biden told Herzog that he can call him at any time and invited Israel’s president to the White House, according to Herzog’s office.

Herzog brought up the issue of the [Israelis held captive](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-claims-health-of-israeli-captive-deteriorating-in-rare-announcement/) by Hamas in Gaza. He also laid out some of his ideas on tackling climate change that have come out of the president’s climate forum.

The two men also spoke about their personal connections to Ireland. Both have Irish ancestry.

Speaking next to Biden after the tête-à-tête — and a 15-minute sitdown between Biden and opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu — Herzog stressed that the US and Israel “are united in our opposition to Iran’s terror and drive for a nuclear weapons capability, which is the greatest threat to this region, and perhaps the world at large.”

The Israeli president painted a picture of a “challenged world order,” with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic combined with the Russian invasion of Ukraine. He emphasized that strong Israel-US relations are critical to regional and global stability, peace and prosperity.

“Together, we can create not only a new Middle East, but a renewable Middle East — a regional ecosystem of sustainable peace,” said Herzog. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-warm-address-alongside-herzog-biden-says-israel-will-never-be-alone/>

**Meeting Biden briefly, Netanyahu cites need for credible military option versus Iran**

***Opposition leader tells US president in ‘warm’ 15-minute sitdown that Tehran won’t be stopped without real threat of force***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 8:55 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/bbb-e1657810285256.jpg)

US President Joe Biden (L) meets opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu at the President's Residence in Jerusalem, July 14, 2022 (GPO)

Opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu met briefly with US President Joe Biden in Jerusalem on Thursday. He later said he told the American leader that a military option against Iran and a readiness to use it were necessary to confront the regime in Tehran.

“I told him that with no credible military option, Iran won’t be stopped. If Iran isn’t deterred, that military option has to be used,” Netanyahu said.

Biden and Netanyahu held a brief, 15-minute meeting as the US president visits Israel and meets with its leaders.

Netanyahu said the talk with Biden was a “warm, excellent meeting” and stressed their deep friendship and Biden’s “truly unwavering” commitment to Israel. Netanyahu and Biden have had a long, friendly relationship, although they are often politically at odds.

Netanyahu noted Biden’s role in securing supplementary funding for the Iron Dome missile defense system and said Biden “supported us in many areas over the years.”

“We’ve been friends for 40 years,” he said, “but to ensure the next 40 years, we must deal with the Iranian threat.”

Sanctions and defensive military preparations were not enough, he said.

“There must be a credible offensive military option,” Netanyahu said, adding that the 2015 nuclear deal with world powers was “lousy.” <https://www.timesofisrael.com/meeting-biden-briefly-netanyahu-cites-need-for-credible-military-option-versus-iran/>

**Diplomacy won’t stop Iran from going nuclear, Lapid tells Biden in press conference**

***‘The only way to stop them is a credible military threat,’ PM argues; US president publicly disagrees, saying dialogue is still the best way to counter Tehran***

*By* [*Lazar Berman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/lazar-berman/) *and* [*Jacob Magid*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jacob-magid/) *Today, 5:12 pm*

In their joint comments Thursday on Iran’s nuclear program, visiting US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Yair Lapid expressed a public disagreement over the best way to tackle the threat, with Lapid telling the American leader that “words will not stop them, Mr. President,” and urging him to “put a credible military threat on the table.”

The two leader’s interaction at the Jerusalem press conference was warm, and Lapid made clear that there was no daylight between the two countries regarding the ultimate goal of preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

But the two did air their differences before the cameras as to the best way to handle Tehran.

“Words will not stop them, Mr. President,” said Lapid. “Diplomacy will not stop them. The only thing that will stop Iran is knowing that if they continue to develop their nuclear program, the free world will use force. The only way to stop them is to put a credible military threat on the table.”

“It should not be a bluff, but the real thing,” Lapid continued. “The Iranian regime must know that if they continue to deceive the world, they will pay a heavy price.”

Speaking after Lapid, Biden said, “I continue to believe that diplomacy is the best way to achieve this outcome.” He added that there is “an ironclad commitment from the United States of America to Israel’s security.”

Two men sitting at a desk

Description automatically generated with low confidence

US President Joe Biden (L) and Prime Minister Yair Lapid, sign a security pledge in Jerusalem, on July 14, 2022. (Mandel NGAN / AFP)

Minutes before, the two leaders signed a joint strategic declaration, in which the US vowed to use “all elements in its national power” to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

“The United States stresses that integral to this pledge is the commitment never to allow Iran to acquire a nuclear weapon, and that it is prepared to use all elements of its national power to ensure that outcome,” read the statement, officially known as the Jerusalem US-Israel Strategic Partnership Joint Declaration. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/diplomacy-wont-stop-iran-from-going-nuclear-lapid-tells-biden-in-press-conference/>

**As US vows to prevent nuclear Iran, Tehran warns of harsh response to any ‘mistake’**

***President Ebrahim Raisi says Islamic Republic ‘will not accept any insecurity or crisis in the region’ as Biden tours Israel and emphasizes commitment to reining in Iran***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:29 pm*

Iran’s President Ebrahim Raisi warned the US Thursday that any “mistake” Washington and its allies might make in the region would be met with “a harsh and regrettable response.”  
 Raisi spoke after US President Joe Biden, during a visit to Israel, signed a joint strategic declaration with Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid vowing that the US will use “all elements in its national power” to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.  
 “The great nation of Iran will not accept any insecurity or crisis in the region,” Raisi said in comments translated by Reuters. “And Washington and its allies should know that any mistake will be met by a harsh and regrettable response from Iran.”  
 He added: “Islamic Iran is stronger than ever and the power of the Americans is weaker than ever and they know that the project of maximum pressure on Iran has failed, but they are repeating this experience.”  
 The Iranian leader further said that “The Zionist regime should know that normalizing relations with some countries will not make them secure in any way,” a possible reference to [efforts by Washington](https://www.timesofisrael.com/report-saudi-arabia-may-ok-overflight-from-israel-allow-direct-travel-for-hajj/) to advance ties between Israel and Saudi Arabia  
 Later, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said that “ss long as the fake state of Israel is the first stop on the American president’s visits to the region and their first goal is to maintain its security and superiority, the regional nations and countries will not achieve peace and stability,” Reuters reported.  
 In the [joint declaration with Israel,](https://www.timesofisrael.com/biden-and-lapids-jerusalem-strategic-partnership-joint-declaration/) the US affirmed “the commitment to work together with other partners to confront Iran’s aggression and destabilizing activities, whether advanced directly or through proxies and terrorist organizations such as Hezbollah, Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad.”  
 At a press conference, Biden and Lapid voiced disagreement over the best way to tackle the threat, with Lapid telling the American leader that “words will not stop them, Mr. President,” and urging him to “put a credible military threat on the table.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/as-us-vows-to-prevent-nuclear-iran-tehran-warns-of-harsh-response-to-any-mistake/>

**NSC chief Hulata confirms Israeli ops in Iran in 2022**

***The NSC chief made it clear that Israel would act independently against the Islamic Republic regardless of Washington's view on the issue.***

*By* [*YONAH JEREMY BOB*](https://www.jpost.com/author/yonah-jeremy-bob) *Published: JULY 14, 2022 21:48 Updated: JULY 14, 2022 22:01*



Iranian Armed Forces Chief of Staff Major General Mohammad Bagheri and IRGC Aerospace Force Commander Amir Ali Hajizadeh walk during the unveiling of "Kheibarshekan" missile at an undisclosed location in Iran, in this picture obtained on February 9, 2022.

(photo credit: IRGC/WANA (West Asia News Agency)/Handout via REUTERS)

National Security Adviser Eyal Hulata, head of the National Security Council, on Thursday night became the first senior Israeli official to publicly confirm Israeli operations within [Iranian](https://www.jpost.com/israeli-news/article-712108) territory in 2022.

“We have acted not infrequently over the last year... in Iran,” he said in an interview with Channel 13 in response to a series of questions about whether Jerusalem would act against Tehran directly even in the face of pressure from the US not to rock the boat too much while nuclear negotiations are ongoing.

[Israel would act](https://www.jpost.com/israeli-news/politics-and-diplomacy/article-712090) independently against the Islamic Republic regardless of Washington’s view on the issue, Hulata said, adding that this would just be a continuation of what it has already done for the last year.

Although multiple top officials have previously confirmed Mossad operations in Iran in 2022, and the Iranians themselves and sometimes US sources have made such attributions, Hulata was the first to go public.

***Iranian targets***

No fewer than seven [top Iranian](https://www.jpost.com/international/article-712119) nuclear, aerospace, drone and Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps officials were killed from late April to early June in a stunning wave of assassinations attributed by Iran to the Mossad, rivaling a wave of operations also attributed by foreign sources to the agency against Tehran in 2020 under former Mossad director Yossi Cohen and in the 2000s under Meir Dagan.

The operations all came after the US announced it would not delist the IRGC from its Foreign Terrorist Organizations list and during a multi-month freeze in nuclear negotiations. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east-news/article-712168>

**Israel, India, US, UAE unveil joint food security, energy projects at virtual summit**

***Leaders announce $2 billion UAE investment for food parks in India that’ll use Israeli, US private sector expertise, similar cooperation for renewable energy project in India***

*By* [*Jacob Magid*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jacob-magid/) *Today, 3:13 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/FXnvxKrWAAEnc-o-e1657796308475.jpeg)

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Joe Biden, Prime Minister Yair Lapid and UAE's Mohamed bin Zayed participate in a virtual summit of the I2U2 forum on July 14, 2022. (Screen capture/YouTube)

The leaders of Israel, India, the United States and the United Arab Emirates announced on Thursday a pair of massive collaborative projects in the fields of food security and clean energy after they met at a virtual summit during US President Joe Biden’s visit to Jerusalem.

Biden, Prime Minister Yair Lapid, UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi made the announcement in a joint statement their offices issued during their virtual meeting — the highest-level gathering to date of the new, US-formulated I2U2 forum.

In public remarks before the closed-door meeting, the four leaders stressed the importance of working together to address global challenges.

“We need to think in new terms when it comes to energy, food security, water tech, defense and trade,” Lapid said. “In the 21st century, challenges are local but solutions are global.”

The Israeli premier highlighted the food security crisis in the wake of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, calling the emerging food corridor between India and the UAE “a clear example of a solution to a problem we are all facing.”

Speaking after Lapid, Biden said the meeting is “about demonstrating the importance of showing the practical impacts” of Israel’s growing integration.

“Our challenge together is to deliver real results that people can feel in their everyday lives,” he continues. “We can do a great deal if we stick together,” the president concludes, stressing that he intends to stay engaged on the matter.

“Under the I2U2 framework, we have agreed to increase joint investment in six important areas: water, energy, transport, space, health and food security. It is clear that both the vision and agenda of I2U2 are progressive and practical,” Modi said.

“I also hope that our quartet will be a model for those who desire peace and prosperity,” bin Zayed said.

[A group of people in a meeting

Description automatically generated with low confidence](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/KBG_GPO2588.jpg)

US President Joe Biden amd Prime Minister Yair Lapid, in Jerusalem, join India’s PM Narendra Modi and the UAE’s President Mohamed bin Zayed in a virtual summit of the I2U2 forum on July 14, 2022. (Kobi Gideon / GPO)

US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan told reporters en route to Israel on Wednesday that bringing together Israel, India and the UAE, particularly to utilize their expertise to address food security challenges, fulfills Biden’s vision of a “more integrated, more globally engaged Middle East.”

“We think I2U2 can become a feature of the broader region, just as the Quad has become a central pillar of the Indo-Pacific strategy of the United States,” Sullivan said, referring to the security dialogue the US has with India, Australia and Japan.

Thursday’s joint statement said the four countries would aim to “harness the vibrancy of our societies and entrepreneurial spirit to tackle some of the greatest challenges confronting our world, with a particular focus on joint investments and new initiatives in water, energy, transportation, space, health and food security.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-india-us-uae-unveil-joint-food-security-energy-projects-at-virtual-summit/>

**Settler group openly planning establishment of 3 illegal outposts next week**

***Nachala Settlement Movement making unprecedented effort to set up outposts en masse; scouts for group reportedly killed Palestinian in fight; Peace Now sets up opposition operation***

*By* [*Jeremy Sharon*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jeremy-sharon/) *Today, 6:45 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/F220712TN75.jpg)

Right wing activists from the Nachala Settlement Movement build a temporary structure at Habima Square in Tel Aviv, as part of a protest calling to establish new communities in the West Bank, on July 12, 2022. (Tomer Neuberg/Flash90)

A radical settlement group has launched an unprecedented effort to establish several illegal outposts at the same time in the West Bank, and has enlisted its followers to participate in the operation set to take place next week.

And while the group, called the Nachala Settlement Movement, is busy mobilizing its activists, the left-wing Peace Now organization is rallying its own followers to confront and stop the settlers.

The volatile project, which has already led to severe violence, has received significant backing from right-wing and religious public figures, including MKs, former ministers, rabbis, and settlement mayors who speak about the importance of such efforts in ideological and religious terms.

This public support for what is seen by others as an illegal enterprise that runs roughshod over the rule of law demonstrates how divided Israeli society is becoming over the issue of settlement in the West Bank.

**The plan**

The Nachala Settlement Movement group has been working on what it has dubbed Operation Tower and Stockade since April. It plans to establish three new outposts at undisclosed locations in the West Bank on Wednesday.

New settlements in the West Bank can only be legally established via a cabinet resolution, and with the authorization of the defense minister. Unauthorized settlements or outposts established outside of this framework are illegal.

Nevertheless, Nachala says it has hundreds or thousands of activists who are preparing to participate in its effort to create the new outposts. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/settler-group-openly-planning-establishment-of-3-illegal-outposts-next-week/>

**Citing security needs, AG allows decision on new IDF chief before election**

***After reading classified dossier, Gali Baharav-Miara says despite legal difficulties, there’s ‘urgency’ for next chief of staff to enter role at start of 2023***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 8:49 pm*

Attorney General Gali Baharav-Miara said Thursday that Defense Minister Benny Gantz can nominate the next Israel Defense Forces chief of staff despite it being an election season, citing “exceptional security challenges” the military is expected to face next year.

Gantz has been seeking to appoint a successor to IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Aviv Kohavi — whose four-year term is set to expire in January — despite the fact that new elections were called last month. Caretaker governments have traditionally shied away from making nominations for senior positions such as chief of police or the military.

In a statement, Baharav-Miara said she found that a classified dossier along with a legal opinion provided by the Defense Ministry were sufficient to allow the process of nominating the next chief of staff to continue before the November 1 election, even though it would involve “significant legal difficulties.”

“There are exceptional circumstances of necessity and urgency to appoint a chief of staff who will take office in January 2023,” Baharav-Miara’s statement said.

Baharav-Miara had previously said that Gantz would have to present an “essential need” to justify the appointment, but also that there was “no absolute ban.” Likud lawmakers [threatened](https://www.timesofisrael.com/likud-mk-draws-fire-over-threat-to-oust-attorney-general/) to oust her if she allowed the appointment to move forward and they return to power after the election. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/citing-security-needs-ag-allows-decision-on-new-idf-chief-before-election/>

**US, Israel plan joint laser development**

***President Biden has revealed plans for Washington to work with Israel in building laser weapon systems***

*14 Jul, 2022 18:21*

American and Israeli defense contractors will work jointly on building laser weapons that can shoot down enemy missiles, President Joe Biden announced during a visit to Jerusalem.

“As we move forward together – partners in both security and innovation – the United States and Israel defense sectors will cooperate in new, high-energy laser weapon systems that *can defend Israeli lives as well as the lives of American service members,”* Biden said on Thursday in a joint press conference with Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid at his side.

The president made his comments after meeting with Lapid and pledging that Washington would never “allow Iran to acquire a nuclear weapon” and was ready to use “all elements of its national po*wer to ensure that outcome.”* Declaring that the *“scourge of antisemitism still marches around the world,”* he added, *“You have an ironclad commitment from the United States of America to Israel’s security, an ironclad commitment.”*

US President Joe Biden in West Jerusalem:- Scourge of anti-Semitism still exists around world- US and Israel defence sectors will cooperate in new high-energy laser weapon systems [pic.twitter.com/1QNGUmuE8e](https://t.co/1QNGUmuE8e)

— TRT World Now (@TRTWorldNow) [July 14, 2022](https://twitter.com/TRTWorldNow/status/1547564187626246145?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Biden noted that the US provided record military aid to Israel last year – adding an extra $1 billion to its base outlays, which average $3.8 billion annually – to help the country replenish the cache of missile interceptors for its so-called Iron Dome defense system. *“You have new tools to keep Israel strong and secure,”* he said, adding, *“We’ll make sure that Israel can defend itself, by itself.”*

After arriving in Tel Aviv on Wednesday, Biden toured a display of Israel’s air defense technology, including the Iron Dome and the Arrow and David’s Sling surface-to-air missile systems. He said he also saw a presentation on the Iron Beam, a laser-based system that’s under development.

Israeli defense officials claimed in April that the Iron Beam had passed a series of *“groundbreaking”* tests, proving its ability to intercept rockets, drones, anti-tank missiles and shrapnel. It’s scheduled to go into service sometime this year, beating an earlier target of 2024.

Israel has sought US investment to help fund further development of the Iron Beam. Haifa-based Rafael Advanced Defense Systems, which is state-owned, said last year that it would collaborate with US defense contractor Lockheed Martin on a ground-based laser weapon for Israel. The companies signed a tentative agreement to explore opportunities to market the system in the US. <https://www.rt.com/news/559009-us-isreal-plan-joint-laser-weapon-development/>

**Israel sends second shipment of protective equipment to Ukraine**

***Flight carries 1,500 helmets, 1,500 protective vests, 1,000 gas masks, dozens of hazmat filtration systems; Biden, Lapid set to sign declaration including commitment to Ukraine***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *and* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 4:14 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/photo_2022-07-14_11-19-38-1.jpg)

A shipment of protective equipment for Ukraine is loaded onto a flight from Israel, July 14, 2022. (Defense Ministry)

Israel sent a new shipment of protective equipment to Ukraine’s emergency services, amid Russia’s near five-month-long invasion of its neighbor, the Defense Ministry said in a statement Thursday.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz had announced Tuesday that Israel would send a further 1,500 helmets, 1,500 protective vests, hundreds of mine protection suits, 1,000 gas masks, and dozens of hazmat filtration systems.

The equipment was loaded onto a flight that will first take the cargo to a neighboring European country. From there it will be moved into Ukraine.

The shipment set off as visiting US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Yair Lapid were set to sign a joint strategic partnership declaration in Jerusalem covering a range of defense and regional issues, including a response to Ukraine.

Jerusalem has avoided providing direct military aid to Kyiv — including offensive arms or advanced defensive technology — since Russian troops invaded Ukraine on February 24, in an attempt to avoid sparking a crisis with Moscow. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-sends-second-shipment-of-protective-equipment-to-ukraine/>

**Civilians killed as Ukraine shells Donetsk**

***The Donbass republic’s leader says a US-made M777 howitzer was used in the attack***

*14 Jul, 2022 15:53*

Two civilians have lost their lives, with another six sustaining injuries, as a result of Ukrainian shelling of the city of Donetsk, local authorities reported on Thursday.

The leader of the Donetsk People’s Republic (DPR), Denis Pushilin, said in a Telegram post that the Ukrainian military had hit a bus terminal.

Among the victims are a young woman *“who was going home from work”* and a bus driver, the official revealed.

Pushilin went on to claim that a US-supplied М777 howitzer had been used in the attack against an area where there are no military installations.

He described the attack as “yet another deliberate shelling of civilians in the r*epublic.”*

Also on Thursday, the authorities in Kiev claimed Moscow hit the city of Vinnitsa with missiles, allegedly killing 20 people, including three children, with 52 more injured.

The Russian military would not immediately comment on the attack.

However, RT Editor-in-Chief Margarita Simonyan cited a Russian defense official as confirming the strike and claiming that it targeted a building which had been used as a temporary shelter for *“Nazi”* fighters.

Both Kiev and Moscow have repeatedly accused each other of hitting civilian targets. Russia insists that only military objects are targeted. <https://www.rt.com/russia/558996-donetsk-ukrainian-shelling-civilians-killed/>

**Unlike Israel, Saudis prepare more humble reception for Biden**

***Around the Jeddah hotel where U.S. president will stay, there's not a single U.S. flag in sight, but the reason is quite clear: the Saudis are angry with him, and this is evident on the face of the locals***

*Adir Yanko | Published: 07.14.22, 17:18*

There was heavy security outside the hotel where U.S. President Joe Biden will be staying in Saudi Arabia on Friday.

Near the hotel, which is located on the shores of the city of Jeddah, there are quite a few police vehicles on every corner. They patrol the entire area and the police presence throughout the city is particularly heavy.

The entire parking lot was full of black cars with tinted winodws, and a peek from a distance reveals that a group of men dressed as chefs patrolling the entrance to the hotel, apparently ahead of the arrival of the American president, but here in Jeddah, there is nothing to expect for a reception à la Jerusalem.

However, not a single U.S. flag in sight, but the reason is quite clear: the Saudis are angry with him, and this is evident on the face of every Saudi I have talked to.

After months of bashing the Gulf kingdom and its leadership, one should not expect to see the same media bonanza like in Israel. Most of the locals in Jeddah are not even aware that Biden is coming.

At the second day of my visit to Jeddah, I decided to tell people I’m an Israeli. I was curious to see the reactions of the locals who never met an Israeli before.

I went to the Red Sea shopping mall, one of the largest in the Middle East, after a morning trip to Jeddah’s ancient quarter. The mall was a sharp contrast to my experience from earlier in the day: A dialogue, or clash if you will, between modernity and tradition, religion and consumerism, as if they were each part of a different city.

Saudi Arabia wants to progress, and Jeddah is a prime example for that, unlike Riyadh, which locals call more conservative. Jeddah is a city that wishes to attract people from all over the world, as is clear by its relative modernity.

As I walk around the mall, a secular-seeming woman approaches me, with short hair, without a hijab or niqab, wearing pants. This would be a rare sight outside the shopping mall. MORE - <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/bkivvu6i9>

**US to announce initiative that will bring 4G to Palestinians by 2023**

***4G access could be a huge first step in the improvement of the Palestinian economy.***

*By* [*ZACHY HENNESSEY*](https://www.jpost.com/author/zachy-hennessey) *Published: JULY 14, 2022 15:45 Updated: JULY 14, 2022 17:54*

An announcement is soon expected on the launching of a White House initiative to bring [4G connectivity to the West Bank and Gaza by next year](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-695979), as part of a wider initiative to broaden Palestinian economic opportunities.

The move is a way to “[bolster] the digital economy to improve Palestinian economic growth and opportunities,” said a senior US administration official. He emphasized that such an initiative would not replace the need to further pursue political development.

“It’s not an either/or,” he said. “It does not mean that we’re doing [this initiative] and we therefore think we don’t need to find a way forward on a political horizon, things we’ve talked about before and that the president mentioned right after landing [in Israel]. But yeah, it’s a commitment to really begin the immediate steps [toward bringing 4G to] the West Bank and Gaza. That’s the goal.” MORE - <https://www.jpost.com/business-and-innovation/energy-and-infrastructure/article-712109>

**Three more countries set to join BRICS - official**

***The kingdom, along with Turkey and Egypt, may apply next year, the BRICS Forum president told Russian media***

*14 Jul, 2022 09:12*

Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Egypt plan to join BRICS, and their potential membership bids could be discussed and answered at next year’s summit in South Africa, Purnima Anand, the president of the organization, told Russian media on Thursday.

“*All these countries have shown their interest in joining [BRICS] and are preparing to apply for membership. I believe this is a good step, because expansion is always looked upon favorably; it will definitely bolster BRICS’ global influence,*” she told Russian newspaper Izvestia.

The BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) account for over 40% of the global population and nearly a quarter of the world’s GDP. The bloc’s stated purposes include promoting peace, security, development, and cooperation globally, and contributing to the development of humanity.

Anand said the issue of expansion was raised during this year’s BRICS summit, which took place in late June in Beijing.

The BRICS Forum president said she hopes the accession of Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Egypt will not take much time, given that they “a*re already engaged in the process,*” though doubts that all three will join the alliance at the same time.

“*I hope that these countries will join the BRICS quite shortly, as all the representatives of core members are interested in expansion. So it will come very soon,*” Anand added.

The news of the three nations’ plans to join BRICS comes after Iran and Argentina officially applied for membership in late June, with Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh touting the bloc as a “*very creative mechanism with broad aspects*.” <https://www.rt.com/news/558960-saudi-turkey-egypt-brics/> [I hope you understand the significance of this. With these countries all intending to go off the US Dollar burse that will tremendously shift the world economics. The Dollar has been the standard on which most countries have valued their money. That has allowed the US to print fiat money any way they want and they have devalued our dollar and the world’s economy. By switching to another standard the US will not be able to do that any long and actually have to cease their inflationary spending tactics. Markets could crater with that and it would change the entire economic picture. – rdb]

**Trade among BRICS countries soaring – data**

*14 Jul, 2022 05:06*

***Economic cooperation between Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa has been surging, Chinese customs data shows***

China’s foreign trade with other BRICS member states amounted to 1.64 trillion yuan ($244 billion) in the first half of the year, up 14.1% in annual terms, according to data from the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC), as cited by the Global Times on Wednesday.

The data shows that the value of exports reached 817.18 billion yuan ($121 billion), jumping 20.6%. The value of imports was also up, by 8.3% to 825.82 billion yuan (around $123 billion).

GACC spokesperson Li Kuiwen said at a press briefing on Wednesday that China’s trade with other BRICS nations has intensified in recent years. He pointed out that trade turnover soared from 960.21 billion yuan ($143 billion) in 2009 to 3.17 trillion yuan ($472 billion) in 2021.

Chinese imports of energy products and agricultural goods have grown rapidly, data shows. Over the first six months of 2022, China’s total imports of crude oil, natural gas and coal, and other energy products from other BRICS countries reached 298.98 billion yuan ($45 billion), an increase of 53.3%. Imports of agricultural products by the country rose 15.6% to 185.46 billion yuan ($28 billion).

[READ MORE: BRICS developing new global reserve currency – Putin](https://www.rt.com/business/557627-brics-developing-global-reserve-currency/)

BRICS, a five-nation economic bloc that includes Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, was established in 2006. It has more than a 16% share in global trade and represents more than 40% of the world’s population. <https://www.rt.com/business/558917-trade-brics-countries-soaring/>

**Now another economic indicator turns negative on Biden**

***Jobless claims rising again, by 9,000 over the last week***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published July 14, 2022 at 4:42pm*

Only hours after the government reported wholesale inflation exploded to 11.3% -- and that came a day after the Consumer Price Index reported 9.1% inflation – the government reported a turn upward in the number of jobless claims.

The [Washington Examiner](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/economy/jobless-claims-highest-level-eight-months-recession-fears) said the number of jobless claims rose by 9,000 last week to 244,000 and that's the highest level in nearly eight months.

It is, the report said, "a sign that the labor market is starting to take a hit as the economy slows."

The number of claims – which had exploded when government officials all across the nation ordered the economy shut down because of COVID-19 in 2020 – had reached a low point in March with 166,000.

It's now back up by 78,000 more.

"It is becoming clearer each week that new claims are now moving on an upward trajectory, which is expected to translate into worse jobs reports coming down the line and could portend a recession," the report said. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/now-another-economic-indicator-turns-negative-biden/>

**Wholesale inflation explodes to 11.3% in producer index, feds report**

***Near highest ever recorded***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 14, 2022 at 11:43am*

Just a day after the government reported inflation, running rampant under Joe Biden's economic policies, surged to 9.1% in June, the same federal agency has confirmed that the producer index inflation has reached 11.3%, also near its highest mark ever recorded.

The [Washington Examiner](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/economy/inflation-producer-index-june-near-highest-record) said the figure on producer wholesale prices comes from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"The new producer price index numbers are just another indicator that prices are wildly out of control even as the Federal Reserve moves ever more aggressively to jack up interest rates to rein in the country’s historic inflation," the report said.

The new figure assesses the wholesale costs for products, costs that eventually are paid by consumers.

A statement to the Examiner from Oxford Economics said, "Despite a modest improvement in supply conditions, price pressures will remain uncomfortable in the near term and bolster the Fed's resolve to prevent inflation from becoming entrenched in the economy."

Exploding inflation numbers are just one of the crises that Biden is facing – and that have brought his approval ratings to numbers that are among the lowest ever recorded, setting up a likely GOP wave in the coming midterm elections.

"Last month, the central bank hiked its interest rate target by a whopping three-fourths of a percentage point for the first time since 1994. The Fed typically raises rates by a quarter of a percentage point, or 25 basis points, so the June hike was analogous to three simultaneous rate increases," the Examiner said.

More increases are expected, which will cause borrowing costs for consumers to rise dramatically again, and economists openly are predicting a recession as a result.

Some say the nation already is in recession, which is considered to be two consecutive quarters of negative economic activity. The nation's GDP contracted at a 1.6% rate in the first quarter and results of the second quarter are expected soon – and could be similar.

A day earlier, the inflation rate of 9.1% meant it will cost each individual American $3,400 more this year than last – for the same lifestyle. Economists had feared the inflation would come in at 8.8%, but it was even worse.

"Inflation accelerated more than expected to a new four-decade high in June as the price of everyday necessities remains painfully high, exacerbating a financial strain for millions of Americans and worsening a political crisis for President Biden," documented a report in [Fox Business.](https://www.foxbusiness.com/economy/inflation-surges-june-hitting-new-40-year-high)

The June 9.1% figure was up that huge amount from June 2021 to June 2022. Prices actually jumped 1.3% from May 2022 to June 2022.  
 The last time inflation was this bad was in December 1981, the report said.  
 Inflation is just one of many crises facing Biden. Others include fast-growing violence in cities, the rampant invasion of illegal aliens across the nation's southern border, a declining American influence worldwide, growing threats from Russia and China, and many more.  
 [WND documented](https://www.wnd.com/2022/06/analysis-inflation-says-nation-now-jimmy-carter-territory/) only weeks ago that America's inflation now actually is in "Jimmy Carter territory" of double digits.  
 Or the numbers would be if the feds hadn't changed the way price increases are counted.  
 The [report in the Daily Mail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10969221/Raging-inflation-FAR-WORSE-told-ANDY-PUZDER-JIM-TALENT.html) at the time explained that on the surface, it looks reassuring for the present spiral of out-of-control prices.  
 "The headline inflation rate – the measure of total consumer inflation in the economy – peaked in March of 1980 at 14.8%. In May of 2022, headline inflation was 8.6%. On the surface, that comparison is reassuring. But is the comparison valid?" the report said.  
 It explained in 1983, the feds changed the way they figured inflation – "in ways that tend to understate inflation today…" The move included a discounting of the impact of home ownership on overall inflation measures.  
 That means inflation that produced the recent figures of 8.3% and 8.6% could have been worse than that.  
 Larry Summers, formerly Treasury Secretary of Bill Clinton, recently analyzed the hit on inflation by that formula change, made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
 "Adjusting for that change alone, the Summers Report found that the headline inflation rate of 14.8% in March of 1980 would drop to 11.6%, only barely 3 percentage points higher than the current rate of 8.6%."  
 And, the analysis said, the currently preferred inflation metric, known as core inflation because it excludes the price of energy and food, "would experience an even more significant adjustment."  
 The report said core inflation clocked in at a peak of 12.5% in March 1980 but would only have been 6.7% by today's standards. For comparison, in March 2022 the post-pandemic core inflation rate peaked at 6.5%.  
 Explained the analysis, "This suggests that if we were to evaluate today's inflation numbers in the same way that we calculated inflation in the 1980s – we'd already be squarely in Jimmy Carter territory."  
 The analysis was by Andy Puzder, former CEO of CKE Restaurants and a senior fellow at the America First Policy Institute, and Jim Talent, former senator from the state of Missouri.  
 The report said, "Economist John Williams estimates the inflation number today would be about 16% if it were calculated as it was in the Carter years."  
 They added, "With respect to goods that consumers are actually buying, the American Institute of Economic Research provides an estimate of consumer costs for a basket of 'everyday' items—eliminating from consideration infrequently purchased items or contractually fixed items (i.e., vehicles, furniture, and leases). This Everyday Price Index (EPI) is averaging 20.6% annualized so far in 2022."  
 They point out that Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve from 1979 to 1987, "had to raise interest rates to 20% to tame inflation" back then. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/wholesale-inflation-explodes-11-3-producer-index-feds-report/>

**World is nearing ‘brink’ of nuclear war – Tulsi Gabbard**

***Biden is escalating the Russia-Ukraine conflict, risking a catastrophic fight with Moscow, an ex-congresswoman has warned***

*14 Jul, 2022 21:28*

President Joe Biden’s administration is driving the world toward a devastating nuclear conflict by using the Ukraine crisis to fight a “proxy war” with Russia, former congresswoman and 2020 presidential candidate Tulsi Gabbard has warned.

*“The American people need to understand the seriousness of the situation that the Biden administration and leaders in Washington have put us in,”* Gabbard said on Wednesday night in a Fox News interview. The Hawaii Democrat, who was among the candidates whom Biden defeated to win his party’s 2020 presidential nomination, called for stepping back to focus on “the big picture and the great threat that we face, which is the reality that this war is continuing to escalate*.”*

Biden has led the charge for international sanctions to punish Moscow over its military offensive in Ukraine. The US has approved $70 billion in aid, including advanced weaponry, to help Ukraine fight Russian forces. During a visit to Israel on Thursday, Biden said Washington will continue to provide such aid indefinitely to ensure that Moscow suffers *“a strategic failure”* in Ukraine.

*“President Biden himself says he has no idea when or how it’s going to end, but we know where this escalation leads,”* Gabbard said. “It leads us closer and closer to the brink of [a nuclear war with Russia](https://www.foxnews.com/world/nuclear-war-realm-possibility-un-secretary-general).”

Biden’s anti-Russia campaign has contributed to the highest US inflation rate in more than 40 years, including record gasoline and diesel prices. Nevertheless, Democratic and Republican war hawks alike have backed the strategy. After voting to approve a $40 billion Ukraine aid package in May, US Representative Dan Crenshaw (R-Texas) said, *“Investing in the destruction of our adversary’s military, without losing a single American troop, strikes me as a good idea.”*

Gabbard argued that US leaders are being cavalier about the crisis, ignoring the risk of triggering a catastrophic war with Russia. She gave the example of a recent public service announcement, or PSA, in New York City, which advised residents to stay indoors in the event of a nuclear attack.

*“I almost fell out of my chair when I saw that PSA because it’s insane,”* Gabbard said. *“They’re treating us as though we’re like back in the ’50s and ’60s when teachers are telling kids to go under your desk and you’ll be protected from a nuclear attack. It’s crazy.”MORE -* [*https://www.rt.com/news/559016-gabbard-warns-of-us-russia-nuclear-war/*](https://www.rt.com/news/559016-gabbard-warns-of-us-russia-nuclear-war/)

**Joe Manchin blowtorches Democrats spending agenda**

***Says Congress must get serious about profligate purchases***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published July 14, 2022 at 4:57pm* ***By Max Keating*** *Daily Caller News Foundation*

Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia said Congress needs to get serious about reducing its spending plans on Wednesday after the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported higher than expected inflation in June.

“For more than a year, leaders in Washington have ignored the serious concerns raised by myself and others about the rising cost of inflation. No matter what spending aspirations some in Congress may have, it is clear to anyone who visits a grocery store or a gas station that we cannot add any more fuel to this inflation fire,” Manchin said in a [statement](https://www.manchin.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/manchin-statement-on-91-inflation-rate).

The CPI [report](https://dailycaller.com/2022/07/13/inflation-americans-cpi-squeeze-joe-biden/) measured 9.1% for June, the highest rate in 40 years and a “catastrophic” development for everyday Americans, [according to](https://dailycaller.com/2022/07/13/heres-how-much-poorer-americans-have-gotten-biden-took-office/) previous comments that E.J. Antoni, a Heritage Foundation economist, made to the Daily Caller News Foundation. Manchin is considered a crucial vote for any potential budget reconciliation bill, and so his opposition to further spending comes as a blow to President Joe Biden’s plans to revive parts of his Build Back Better agenda, the Hill [reported](https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/3558277-inflation-report-deals-blow-to-schumer-manchin-budget-talks/).

The West Virginia senator single-handedly shut down Democrats’ $2 trillion, 10-year social and environmental bill in December, and has since been negotiating with Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer on a bill about half that size, The Associated Press [reported](https://apnews.com/article/inflation-joe-manchin-congress-climate-and-environment-0bfd4f4a54b1f4e57a8950980c3e13cd).

Now, once again, Manchin is looking for ways to reduce his fellow Democrats’ proposed spending.

“I’m going to make sure that I have every input on scrubbing everything humanly possible that could be considered inflammatory,” Manchin [told reporters](https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/3558277-inflation-report-deals-blow-to-schumer-manchin-budget-talks/) Wednesday.

When asked about Manchin’s comments, Democratic Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts disputed the claim that a higher budget reconciliation bill would likely have an inflationary effect, the Hill reported. Warren’s office did not respond to the Daily Caller News Foundation’s request for clarification.

When asked for comment, Sen. Manchin’s office directed DCNF back to the senator’s recent statement. The White House did not respond to the DCNF’s request for comment. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/joe-manchin-blowtorches-democrats-spending-agenda/>

**Hundreds of thousands of US troops may face dismissal**

***More than 260,000 American servicemembers could be discharged due to non-compliance with vaccine mandates***

*14 Jul, 2022 19:53* The Biden administration’s strict Covid-19 vaccination mandates place more than 13% of the US’ fighting forces at risk of discharge, according to Department of Defense data updated on Wednesday.  
 The Pentagon’s website shows 268,858 “partially vaccinated” individuals across the Army, Marines, Navy, and Air Force, plus another 50,710 civilian employees. However, the figures don’t include servicemembers who have had no shots at all, meaning the real number imperiled by the administration’s vaccine mandates could be significantly higher.  
 While unvaxxed soldiers whose requests for medical and religious exemptions are pending are supposedly exempt from the requirement, Marine Reservist Mike Berry told Breitbart that religious exemptions have only been granted to individuals already on their way out of the military.  
 Some 6,400 servicemembers have already been kicked out for refusing to get the shot, with the majority being Marines, according to statistics cited by Breitbart. That’s despite the fact that a court injunction has barred the Navy from discharging any sailor seeking a religious exemption. While political pushback has stopped the Pentagon from labeling the departed with a dishonorable discharge, even a “*general*” discharge can mean a loss of benefits and a black mark on a soldier’s disciplinary record.  
 The Army began stepping up administrative proceedings against the partially- and un-vaccinated last week, explaining the noncompliant would no longer receive pay as of July or be allowed to participate in “*federally funded drills and training*.” A statement by the military branch warns those who refuse the mandatory vaccination order “*may be subject to additional adverse administrative action, including separation*.” MORE - <https://www.rt.com/news/559013-unvaxxed-military-dismissal-pentagon-risk/>

**Commentary:**

**Dem wannabe prez candidadte's weird idea of 'freedom'**

***By Victor Davis Hanson*** *Published July 14, 2022* In a run-up to what is likely to be a 2024 presidential bid, California Governor Gavin Newsom hit upon the bizarre idea of boasting in commercials that California is America's true "free" state.  
 Part of his ad campaign is to attack Florida – currently run by Newsom's possible rival, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis.  
 Yet, with the most burdensome regulations and high tax rates, Newsom's California is arguably the most unfree state in the union.  
 In return for these steep costs, the state's public institutions, infrastructure, and services are among the country's worst.  
 California's once-vaunted freeway system is near the bottom of all state comparisons. California's Highway 99, which runs the length of the Central Valley, is one of the deadliest roads in America based on miles driven.  
 Over half the nation's homeless crowd the state's major cities. One-third of America's welfare recipients have flooded into the state. A fifth of the resident population lives below the poverty line. Well over a quarter of Golden State residents were not born in the United States.  
 California public school test scores consistently fall among the bottom 10 states. San Francisco has the highest per capita property crime rate in the country.  
 The recently recalled San Francisco District Attorney Chesa Boudin and his soon-to-be recalled Los Angeles counterpart George Gascón have nearly ruined their cities. Both are iconic of multibillionaire George Soros' nationwide efforts to undermine the entire criminal justice system.  
 State residents are not free to drive safely because of their decrepit freeways. They are not free from filthy and toxic sidewalks or dangerous physical assault in their major cities.  
 Public school children are not free to enjoy competitive educations. San Franciscans are not free to park their cars without fearing that they will be vandalized or stolen.  
 The destruction of these freedoms is in direct proportion to the confiscatory taxes that the state collects – the highest bracket of income and gasoline rates in the nation, among the highest sales taxes, and property taxes that soar due to inflated assessments in spite of a 1978 state constitutional amendment.  
 Currently, California faces brownouts due to the longstanding, deliberate curtailment of electrical generation plants.  
 Yosemite's historic redwood forest is currently threatened with what are now customary California summer conflagrations.  
 The destructive, dirty forest fires reflect a deliberate state policy of not gleaning the forests of dead trees, but rather letting the flammable debris serve as "natural" fodder for bugs and birds.  
 The state has not built a major reservoir in nearly 40 years.  
 In rarer wet years, millions of acre-feet of runoff and snowmelt simply cascade to the sea. Releasing such vital water apparently enhances 19th-century riparian landscapes – and discourages its own agribusiness.  
 Amid Newsom's anti-Florida ad campaign, the governor was vacationing at the upscale digs of his Montana in-laws – escorted by his ample state-paid security detail. That is odd, given Newsom's California labels Montana a homophobic hellhole, and will not even reimburse state employees who dare to convention there.  
 Hypocrisy and elite virtue signaling, however, are now trademarks of California politicians – and illustrate how little elected officials care for the victims of their ideological agendas.  
 Newsom bragged about his tough California mask mandate although it did not lower COVID-19 deaths per capita in any measurable degree than did the policies of the red states he so often trashes. He violated his own COVID mandates by dining at the upscale French Laundry restaurant and hanging out unmasked with Magic Johnson.  
 Newsom has done nothing to remedy his state's soaring gas prices, terrible schools and infrastructure, or spiking crime. But he did virtue signal about giving illegal aliens millions of state dollars in COVID relief.  
 Rather than develop California's rich gas and oil reserves, Newsom promised strapped motorists that he would send them a one-time fuel gift of $400.  
 House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., likewise, hectors Californians to mask and quarantine – all the better for her to sneak around unmasked at her hairdresser's, or to jet to the beaches of Tuscany.  
 Former senator and current Chinese government lobbyist Barbara Boxer retired to an estate in Rancho Mirage. Recent Governor Jerry Brown isolated himself on his 2,500 acres in Grass Valley – idyllic locations far away from the education, infrastructure, and urban disasters that exploded under their tenures.  
 So it is Orwellian for Newsom to brag about a "free" California that supposedly will entice Floridians or Texans. In truth, over the last decades hundreds of thousands of Californians and billions of dollars of wealth fled the now inert California for a far freer Florida and Texas, among other states.  
 By voting with their feet and bank accounts, California's expatriates considered these destinations far superior to their home state: safer, cheaper, better managed, and freer.  
 Newsom resembles a pathetic owner of a once successful, but now run-down, high-priced gas station without clients. In jealousy, he flails and screams at the newer, gleaming competitor across the street, with superior service, lower prices, and better value – and jam packed with his own former but now wiser customers. <https://jewishworldreview.com/0722/hanson071422.php>

**Is It Time For A National Divorce?**[*Kurt Schlichter*](https://townhall.com/columnists/kurtschlichter/) *Posted: Jul 14, 2022 12:01 AM* Sometimes you stay together for the kids, and other times you just have to get out of an abusive and destructive relationship. That’s how a lot of conservatives feel about being stuck with progressives in this relationship we call “America.” They want to pack their Schiff and move out, buy a condo and a Porsche, and hopefully find love again with someone younger, prettier, and less pinko. We’re not perfect, we conservatives, but in this analogy we are Johnny Depp and the Democrats are Amber Heard, right down to her Nadlering the bed.  
 I talk about what a national divorce might look like at length in a chapter of my new book, [We’ll Be Back: The Fall and Rise of America](https://www.amazon.com/Well-Be-Back-Fall-America/dp/1684513308), and it’s not a pretty picture.  
 “Yet, if anything, the last couple decades have taught us that the worst-case scenario can happen. Therefore, let’s examine what it might look like if all these things came to pass and America decided that its next destination was Splitsville.  
 The basic notion is that the red people would take their part of the community property and the blues their portion and they would go and live in separate parts of the U.S.A. Fortunately, as we all know, divvying up the pot in a divorce is never, ever, ever a giant hassle that becomes an endless, massive battle and ends unsatisfactorily for everyone except the lawyers.  
 Dividing polities is hard, and there are not too many examples from recent history to look to in order to see how to do it with minimal hassle. You do want to look to the Balkans, but as a cautionary example. Yugoslavia’s breakup devolved into a massive civil war. That mess was still sucking in U.S. forces during the Trump administration when Ric Grenell finally negotiated something like peace between Kosovo and Serbia. If we wished to divorce, we should carefully review how they broke up Josip Tito’s territory and then do the opposite.  
 The Soviet Union, the Humpty-Dumpty of international communism, had a great fall. Now, of course, all the ex-KGB men are trying to put it back together again. Well, how’s that whole Ukraine thing working out for you, Vlad?”  
 A national divorce is an idea born of frustration – our frustration with the Democrats being nimrods and the Democrats’ frustration with us not accepting that we are serfs whose purpose is to serve them and obey their whims. It seems superficially easier to just split up with people who are so fundamentally different in how they see the world and our respective places in it – for example, red Americans see themselves being left alone and blue Americans sees us normal people on our backs with the pinkos’ Birkenstocks pressing down on our throats.  
 Now, there are some National Divorce Lite scenarios out there, like maybe we abolish the Electoral College, or get rid of the Senate. In these scenarios, we red people are not sent away. We are just disenfranchised and neutered, effectively castrated into a nation of submissive Mitts, but fear not – we would still be available to do the labor, soldiering, and tax paying that the left needs from us. We’d be that horse in “Animal Farm” – hardworking, silent, and shipped off to some artisanal glue factory when we stop being useful.   
 Nah.  
 But there is no escaping that the red and blue components of America’s citizenry are developing mutually exclusive notions of how to run this joint venture that make our conflicts nearly, if not completely, impossible to solve to everyone’s satisfaction. Our differences are too profound.  
 The blues believe that it is a good idea to have weirdos, losers, and mutations grooming our kids in the classroom. We disagree.  
 We reds think America is great, and the blues despise it as well as other Americans.  
 The blues think we should worship the false pagan weather goddess and sacrifice our freedom and possessions to her by giving these up to them. We think we’ll keep our Silverados, rib-eyes, and liberty, thank you.  
 The blues think we reds are racist, sexist, and transphobic. We think the blues are extremely tiresome.  
 We reds think that every real man should own an “assault rifle” or four. The blues dispute that there is such thing as “men” and would be against them if there were. The thought of guns outside the hands of the Democrat criminal constituencies or the left’s corrupt law enforcement flunkies makes them cry.  
 These are stark and perhaps irreconcilable differences. So what if we did split up? How would it work in practice? As [We’ll Be Back](https://www.amazon.com/Well-Be-Back-Fall-America/dp/1684513308) observes:  
 “Red America would likely track the present Constitution, being conservative and all. But there would be alterations. The revised version would do things like modify the Second Amendment to add ‘No, we’re not kidding—everyone gets to pack heat, and that includes assault rifles.’ Maybe they would undo the Seventeenth Amendment and end direct election of senators. Expect that the word ‘abortion’ would finally get into the Constitution, except it would be in the context of banning it starting at the time of the first date.  
 The Blue America constitution would be a different kind of abortion. The left, which is smarter and wiser and more moral than the dead white slave owners who were the framers—just ask them—would toss out the U.S. Constitution in favor of something written by a bunch of college professors gone wild. Say goodbye to those irritating negative rights that prevent the government from doing stuff to its citizens. Say hi to positive rights about all the things government is going to do for its subjects.  
 And you will see all the rights the old one had, except to keep and bear arms, of course. You’ll have freedom of speech and of the press and of religion. They will just add a whole bunch of asterisks.”  
 The fact is that without our influence, the American left would go full Stalin, and you never, ever go full Stalin. With their own country sharing our continent, the blues would turn America into the world’s most oppressive college campus and then would immediately blame their myriad woes on red America. And that is a recipe for trouble. We’re all stuck on the same continent, and that’s too close for comfort. What we need is some constitutional marriage counseling because there’s a big chance that a national divorce would make all our problems a hundred times worse. <https://townhall.com/columnists/kurtschlichter/2022/07/14/is-it-time-for-a-national-divorce-n2610221>

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

**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Fire opened towards Israelis at Joseph's Tomb**

***Palestinian Arab vehicle opens fire towards Israelis who entered Joseph's Tomb, wounding one of them in the head.***

*Jul 15, 2022, 11:15 AM GMT+3*

Joseph's Tomb Ehud Amiton/TPS

A Palestinian Arab vehicle overnight Thursday opened fire towards Israelis who entered Joseph's Tomb in Shechem (Nablus).

A preliminary investigation found that a vehicle with four Israelis had entered Joseph's Tomb without prior coordination with the IDF. A Palestinian Arab vehicle then fired at them, resulting in one of the Israelis being wounded in the head.

The Israelis then drove from Shechem toward the community of Itamar and had an accident along the way. They unloaded from the vehicle on foot and hid nearby until security forces arrived. Medical and military forces are searching the area.

The wounded man is in light condition.

Two weeks ago, two worshippers and an IDF Colonel [were injured](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/355761) after terrorists opened fire at Jews who entered Joseph's Tomb to pray. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356546>

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**07/14/2022 NEWS**

**Revolutionary Tech in Israel's Negev Desert**

# <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ST0VFtfk3XE>

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| "Political correctness is the natural continuum from the party line. What we are seeing once again is a self-appointed group of vigilantes imposing their views on others." -- Doris Lessing (1919-2013) British author |

**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 CF – fell off ladder and bad fracture leg.**  **Pray for EL – Had stoke – doing better**  **Pray for KH – diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 22:5If a man cause a field or vineyard to be eaten, and shall let his beast loose, and it feed in another man's field; of the best of his own field, and of the best of his own vineyard, shall he make restitution. 6If fire break out, and catch in thorns, so that the shocks of corn, or the standing corn, or the field are consumed; he that kindled the fire shall surely make restitution. 7If a man deliver unto his neighbour money or stuff to keep, and it be stolen out of the man's house; if the thief be found, he shall pay double.

**Biden lands in Israel: ‘Connection between Americans and Israelis is bone deep’**

***US president says he plans to discuss two-state solution; Lapid calls him one of Israel’s greatest-ever friends; Herzog: He’s a ‘visionary and a leader’ [***These comments are unmitigated garbage. – rdb]

*By* [*Jacob Magid*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jacob-magid/) *and* [*Lazar Berman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/lazar-berman/) *Today, 6:04 pmUpdated at 7:22 pm*

US President Joe Biden landed at Ben Gurion Airport on Wednesday for his first trip to Israel as president, describing his arrival as a homecoming as he was welcomed by Israel’s leaders on the tarmac.

Biden and his Israeli hosts did their best to highlight the warmth of the relations between their two countries during the welcome ceremony.

“It’s an honor to once again stand with friends and visit the independent Jewish state of Israel,” Biden began in his prepared remarks before several dozen high-profile guests seated in bleachers.

But while these enjoyed the shade of an awning, cabinet ministers were given no protection from the sun in 85-plus degree Fahrenheit heat. Instead, they were placed on a slightly elevated stage that was apparently was left unshaded in order to maintain the lighting necessary for a group photo with Biden and his top aides at the end of the ceremony.

Hailing the ties between the two countries, Biden added, “The connection between the Israeli people and the American people is bone deep. Generation after generation, that connection grows. We invest in each other, we dream together.” [Bone deep? At his age his bones are probably as soft as his head and just as diseased and they wouldn’t hold up under any form of stress. – rdb]

Biden will spend 48 hours in Israel and the West Bank with an itinerary that includes bilateral meetings with Israeli leaders, tours of Israeli security systems and the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial museum, attendance at the opening ceremony of the Maccabiah Jewish Olympics, a visit to a hospital for Palestinians in East Jerusalem and a meeting with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in Bethlehem. He will then fly directly to Saudi Arabia to participate in a summit of regional Arab leaders known as the GCC+3 before returning to the US on Sunday.

It is Biden’s tenth trip to Israel, and he used his remarks to fondly recall his first visit just before the Yom Kippur War in 1973 when Golda Meir was premier and former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin was one of her aides.

“I realized that I had the great honor to be part of the great history of this country,” he said, before reiterating another go-to Israel line of his. “I’ll say it again, you need not be a Jew to be a Zionist.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/biden-lands-in-israel-connection-between-americans-and-israelis-is-bone-deep/>

**Biden views defense tech at airport, including Iron Dome, new laser-based Iron Beam**

***Israel hopes to partner with Washington on the in-development laser air defense system; US president given classified briefing by Defense Minister Gantz, other officials***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 7:37 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/AP22194516539143.jpg)

US President Joe Biden talks with Defense Minister Benny Gantz, left, and Prime Minister Yair Lapid, right, as he is shown views of aerial defense systems, July 13, 2022, in Tel Aviv. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

US President Joe Biden on Wednesday toured a Defense Ministry display of Israel’s multi-tier air defense systems at Ben Gurion Airport, shortly after a welcoming ceremony by top officials.

The display at the airport included the long-range Arrow, medium-range David’s Sling, short-range Iron Dome, and an in-development high-powered laser interception system dubbed Iron Beam.

The Iron Beam is designed to work in tandem with systems like Iron Dome and shoot down smaller projectiles.

Israel hopes to partner with Washington on the Iron Beam project, including American investment in further development and deployment of the system.

Shortly before he toured the display, Biden was given a mostly classified briefing by Defense Minister Benny Gantz and other security officials. During the briefing, Biden was presented with a video showing off the capabilities of Israel’s various air defense systems.

The tour of the Iron Dome was a nod to US efforts to grant Israel funding for additional missiles for the system after last year’s war with terror groups in the Gaza Strip.

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| A picture containing sky, outdoor, grass, person  Description automatically generatedUS President Joe Biden (C) walks towards an Iron Dome defense system during a tour at Ben Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv Israel on July 13, 2022. Biden started today his first tour of the Middle East since entering the White House last year. (Mandel Ngan/AFP) | [A group of people posing for a photo  Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/000_32EC6QX.jpg)  US President Joe Biden (5th R) listens to Defense Minister Benny Gantz (C), as they tour the Iron Beam laser air defense system at Ben Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv on July 13, 2022, with Prime Minister Yair Lapid (4th R), Israeli expert on technology and innovation Danny Gold (4th L), IDF chief Aviv Kohavi (5th L) and US Defense Attaché in Israel, Brigadier General Shawn A. Harris (3rd R). (Mandel Ngan/AFP) |

[A picture containing person, indoor, suit, business

Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/WhatsApp-Image-2022-07-13-at-6.32.01-PM.jpeg) “Under your rule, honorable president, security cooperation in the region has intensified and expanded in an unprecedented manner and Israel is grateful for this and also for your support with record US security assistance that included a billion dollars to replenish Iron Dome interceptors,” Gantz told Biden, according to a readout provided by his office.

At the site, Biden also spoke with Danny Gold, the former head of the ministry’s missile program, who oversaw the development of the Iron Dome.

Biden was also given a fragment of a drone the Iron Beam system shot down during a [series of tests](https://www.timesofisrael.com/laser-based-air-defense-shoots-down-drones-rockets-in-first-series-of-trials/) in March.

The US president was expected to [announce](https://www.timesofisrael.com/iron-dome-yad-vashem-maccabiah-bethlehem-bidens-2-days-in-israel-and-west-bank/) his approval for US defense industry officials to begin talks with Israeli counterparts about purchasing Iron Beam, a senior US official told The Times of Israel Wednesday.

While there have been reports of efforts to create an integrated air defense network for Israel to cooperate with its Arab allies against Iran, the US official said the initiative is still in the works, but that Biden will take a look at some of the technologies Israel exports to some of its regional allies in a “nod” to such cooperation.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz, right, presents US President Joe Biden with the wing of a drone intercepted by the Iron Beam laser defense system, at the Ben Gurion Airport, July 13, 2022. (Kobi Gideon/GPO)

Gantz told Biden that the potential military cooperation in the region includes “many countries that see a need for stability and the development of sustainable peace.

“Strengthening the security stability the United States is leading in the region is a condition for both economic development and preserving human rights, and I am sure that under your leadership and together with all US security bodies, we will continue to develop it in all areas — air, sea, land and cyber,” Gantz said.

He added that “the alliance between Israel and the United States is stronger than ever, and Israel is confident that the president will continue to take the necessary steps to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/biden-views-defense-tech-at-airport-including-iron-dome-new-laser-based-iron-beam/> [Alliance is stronger than it was with The Donald? I don’t think so. – rdb]

**Roads shut, thousands of cops deployed as red carpet rolled out for Biden arrival**

**PM Lapid said to have asked for protocol change so Bennett, the alternate premier, can also greet US president during welcome ceremony**

By [TOI staff](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) Today, 2:38 pm

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| [Officials clean the red carpet at Israel's Ben Gurion Airport in Lod near Tel Aviv, on July 13, 2022, ahead of US President Joe Biden's arrival for an official visit. (JACK GUEZ / AFP)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/000_32EB926.jpg)  Officials clean the red carpet at Israel's Ben Gurion Airport in Lod near Tel Aviv, on July 13, 2022, ahead of US President Joe Biden's arrival for an official visit. (JACK GUEZ / AFP) | [US flags fly ahead of a visit by President Joe Biden, in Jerusalem, July 12, 2022 (AP Photo/Mahmoud Illean)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/AP22193388648433.jpg)  US flags fly ahead of a visit by President Joe Biden, in Jerusalem, July 12, 2022 (AP Photo/Mahmoud Illean) |

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| [Final preparations at Ben Gurion Airport on July 13, 2022, ahead of US President Joe Biden's arrival for an official visit. (JACK GUEZ / AFP)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/000_32EC2KQ-e1657711821438.jpg)  Final preparations at Ben Gurion Airport on July 13, 2022, ahead of US President Joe Biden's arrival for an official visit. (JACK GUEZ / AFP) | [Israeli police in Jerusalem on July 13, 2022, ahead of the arrival of the US President Joe Biden (Menahem KAHANA / AFP)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/000_32EB8HL.jpg)  Israeli police in Jerusalem on July 13, 2022, ahead of the arrival of the US President Joe Biden (Menahem KAHANA / AFP) |
| [Final preparations before the arrival of US President Joe Biden at Ben Gurion Airport, July 13, 2022 (Noam Revkin Fenton/Flash90)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/F220713NRF03.jpg)  Final preparations before the arrival of US President Joe Biden at Ben Gurion Airport, July 13, 2022 (Noam Revkin Fenton/Flash90) | [Israeli police officers in Jerusalem on July 13, 2022, deployed ahead of the arrival of US President Joe Biden (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/F220713YS21.jpg)  Israeli police officers in Jerusalem on July 13, 2022, deployed ahead of the arrival of US President Joe Biden (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90) |
| [Officials prepare the podium at Israel's Ben Gurion Airport in Lod near Tel Aviv, on July 13, 2022, ahead of US President Joe Biden's arrival for an official visit. (Photo by Jack Guez / AFP)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/000_32EB8ZT-e1657709515576.jpg)  Officials prepare the podium at Israel's Ben Gurion Airport in Lod near Tel Aviv, on July 13, 2022, ahead of US President Joe Biden's arrival for an official visit. (Photo by Jack Guez / AFP) | [Israeli soldiers between rehearsals for the welcoming ceremony for US President Joe Biden at Ben Gurion Airport, July 12, 2022 (AP Photo/Ariel Schalit)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/AP22193561183995.jpg)  Israeli soldiers between rehearsals for the welcoming ceremony for US President Joe Biden at Ben Gurion Airport, July 12, 2022 (AP Photo/Ariel Schalit) |

With US President Joe Biden set to land at Ben Gurion Airport on Wednesday afternoon, police began to deploy for road closures and a massive security operation that is set to disrupt the lives of many in Jerusalem and central Israel.

Police have said sections of Route 1, the main highway connecting Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, will be shut for a number of hours in both directions between the Shapirim Interchange and the entrance to the capital on Wednesday afternoon.

Traffic began building up near the airport from around noon, and police asked motorists to avoid the area and to refrain from driving to Jerusalem unless necessary.

There were also multiple temporary road closures within Jerusalem, with a focus on Biden’s planned travel routes and King David Street, where the US president and his delegation will be staying.

Security arrangements for the visit, officially titled “Blue Shield 3,” include over 16,000 police officers, Border Police officers and volunteers.

The operation has been drilled over a number of days and restrictions include a ban on all private aircraft, including drones, in the airspace of Ben Gurion Airport and Jerusalem throughout Biden’s visit.

A group of people in military uniforms marching in a parade

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Police officers in Jerusalem on July 13, 2022 (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Meanwhile, preparations were also underway at Ben Gurion Airport where the red carpet was readied for the welcome ceremony, in which Biden will be greeted by Prime Minister Yair Lapid and President Isaac Herzog, along with Alternate Prime Minister Naftali Bennett.

According to Kan news, Lapid’s office insisted on a change in protocol so that Bennett could be alongside the prime minister on the red carpet.

The Americans have requested a simple ceremony at the airport and Biden will not be greeted by a long line of notables when he arrives in Israel.

Ministers were told in writing that “because of scheduling pressure, COVID, and the hot weather, the US president will not shake hands with the invited [guests at the airport arrival ceremony], and there will be no opportunity for personal photographs.”

Biden’s trip to Israel and Saudi Arabia marks his first time in the Middle East as US president, but his tenth visit to Israel overall. Originally scheduled for late June, his trip was pushed back to this week.

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Workers set up barriers outside the Waldorf Hotel in Jerusalem in Jerusalem on July 12, 2022 (Jamal Awad/Flash90)

After landing on Wednesday, Biden will tour several Israeli security systems with Defense Minister Benny Gantz at Ben Gurion Airport. The show-and-tell will include an Iron Dome missile defense battery, in a nod to US efforts to grant Israel an additional $500 million in replacement batteries for the system after last year’s conflict with Gaza terror groups.

Biden’s tour will include the in-development Iron Beam laser rocket defense system, which is designed to work in tandem with systems like Iron Dome and shoot down smaller projectiles.

The president will also announce his approval for the US military-industrial complex to begin talks with Israeli counterparts about purchasing Iron Beam, a senior US official told The Times of Israel.

Following the weapons tour, Biden is set to head to the Yad Vashem Holocaust museum in Jerusalem for a brief tour.

He will be accompanied on that visit by Lapid, who has invited Gantz to accompany them, the Walla news site reported. Both Lapid and Gantz are the sons of Holocaust survivors.

While at Yad Vashem, Biden will also meet with two Holocaust survivors who immigrated to the United States after World War II. Biden will be accompanied by a number of officials including US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan and the United States special envoy to monitor and combat antisemitism, Deborah Lipstadt.

On Thursday morning, Biden will hold a meeting with Lapid, after which the two will deliver statements to the press. Also in attendance for part of this sit-down will be Bennett, who met Biden twice during his year as premier.

No major announcement from either side is expected.

Biden will then meet with Herzog, followed by a short session with opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu, which was added to the schedule last month in order to avoid the perception that the US was picking sides ahead of the November 1 Israeli election.

Biden is expected to receive the Israeli Presidential Medal of Honor from Herzog.

The president is set to finish the day by attending at least part of the opening ceremony of the Maccabiah Jewish Olympic games, alongside Lapid and Herzog.

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The Augusta Victoria Hospital in east Jerusalem, July 11, 2022 (AP Photo/Mahmoud Illean, File)

On Friday morning, Biden will head to the Augusta Victoria Hospital on East Jerusalem’s Mount of Olives. It will be the first visit by a sitting US president to the largely Palestinian section of the capital outside of the Old City.

Biden will then hold a meeting in Ramallah with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, following which the two will make a statement to the press.

Biden will depart for Saudi Arabia on Friday afternoon. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/roads-shut-thousands-of-cops-deployed-as-red-carpet-rolled-out-for-biden-arrival/>

**US would use force against Iran ‘as last resort,’ Biden tells Israeli TV**

***Speaking to Channel 12, US president says exiting 2015 nuclear deal was a ‘gigantic mistake’ by Trump, sees integrating Israel in region as key interest***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:57 pm*

US President Joe Biden told Israel’s Channel 12 news that he would use force against Iran as a “last resort” to prevent it from obtaining nuclear weapons, but stressed his preference to negotiate with the Iranians instead.

The network’s anchor Yonit Levi interviewed Biden hours before he set off from Washington for his first visit as president to Israel. The interview was [broadcast](https://www.mako.co.il/news-politics/2022_q3/Article-1c38cb84aa8f181027.htm?sCh=3d385dd2dd5d4110&pId=1898243326) Wednesday evening after Biden had arrived in the Jewish state.

Asked if the US would use force to stop Iran’s nuclear program becoming weaponized, Biden replied “as a last resort, yes.”

“Iran cannot get a nuclear weapon,” he asserted.

Biden explained why he believes the failing 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers should be resurrected, saying that “the only thing more dangerous than the Iran that exists now is an Iran with nuclear weapons.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-would-use-force-against-iran-as-last-resort-biden-tells-israeli-tv/>

**Peace with Saudi Arabia a matter of time, say Israelis who recently visited kingdom**

***Entrepreneur Avi Jorisch, who brought 50 Jewish business leaders to Medina, describes genuine curiosity by his hosts along with some difficult conversations***

*By* [*Lazar Berman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/lazar-berman/) *Today, 5:56 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/WhatsApp-Image-2022-07-11-at-8.43.28-PM.jpeg)

Israeli-American businessman Avi Jorisch in Medina, Saudi Arabia, at the head of a delegation of 50 Jewish business leaders (courtesy)

As covert ties between Saudi Arabia and Israel moved into the spotlight ahead of US President Joe Biden’s visit to the two Middle Eastern countries this week, a group of some 50 prominent Jewish business leaders visited the kingdom, led by an Israeli entrepreneur.

Avi Jorisch, the driving force behind trip, told The Times of Israel this week that the May visit convinced him that Israeli-Saudi normalization was “a question of when, not if.”

“It felt like we were engineering history,” Jorisch reflected. “This was done very intentionally and very mindfully. We felt like we were ambassadors for the Jewish people and the State of Israel, and we came to play a role in engineering history.”

Rabbi Steven Burg, CEO of Aish Global, expressed similar sentiments after the trip. “It seems to be an almost inevitable next step for what they want to do with Vision 2030.”

Saudi Vision 2030, a sweeping national blueprint for economic, social, and cultural advancement, is the brainchild of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

“There was a sense that the Saudis wanted to go slower than the other countries for several reasons, it might take a couple of years,” Burg said, referring to several Arab nations that normalized ties with Israel in 2020.

Citing privacy and safety, Jorisch declined to provide the names of the other participants.

A picture containing person, person, ceiling, posing

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Aish Global CEO Steven Burg (R) and Bahrain’s Deputy Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah al Khallfa (courtesy)

The group, which included a few non-Jewish members, met in Bahrain and spent a Shabbat in Manama before droving to Saudi Arabia.

In Bahrain, the group met with officials from the Finance and National Economy Ministry.

The group held prayers every day, which was especially important for Burg, who is in the 11-month mourning period for his father during which he must recite the Kaddish prayer with a quorum of ten Jewish men. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/peace-with-saudi-arabia-a-matter-of-time-say-israelis-who-recently-visited-kingdom/> [When you look over time and think about what has happened in the past, this is truly amazing. - rdb

**Israeli and Greek air forces hold dogfighting and refueling drill over Israel**

***Military says exercise ‘symbolizes important milestone’ in Israel-Greece relations; last month Hellenic Armed Forces chief visited Israel in his first official trip***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 10:34 am*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/WhatsApp_Image_2022-07-12_at_19.06.47.jpeg)

Hellenic Air Force F-16 jets are seen flying in formation over the Dead Sea in southern Israel, July 12, 2022. (Israel Defense Forces)

Israeli and Greek military aircraft held a joint aerial exercise over Israel’s skies on Tuesday, simulating refueling and mid-air dogfights, the Israel Defense Forces said Wednesday morning.

During the drill, Israeli planes refueled Hellenic Air Force fighter jets, the IDF said.

The forces conducted “advanced air-to-air combat” and drilled other scenarios, according to the IDF.

In images published by the IDF, Hellenic Air Force F-16 jets were seen flying in formation over the Dead Sea in southern Israel.

[A picture containing military uniform, person, clothing, standing

Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/06/WhatsApp_Image_2022-06-09_at_11.06.07_0.jpeg) The IDF said the exercise “constitutes a platform for shared learning and enhancing the relationship between the two air forces, and symbolizes an important milestone in reinforcing strategic and international cooperation between the State of Israel and Greece.”

“The exercise also contributes in advancing the militaries’ different combat capabilities and their competency in possible combat scenarios, and enables a challenge for the aircrews and technical teams,” the IDF added.

Last month, the chief of the Greek military, General Konstantinos Floros, concluded his first official visit to Israel.

Chief of the Hellenic National Defense General Staff General Konstantinos Floros (right) is greeted by IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Aviv Kohavi (left) at the Israeli army’s headquarters in Tel Aviv, June 8, 2022. (Israel Defense Forces)

Floros held meetings with his Israeli counterpart Lt. Gen. Aviv Kohavi, along with Maj. Gen. Tal Kelman, the military official in charge of Iran affairs, a senior intelligence officer, and other officials.

“The meetings discussed a number of topics, including shared challenges in the Mediterranean region,” the IDF said at the time.

“The bilateral cooperation between the two militaries, with an emphasis on intelligence-related cooperation and joint training opportunities,” was also discussed, a statement added.

Floros was given a tour of various IDF bases, including the Intelligence Directorate’s Unit 9900, Navy’s Shayetet 13, Air Force’s Palmachim airbase, and an Iron Dome air defense battery. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-and-greek-air-forces-hold-dogfighting-and-refueling-drill-over-israel/>

**U.S. calls for 'accountability' in Abu Akleh case as Biden visits Middle East**

***Death of prominent Palestinian-American reporter expected to be a major issue during president's visit; Palestinian journalists gather in Gaza to call for 'justice' slain journalist***

*Reuters | Published: 07.13.22, 18:11*

The United States called on Wednesday for "accountability" over the death of Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, whose killing during an Israeli West Bank raid is expected to be a major issue during President Joe Biden's Middle East visit.

Abu Akleh, a Palestinian-American journalist working for the Al Jazeera network, was shot in the head on May 11 while reporting on an Israeli raid in the town of Jenin in the West Bank.



Shireen Abu Akleh and Joe Biden (Photo: AP)

Palestinians believe she was killed deliberately by Israeli troops. Israel denies its soldiers shot her on purpose, and say she may have been killed either by errant army fire or a shot fired by a Palestinian gunman.

Washington has so far concluded she was probably hit by an Israeli bullet, but says it has no reason to believe it was intentional. Speaking to reporters on board Air Force One with Biden flying to the region, U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan repeated that position, but said Washington did not consider the case closed.

"The administration, at the president's direction, has been very much engaged in helping try to determine what exactly happened around the tragic circumstances of her death," he said.

"There will have to be efforts made in accountability and making sure that we find a way to conclude this chapter justly. This is someone who was a journalist, an American citizen. The President, the Secretary of State, the entire team grieves for the family," he said. MORE - <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/ryjmoihoq>

**Nasrallah threatens war over Israel-Lebanon maritime border dispute**

***Hezbollah leader says war ‘much more honorable than the situation Lebanon is heading to now,’ claims drone attack on Karish gas field was meant to make workers feel unsafe***

*By* [*Tobias Siegal*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/tobias-siegal/) *Today, 11:53 pm*

The leader of the Lebanese Hezbollah terror organization, Hassan Nasrallah, issued a stark warning to Israel on Wednesday, saying that drones sent recently to the Karish gas field were “only the beginning.”

On July 2, the Israeli military said it had [successfully intercepted three Hezbollah drones](https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-says-it-shot-down-3-hezbollah-drones-heading-for-karish-gas-field/) that were heading for the Karish gas field off Israel’s Mediterranean coast.

In a televised speech marking 16 years since the Second Lebanon War, Nasrallah said the unarmed drones were launched “in order to make the people working in the area know that they are not safe.”

The Hezbollah leader claimed the attack was the first to include three unmanned aerial vehicles being launched toward Israel simultaneously. “So far, UAVs have been launched from the [Gaza] Strip and Syria, but one at a time. Never three at once,” he said.

“Write down this equation — we will reach Karish and everything beyond Karish and everything beyond that… If you want to prevent Lebanon from exercising its right to save itself by extracting oil and gas, no one will be able to extract oil and gas,” he added. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/nasrallah-threatens-war-over-israel-lebanon-maritime-border-dispute/>

**Government announces 20% rise in price of regulated bread**

***Affected products include sliced and unsliced white and dark loaves, challah; economy minister vows to lower prices once cost of raw materials goes down***

*By* [*Tobias Siegal*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/tobias-siegal/) *Today, 10:34 pm*

The Economy and Industry Ministry announced Wednesday that the price of government-regulated bread would rise by 20 percent in light of the global rise in food prices, which affects production costs in Israel.

The Finance Ministry’s Price Committee is expected to convene Thursday to approve the decision, which would come into effect as soon as Sunday.

Supervised bread products include sliced and unsliced white and dark loaves, as well as challah.

For reference, the price of dark bread, sliced or unsliced, is NIS 7.11 ($2.06). After the expected increase the same products will cost NIS 8.51 ($2.46). [That is not any higher than it is here at this time. Bread has really gone up. – rdb]

Announcing the price hike, Economy and Industry Minister Orna Barbivai stressed that despite the expected rise, basic bread products will still be under government supervision, preventing further price hikes by retailers.

“I intend to continue to work to improve the system and guidelines that relate to price hikes of supervised products,” Barbivai said Wednesday, vowing to take “social considerations and the welfare of the public” into account when determining the expected price hikes.

“I call on retail stores to consider a partial increase of the price of supervised bread so as to show some consideration for consumers,” she said, vowing that “once the prices of raw materials go down again, I will pressure the Price Committee to lower the price of supersized bread.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/government-announces-20-rise-in-price-of-regulated-bread/>

**EU clarifies stance on Russian exclave blockade**

***The EU Commission has explained what goods Russia is allowed to transport through the EU territory and how***

13 Jul, 2022 19:40

No “sanctioned goods” are allowed to be transported by Russian operators through EU territory by roads, the EU Commission has [said](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_4507) in its fresh “additional guidance” on the transit of Russian goods. The document published on Wednesday comes amid tensions around the Russian Kaliningrad exclave. Lithuania had previously blocked the shipment of goods to the region via its territory to comply with EU sanctions against Russia.

Transit via rail is still allowed, according to the document, but only as long as the EU member states “perform effective controls*.”* The bloc’s nations should *“check whether transit volumes remain within the historical averages of the last three years”* as well as whether they reflect *“the real demand for essential goods at the destination,”* the guidelines say.

The transit of sanctioned military and dual use goods and technology is fully prohibited, the document says, adding that any *“unusual flows or trade patterns”* could potentially be suspected of giving *“rise to circumvention”* of anti-Russian sanctions.

The document specifically notes that the EU members “are obliged to prevent all possible forms of circumvention of EU restrictive measures.*”* The EU Commission also pointed to the *“importance of monitoring the two-way trade flows between Russia and Kaliningrad”* aimed at ensuring that *“sanctioned goods cannot enter the EU customs territory.”*

The document comes just hours after the Russian newspaper Izvestia reported that the EU is in talks with Lithuania on lifting sanctions on the transit of goods to Russia’s exclave. The media outlet also claimed that the EU had sent a draft document to Moscow in early July outlining that the transit of goods by both rail and road from mainland Russia to Kaliningrad would be removed from sanctions.

The EU, however, has denied this information. *“There were no talks between the EU and Russia on the issue you’re talking about, contrary to the reports you are citing,”* Eric Mamer, the EU Commission chief spokesman, told the RIA news agency when asked to comment on the reports.

The Russian Foreign Ministry previously threatened Lithuania with “tough measure*s”* if it continued to block Russian transit to the exclave. The response measures have already been prepared, the ministry’s spokeswoman, Maria Zakharova, said on Sunday. *“The European Commission, the EU must understand that the clock is ticking,”* she warned.

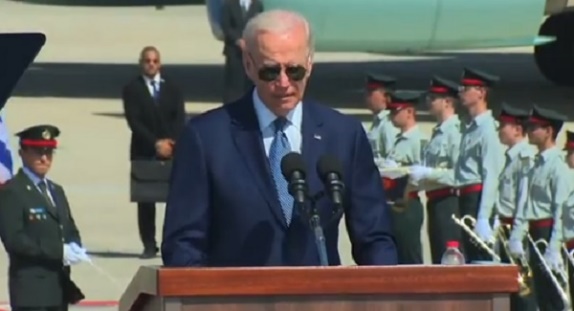
Lithuania blocked the transit of goods by rail to Kaliningrad through its territory on June 18, with the restrictions affecting about 30% of deliveries to the Russian exclave. Moscow called the measures unprecedented and illegal, as they affect Russia’s access to part of its own territory.

Following the release of the document, Russia’s Foreign Ministry replied that it would closely monitor how the EU’s new guidelines were put into practice. MORE - <https://www.rt.com/business/558938-eu-guidance-transit-sanction-kaliningrad/>

**Watch: Biden arrives in Israel, makes unnerving gaffe about Holocaust**

***Only minutes after disembarking Air Force One and asking, 'What am I doing now?'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/?ff_source=Email&ff_medium=wnd-breaking&ff_campaign=breaking&ff_content=breaking) *Published July 13, 2022 at 12:30pm*



Joe Biden in Israel on Wednesday, July 13, 2022. (Video screenshot)

Former White House physician Ronny Jackson, now a member of Congress, warned about Joe Biden's cognitive decline years ago.

Back then, he cited Biden's inability to remember where he was, or what office in the federal government he was seeking. (The presidency)

It's apparently been getting worse.

Just arrived in Israel on a major foreign policy trip now, Biden blew his planned speech and instead recognized the "truth and honor" of the Holocaust. [What is the HONOR of the Holocaust. More appropriate would be the HOROR of the Holocaust. – rdb]

That was shortly after disembarking Air Force One and asking, "What am I doing now?"

"...to keep alive the truth and honor of the Holocaust...horror of the Holocaust..." [pic.twitter.com/1W2o0scU9T](https://t.co/1W2o0scU9T)

— Charlie Spiering (@charliespiering) [July 13, 2022](https://twitter.com/charliespiering/status/1547216113926291457)

Biden said he was in Israel "to honor six million Jewish lives, stolen in the genocide, and continue, which we must do every, every day, continue to bear witness, to keep alive the truth and honor of the Holocaust … horror of the Holocaust."

A [commentary at Redstate.com](https://redstate.com/bonchie/2022/07/13/joe-biden-experiences-immediate-confusion-in-israel-before-insulting-holocaust-victims-n594018) said, "I’d ask how he managed to make that mistake given he’s got a script to read right in front of him that no doubt has a triple-digit font, but we all know how he made it. The President of the United States is senile. [Sorry folks but I would amend that comment to say “the alleged President. – rdb] Even before his flub about 'truth and honor,' he mispronounced the name of a city in Israel he was attempting to cite. He also screwed up his pacing after mentioning the genocide of six million Jews, sounds like he was saying we must 'continue' it before doubling back to clarify that he meant 'we must continue to bear witness.'"

Shortly before, he came down the steps from Air Force One, onto red carpeting.

The commentary said, "The president arrived in Israel on Wednesday for the start of a series of joint meetings in the Middle East. Unfortunately, Biden didn't even get off the tarmac before things started to go wrong. In fact, his first words after departing the airstairs were 'What am I doing now?'"

JOE BIDEN in Israel: "What am I doing now?" [pic.twitter.com/liBEsBsz2f](https://t.co/liBEsBsz2f)

— RNC Research (@RNCResearch) [July 13, 2022](https://twitter.com/RNCResearch/status/1547199385745989633)

He eventually started moving away, after having been directed by an entire team of officials.

Upon arriving in Israel, Biden to a female servicemember: "I'm not going with you?"

Joe Biden starts his trip with some sexual harassment. [pic.twitter.com/nupOrUtDA2](https://t.co/nupOrUtDA2)

— Steve Guest (@SteveGuest) [July 13, 2022](https://twitter.com/SteveGuest/status/1547208242903846912)

RedState reported, "And while Biden’s constantly face-planting is entertaining in some sense, it’s also deeply dangerous for the country he leads. The United States has become a laughing stock, with tyranny on the march across the globe in the face of his fecklessness and weakness. We are talking about a man who can’t even walk without being psychically led around by his handlers. Does anyone think Xi Jinping fears Joe Biden? Heck, his Secret Service agents are probably days away from investing in one of those kid leashes for the president. This can’t go on for another two and a half years. There’s just no way. Something has to give, whether it’s Biden’s health or those around him saying enough is enough." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/biden-arrives-israel-makes-unnerving-gaffe-holocaust/> [Folks, I sorry but I have never liked Sleepy Joe nor thought he had a decent brain but he is now obviously severely impaired and I feel sorry for him. I am disgusted at the politicians who have put him in this position because he is “malleable” and can be used to accomplish their ends because he doesn’t really know what he is doing much of the time. I consider putting him in this position is nothing short of Elder abuse. – rdb]

**'Painfully high': Inflation skyrockets to highest level in 40 years**

***Costs of everyday necessities creating 'financial strain for millions'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 13, 2022 at 10:36am*

Joe Biden has set another record, and it's not good. Inflation under his economic leadership surged 9.1% in June, setting a new 40-year high and demolishing even the worst fears of economists, who had predicted a climb of 8.8%.

"Inflation accelerated more than expected to a new four-decade high in June as the price of everyday necessities remains painfully high, exacerbating a financial strain for millions of Americans and worsening a political crisis for President Biden," documented a report in [Fox Business.](https://www.foxbusiness.com/economy/inflation-surges-june-hitting-new-40-year-high)

The numbers come from the Labor Department's consumer price index, a wide collection of prices for everyday goods such as gasoline, groceries and rents.

The June 9.1% figure was up that huge amount from June 2021 to June 2022. Prices actually jumped 1.3% from May 2022 to June 2022.

"Those figures were both far higher than the 8.8% headline figure and 1% monthly gain forecast by Refinitiv economists," the report said.

The last time inflation was this bad was in December 1981, the report said.

"Core prices," those figures that exclude the fast-increasing food and energy categories, were up 5.9% from a year ago, and up 0.7% for just the month.

The report pointed out those numbers are higher than in April and May, "suggesting that underlying inflationary pressures remain strong and widespread."

Bottom of Form

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

Inflation is just one of many crises facing Biden. Others include fast-growing violence in cities, the rampant invasion of illegal aliens across the nation's southern border, a declining American influence worldwide, growing threats from Russia and China, and many more.  
 On the issue of exploding inflation, Fox Business warned, "Price increases were extensive, suggesting that inflation may not be near its peak: Energy prices rose 7.5% in June from the previous month, and are up 41.6% from last year. Gasoline, on average, costs 59.9% more than it did one year ago and 11.2% more than it did in May. The food index, meanwhile, climbed 1% in June, as consumers paid more for items like cereal, chicken, milk and fresh vegetables."  
 Shelter costs also were at an 18-year high and rent costs surged, "jumping 0.8% over the month, the largest monthly increase since April 1986," the report said.  
 "CPI delivered another shock, and as painful as June’s higher number is, equally as bad is the broadening sources of inflation," said Robert Frick, corporate economist with Navy Federal Credit Union. "Though CPI’s spike is led by energy and food prices, which are largely global problems, prices continue to mount for domestic goods and services, from shelter to autos to apparel."  
 The [Washington Examined](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/economy/inflation-jumps-to-9-1-highest-in-four-decades) pointed out that the inflation figures are triggering a plunge in Biden's approval ratings, "as the midterm elections approaching." Some polls have shown his approval as low as the low 30% range.  
 "The offenders again were all too familiar to consumers, those being gasoline, food, and shelter. With their sentiment at the lowest level in years, consumers have a right to be highly distraught. They’re facing a combination of high and sustained inflation robbing them of purchasing power," explained Mark Hamrick, an analyst at Bankrate.  
 The Federal Reserve is raising interest rates by large numbers in an attempt to defuse the Biden inflation problem.  
 The average price of gas in the U.S. broke records in June, exploding past $5 a gallon.  
 And the report said average weekly grocery spending reached $148 a week, far higher than the $113.50 during the latter part of President Trump's term.  
 Mortgage interest rates have risen from 3.11% to 5.3% in just a few months.

The economy contracted during the first quarter, and is predicted to do the same for the second, meaning Biden has led the nation into recession. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/painfully-high-inflation-skyrockets-highest-level-40-years/>

**Commentary:**

**Here’s How You Can Find Out What Your Government Is Up to**[*Goldwater Institute*](https://townhall.com/columnists/goldwaterinstitute/) *Posted: Jul 13, 2022 12:01 AM  
 The Goldwater Institute is a leading free-market public policy research and litigation organization that is dedicated to empowering all Americans to live freer, happier lives. We accomplish real results for liberty by working in state courts, legislatures, and communities nationwide to advance, defend, and strengthen the freedom guaranteed by the constitutions of the United States and the fifty states.*  
 *The following column is by* ***Jon Riches, Director of National Litigation at the Goldwater Institute.***  
 “An informed citizenry,” the U.S. Supreme Court [wrote](https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/437/214/) in a 1978 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) case, is “vital to the functioning of a democratic society, needed to hold the governors accountable to governed.” Or, in other words, open and transparent government is essential to a free society.   
 Unfortunately, government leaders and bureaucrats at all levels often seek to close, not open, government operations to the public. This troubling trend of government secrecy is perhaps most startling in America’s K-12 schools, where openness and transparency should be the presumed standard, not outcomes to be evaded. More and more, public school districts are evading transparency, hiding curriculum, and challenging those who question them—underscoring the importance of state public records laws that empower Americans to keep their government accountable.    
 It [happened in Rhode Island](https://townhall.com/columnists/goldwaterinstitute/2022/04/09/i-asked-what-my-daughter-would-learn-in-kindergarten-then-the-teachers-union-sue-n2605675), where concerned mom Nicole Solas sought information about what her daughter would learn in kindergarten—only to be stonewalled with a $74,000 public records fee demand from the district and ultimately a lawsuit from the nation’s largest teachers union.  
 It [happened in Virginia](https://www.goldwaterinstitute.org/fairfax-county-school-board-bullies-must-obey-the-first-amendment/), where two moms legally obtained materials that showed how much the Fairfax County school district was paying in legal bills, removed confidential details, then published some of the documents online to inform other families. In an unconstitutional attempt to shut down these moms’ free speech, the district responded by suing them and demanding they take down the documents down.   
 It [happened in Michigan](https://www.goldwaterinstitute.org/schools-use-1-800-number-tactic-to-shut-down-parents/), where a school district stonewalled a mom who wanted more information about a diversity, equity, and inclusion training, claiming that the public education materials were protected by copyright, and thus could not be disclosed.   
 It [happened in Minnesota](https://www.goldwaterinstitute.org/a-900k-price-tag-for-parents-rights/), where a school district tried to charge a group of parents $900,000 to access documents related to Critical Race Theory.   
 But citizens, including concerned parents, are not without remedy.   
 While many are familiar with the federal FOIA, some may be surprised to learn that each state has its own public records law that applies to state and local governments. This includes state agencies, departments, cities, towns, school districts, and other entities that engage in public business or receive taxpayer money.   
 The purpose of state public records laws is to ensure that public activities are open to public review. Under these laws, there is a strong presumption in favor of disclosure, meaning transparency is the rule, and secrecy is the exception. There are also review processes in place in each state where citizens can seek relief when public records responses do not comply with state law. State transparency laws, in fact, are often broader than and more protective of transparent government than the federal FOIA.  
 Despite the breadth and favorability of these laws, many citizens are hesitant to use them, either thinking the laws too complex, or better left to lawyers and other experts. That should not be the case. Public records laws are designed with the public requester in mind, and they are strong tools available to all citizens to ensure open government. As such, they should be used by all of us—often.   
 The public records process begins with a public records request. A clear public records request can often make the difference between prompt production of responsive information, or delay, fees, and denial. There are many guides available online, including [one prepared by my organization](https://www.openmygovernment.org/), the Goldwater Institute, to assist the public with drafting effective public records requests.  
 After a request is submitted, the governmental body must respond to it, often under strict timelines. If the government believes that records should be withheld under a specific exemption to disclosure, the burden is frequently on the government to prove that an exemption applies. So, if records have been withheld, requesters should always ensure that the government has stated the basis for, or otherwise justified, the withholding.   
 What’s more, public entities often want to comply with requests, so they can close them out and move on to the next one. As a result, requesters should consider discussing records requests with public records custodians to clarify the requests and ensure the entity is providing information that is responsive and useful. (Just make sure to document any discussions!)   
 If, at the end of the day, a public entity is refusing to provide information that is responsive and not exempt from disclosure, an administrative complaint or litigation may be necessary. Again, there are many organizations that can assist with this process, including the Goldwater Institute. If a requester needs legal assistance, she should ensure that she has the original written records request, the public body’s response, and any other communications that may be helpful to provide to a reviewing attorney or organization.   
 Transparent government is indeed essential to a free society. But ensuring transparency depends upon an engaged citizenry. As parents, taxpayers, voters, and community members, we should all consider ways to promote government transparency, and then use public records laws to obtain information about government operations.   
 Citizens have a right to know what our government is up to, and to hold it accountable when it strays from its obligation for openness.    
 [*Jon Riches*](https://www.goldwaterinstitute.org/our-team/jon-riches/)*is the Director of National Litigation at the Goldwater Institute.* <https://townhall.com/columnists/goldwaterinstitute/2022/07/13/heres-how-you-can-find-out-what-your-government-is-up-to-n2610128>   
   
**The End of Private Car Ownership**

[*Daniel Greenfield*](https://www.blogger.com/profile/13575285186581875356) [*July 13, 2022*](http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2022/07/the-end-of-private-car-ownership.html)

The term "pedestrian" has a derogatory meaning because peasants walked while nobles were "equestrians" and rode horses. The industrial revolution eliminated this class difference, as it did so many others, by making car ownership available to the masses until eventually Herbert Hoover was able to boast that "Republican prosperity has reduced and increased earning capacity” to "put the proverbial 'chicken in every pot' and a car in every backyard to boot."  
 Democrats have spent two generations trying to get those cars out of every backyard.

Biden is trying to bring back Obama's mileage standards that were estimated to [raise car prices](https://www.frontpagemag.com/point/2021/07/biden-plots-raise-car-prices-20-end-working-class-daniel-greenfield/) by 20%.The goal is to "nudge 40% of U.S. drivers into electric vehicles by decade’s end."  
 Will 40% of Americans be able to afford electric cars that cost an average of $54,000 by 2030?  
 Not likely. Nor are they meant to. Biden’s radical ‘green’ government, which includes Tracy Stone-Manning, the former spokeswoman for [an ecoterrorist group](https://www.frontpagemag.com/point/2021/06/bidens-bureau-land-management-nominee-was-daniel-greenfield/) as the head of the Bureau of Land Management, isn’t looking to nudge drivers into another type of cars, but out of cars.  
 Gas prices are a way to price Americans out of car ownership under the guise of pushing EVs.  
 Biden's Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm responded to American concerns about high gas prices by urging them to buy electric cars. Granholm, who had promoted a green energy tycoon who spent [years in prison for fraud](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2021/04/big-winner-bidens-green-energy-plan-his-energy-daniel-greenfield/), who had served on the board of directors of an electric battery company, and [made millions](https://www.politico.com/news/2021/05/26/jennifer-granholm-proterra-holdings-491007) divesting stock in an electric vehicle manufacturer, is a fan.  
 "Most electric vehicles are now cheaper to own than gas-powered cars from the day you drive them off the lot," Granholm tweeted.  
 That isn't actually true, but actual cars have become more expensive to own, largely because of efforts by the Biden administration, and by various states, including California. That hasn’t however made electric cars any more affordable for ordinary Americans.  
 The average price of an electric car shot up to $54,000 in May. Car prices in general have risen in the Biden economy, but electric cars are naturally expensive. The raw material costs for an average electric car are up to [over $8,000](https://www.cnbc.com/2022/06/22/electric-vehicle-raw-material-costs-doubled-during-pandemic.html). That’s compared to $3,600 for an actual car.  
 When your raw material costs are that high, electric cars will be inherently unaffordable.  
 The Obama administration pumped billions in taxpayer money into battery and electric car manufacturing, the majority of which failed, on the theory that enough government subsidies would lower battery costs. Not only was much of that money lost, but currently electric battery costs [hover around](https://www.reuters.com/business/autos-transportation/soaring-battery-costs-fail-cool-electric-vehicle-sales-2022-04-19/) the $160 kilowatt-hour mark. Green boosters cheer that's far down from over $1,000 per kWh a decade ago, but that still adds up to the reality that an electric car capable of traveling for even [short distances](https://www.caranddriver.com/features/a36051980/evs-explained-battery-capacity-gross-versus-net/) needs a battery that alone costs thousands.  
 The Nissan Leaf, which approaches $30,000 once the reality of MSRP in the current sales market is taken into account, is one of the cheapest electric cars around, and has a range of only 149 miles. Replacing its battery [can set back](https://www.slashgear.com/881021/the-nissan-leaf-battery-costs-more-to-replace-than-you-think/) car owners $6,500 to $7,500. And that’s even when [you can manage](https://driving.ca/features/feature-story/the-big-looming-problem-with-old-evs-its-really-really-hard-to-change-the-battery) to find one or someone willing to replace it. In less than [3 years](https://www.nimblefins.co.uk/study-real-life-nissan-leaf-battery-deterioration), Leafs lose 20 miles of range. By the fifth year, they have lost 30 miles. And it’s all downhill from there.  
 The Nissan Leaf was initially a hit, but car manufacturers quickly realized that anyone willing to overpay that much for substandard performance had money to burn. The electric car market is now thoroughly dominated by luxury vehicles subsidized by taxpayers. And the Leaf went from 90% market share to less than 10%. The EV market is now a taxpayer-funded status symbol.  
 The dirty truth about the "clean" car market is that it consists of traditional car companies and Tesla frantically trying to unload a limited share of luxury electric cars on wealthy customers to cash in on the emissions credits mandated by states like California. Tesla [makes more money](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2022/06/high-gas-prices-are-caused-governments-not-daniel-greenfield/) reselling these regulatory credits to actual car companies than it does selling cars. Taxpayers and working class car-owners pick up the bill for the entire luxury electric vehicle market.  
 A market that they are shut out from by design.  
 The "green" vision is not a world in which everyone has their own electric car. It's one of collective transport, of buses, light rail, and car-pooling through shared rides and roving self-driving cars. The only vehicle the average consumer is supposed to own is a bicycle.  
 While the Biden administration is still pretending that it’s out to “encourage” electric car ownership by making actual cars too expensive for much of the country to afford, others are saying the quiet part out loud.  
 "Car-lovers will doubtless mourn the passing of machines that, in the 20th century, became icons of personal freedom. But this freedom is illusory," an Economist article [predicted](http://worldif.economist.com/article/11/what-if-autonomous-vehicles-rule-the-world-from-horseless-to-driverless).  
 “There will be fewer cars on the road—perhaps just 30% of the cars we have today,” the head of Google's self-driving car project predicted.  
 "The days of the single occupancy car are numbered," Brook Porter at G2 Venture Partners, a green energy investment firm, thundered in an article titled, The End of Cars in Cities.  
 Dan Ammann, the former president of GM, claimed that "the human-driven, gasoline-powered, single-passenger car" is the "fundamental problem" in a post titled, "We Need to Move Beyond the Car". He has since gone to work for Exxon-Mobil.  
 Predictions are cheap, but car bans are expensive and all too real. The European Union voted to back a ban on the sale of non-electric cars by 2035. California is also pushing for a similar [2035 ban](https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/09/23/governor-newsom-announces-california-will-phase-out-gasoline-powered-cars-drastically-reduce-demand-for-fossil-fuel-in-californias-fight-against-climate-change/) on the sale of new actual cars in the state. Officials noted that the ban would push [more than half](https://timesofsandiego.com/business/2022/06/12/state-regulators-question-practicality-of-proposed-2035-ban-on-gas-powered-cars-in-california/) of mechanics out of work and leave much of the state unable to afford cars.  
 Canada has its own 2035 car ban. Last year, Governor Newsom and Governor Cuomo, along with 10 other governors, [urged](https://www.npr.org/2021/04/21/989463166/governors-urge-biden-to-order-100-zero-emission-car-sales-by-2035) Biden to impose a 2035 car ban on all Americans.  
 Electric cars aren’t actually “cleaner”. The mining processes that produce “green” technologies are as dirty, if not dirtier, and trade dependence on oil for dependence on rare earth metals, and dependence on the Middle East for dependence on Communist China. The one thing that they decisively accomplish is to make it impossible for ordinary Americans to own cars.  
 And that is what environmentalists really want. But not just them.  
 The vision of a nation in which private car ownership is a luxury good, in which cars have been priced out of the reach of most people through environmental measures that concentrated on gas-powered vehicles, and then added more taxes and fines for the waste” and “inefficiency” of an individual owning a vehicle is not very far away.  
 The technocratic sales pitch is that ride-sharing and self-driving cars will make car ownership unnecessary. Why own a big clunky machine when you can own nothing and be happy?  
 The reality is that car ownership offers mobility and independence. That is exactly what the leftist radicals making social policy want to eliminate. Gas prices are not Putin’s price hike, they’re the green dream. And that dream isn’t to put you in a Nissan Leaf. It’s the Pol Pot dream of dismantling civilization and rolling back the industrial revolution.  
 Once the dark age norms of their dark enlightenment are restored, peasants will go back to being pedestrians and only the progressive philosopher kings will ride.

[*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/2022/07/the-end-of-private-car-ownership.html>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Shaked to INN: There will be no consulate, there will be no freeze in Judea and Samaria**

***Interior Minister not concerned that Biden's visit will harm the settlement enterprise, believes the government will continue to oppose establishment of consulate for Palestinian Arabs.***

[*Yoni Kempinski*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Yoni_Kempinski) *Jul 14, 2022, 7:44 AM GMT+3*

Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked told Israel National News that she is not worried about the consequences of US President Joe Biden's visit to Israel.

"This is an important visit, it is always important when the President of the United States comes to Israel and overall the relations with the Democratic administration are good and former Prime Minister Naftali Bennett promoted them. For an entire year, no consulate [for Palestinian Arabs] was opened in Jerusalem, and with good reason. Bennett insisted on this with the backing of us all. There will be no construction freeze and we will continue to build as we did this past year," said Shaked.

To the question of whether Yair Lapid as Prime Minister will continue with the same line as Bennett, she replied, "The government is a government of equals and the status quo is being respected."

Shaked also called on the Likud to remove its opposition to advancing laws that would allow a visa waiver for Israelis traveling to the US as early as next year.

"The Americans are doing everything they can to complete the process and it is the opposition that is holding it up. We are in talks with them and I hope they will get a hold of themselves." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356474>

**Motorcyclist hits officer who tried to detain him, then flees**

***Motorcyclist approaches police checkpoint near Jerusalem, hits officer and flees the scene.***

[*Israel National News*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Israel_National_News) *Jul 14, 2022, 9:39 AM GMT+3*

Suspected hit and run: A motorcyclist on Wednesday evening approached a police checkpoint as officers sought to detain him, and when a police officer approached him, he hit the officer and fled the scene.

The incident took place on Highway 1, near the Shoresh interchange.

The police officer suffered light injuries. The motorcycle suspected of being involved in the incident was found abandoned on the side of the road. Searches for the motorcyclist are ongoing. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356477>

**Earthquake measuring 3.1 shakes northeastern Israel, no injuries reported.**

[*Israel National News*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Israel_National_News) *Jul 13, 2022, 11:09 PM GMT+3*

An earthquake measuring 3.1 on the Richter scale shook northeastern Israel at 11:43a.m. on Wednesday morning, Israel's Geological Institute confirmed.

According to the Institute, the quake's epicenter was nine kilometers northwest of Hatzor Haglilit, a town which sits just above the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee).

The IDF's Home Front Command said that sirens were not sounded since the quake was not one which would endanger the residents.

There have been no reports of injuries or damage to property.

Last week, a similar quake occurred 13 kilometers northeast of the city of Beit She'an, which sits just south of the Kinneret. Approximately one month ago, a quake measuring 3.7 shook northwest Israel, 96 kilometers northwest of Nahariya. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356450>

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**07/13/2022 NEWS**

**Longest cable car trial ride**

# <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imoO5cGNBZg>

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| "Democracy will soon degenerate into an anarchy, such an anarchy that every man will do what is right in his own eyes and no man’s life or property or reputation or liberty will be secure, and every one of these will soon mould itself into a system of subordination of all the moral virtues and intellectual abilities, all the powers of wealth, beauty, wit and science, to the wanton pleasures, the capricious will, and the execrable cruelty of one or a very few." -- John Adams (1735-1826) Founding Father, 2nd US President Source: An Essay on Man’s Lust for Power, August 29, 1763 |

**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 CF – fell off ladder and bad fracture leg.**  **Pray for EL – Had stoke – doing better**  **Pray for KH – diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 22:1If a man steal an ox, or a sheep, and kill it, or sell it, he shall pay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep. 2If a thief be found breaking in, and be smitten so that he dieth, there shall be no bloodguiltiness for him. 3If the sun be risen upon him, there shall be bloodguiltiness for him - he shall make restitution; if he have nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft. 4If the theft be found in his hand alive, whether it be ox, or ass, or sheep, he shall pay double.

**US drone strike kills leader of Islamic State in Syria**

***Maher al-Agal targeted while riding motorcycle near Turkish border, another official seriously injured; Pentagon says no civilian casualties***

*By* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:25 pm*

The US confirmed on Tuesday that it had killed a leader of the Islamic State terrorist group in Syria in a drone strike.

US Central Command said in a news release that Maher al-Agal was killed Tuesday and an unidentified senior official in Islamic State was seriously injured.

The Pentagon said there were no civilian casualties, though it wasn’t possible to immediately confirm that information.

The US carried out the strike outside Jindaris, a town in northwest Syria close to the Turkish border.

Al-Agal was killed while riding a motorcycle, Pentagon Central Command spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Dave Eastburn told AFP.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights confirmed that al-Agal was killed in a drone strike.

The Syrian Civil Defense Force said one person was killed and another injured in a strike that targeted a motorcycle outside Aleppo, but did not identify the victims. There was little information available about al-Agal, whom the Observatory called the Islamic State governor for the Levant.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz welcomed the US announcement of the assassination.

“Terrorism is a disease that must be fought all the time, continuously, and with great intensity. So do we against Iran, Hezbollah, and Hamas, and so do our American friends, who last night eliminated one of IS’s senior figures in Syria,” Gantz said at a memorial service for the fallen soldiers of the 2006 Lebanon War.

Gantz added that the US has “repeatedly demonstrated that its presence and influence are vital to the stability of the Middle East.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-drone-strike-kills-leader-of-islamic-state-in-syria/>

**On eve of Biden trip, White House says Israel-Saudi ties will be a ‘long process’**

***US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan stresses integrating Israel into region will be a focus of Biden’s visit, but plays down hopes for speedy normalization with Riyadh***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 3:08 am*

*[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/Untitled-1-6.jpg)*

Saudi special forces troops salute in front of a screen displaying images Saudi King Salman, right, and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman after a military parade in preparation for the annual Hajj pilgrimage, in the Muslim holy city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia, July 3, 2022. (AP Photo/Amr Nabil, File)

The White House said on Monday that advancing ties between Israel and Saudi Arabia would be a focus of US President Joe Biden’s upcoming trip to the Middle East, but that normalization between the two countries would be a “long process.”

Biden is set to land at Ben Gurion Airport on Wednesday for a visit that will include Israel and the West Bank, before leaving for Saudi Arabia on Friday. Israeli officials have expressed hope for progress with Saudi Arabia during the trip.

US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan played down hopes for a breakthrough in a briefing to reporters at the White House on Monday.

“With respect to Israel and Saudi Arabia, I’m not going to get ahead of very intensive work that will be done in the course of this trip,” Sullivan said. “Normalization of any kind would be a long process.”

“Looking for progress and momentum in that direction is certainly something we’re focused on as we head off to the Middle East,” he said. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/white-house-says-israel-saudi-normalization-would-be-a-long-process/>

**Israel announces series of gestures to Palestinians, a day before Biden’s visit**

***Steps include legalizing status of 5,500 undocumented PA residents, six new housing projects in Area C, adding 1,500 Gaza work permits, opening ‘new’ West Bank crossing***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 8:24 pm*

The military’s liaison to the Palestinians said Tuesday Israel will implement a series of measures intended to ease Palestinians’ daily life, a day before US President Joe Biden’s visit to Israel and the West Bank.

The announcement came following a [meeting](https://www.timesofisrael.com/gantz-meets-pas-abbas-to-discuss-security-coordination-ahead-of-biden-visit/) between Defense Minister Benny Gantz and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in Ramallah last week.

The Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) said Israel would legalize the status of 5,500 undocumented Palestinians and foreigners living in the West Bank and Gaza. Tens of thousands of Palestinians and foreign nationals are believed to live in the West Bank and Gaza without proper documentation.

Many arrived from abroad to marry a Palestinian and live in Palestinian cities. But Israel does not recognize a legal right for Palestinians to live with foreign spouses in territory it controls — a procedure known as “family unification.”

Israel says it grants visas in “exceptional humanitarian circumstances.” But in practice, the matter had been frozen for over a decade, leading to sporadic protests in Ramallah by families affected.

Over the past year, Israel has legalized the status of 12,000 undocumented Palestinians and foreigners, according to COGAT.

[A group of people holding signs

Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/08/WhatsApp-Image-2021-08-27-at-12.28.46-PM.jpeg)

Palestinians and their spouses protest to demand West Bank residency cards in front of the PA’s Civil Affairs Commission in Ramallah. (Courtesy: Alaa Mutair)

Other measures announced by COGAT included approving six Palestinian housing projects in Area C of the West Bank, where Israel maintains civilian control.

Roughly 330,000 Palestinians and 450,000 Israeli settlers live in the 60 percent of the West Bank that makes up Area C, according to figures from the UN and Israeli authorities respectively.

In May, an official told The Times of Israel that the Defense Ministry would advance 1,000 Palestinian homes in Area C, at the same time as greenlighting projects for some 4,400 Jewish settlement homes.

The move appeared to be part of Gantz’s policy of advancing housing plans for both populations in the West Bank after more than a decade during which only dozens of permits for Palestinians were approved in comparison to the nearly 25,000 homes that were built for settlers.

In a separate move ahead of Biden’s visit, Prime Minister Yair Lapid’s office said it would delay a meeting to advance housing projects for Jewish neighborhoods in East Jerusalem, that was scheduled to take place days after the US president’s trip.

Biden is set to land at Ben Gurion Airport on Wednesday for a visit that will include Israel and the West Bank, before leaving for Saudi Arabia on Friday.

The Defense Ministry has signed off on a tentative plan to eventually raise the number of Gaza permits to 20,000, a dramatic and unprecedented increase. In mid-2021, just 7,000 Palestinians from Gaza had permits to work or trade in Israel.

Defense officials say allowing more Gazans to work in Israel will pump much-needed income into the impoverished coastal enclave while encouraging stability.

Lastly, COGAT said Israel will open the Salem crossing in the northern West Bank — near the Israeli town of the same name — for Arab Israelis to enter the Palestinian city of Jenin. The Salem crossing has been largely shuttered for civilian traffic in recent years, leading COGAT to brand it as a “new” entrance to the West Bank.

Further measures were being examined by COGAT, and were to be announced separately if approved by officials.

Thursday’s meeting between Gantz and Abbas “was conducted on positive terms,” Gantz’s office said in a statement. The two discussed civilian cooperation and “the complexities of the upcoming period in Israel,” Gantz’s office said, apparently referring to the election cycle.

Gantz met with Abbas two other times in the past year, including in Gantz’s residence in Rosh Ha’ayin. Both meetings were followed by Israeli announcements fulfilling some Palestinian requests.

Meanwhile, there have been regular clashes between Israeli troops and Palestinians in the West Bank in recent months, after a series of deadly terror attacks against Israelis earlier this year. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-announces-series-of-gestures-to-palestinians-a-day-before-bidens-visit/>

**Israel grants more Palestinian permits ahead of Biden visit**

***Jerusalem approves raft of gestures to Palestinians ahead of Biden visit, including adding 1,500 work permits for Gaza laborers and legalizing status of 5,500 undocumented Palestinians and foreigners living on West Bank***

*Associated Press | Published: 07.12.22, 21:23*

Israel said Tuesday it would increase the number of work permits issued to Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and allow thousands more Palestinians to gain legal status ahead of President Joe Biden’s visit to the region later this week.

Israel portrays such moves as confidence-building measures aimed at reducing tensions. Critics say they merely entrench its 55-year military rule over millions of Palestinians in the absence of any peace process. The last serious peace talks broke down more than a decade ago.

The latest measures were approved by Defense Minister Benny Gantz, who met with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in the West Bank last week to discuss coordination ahead of Biden’s visit. Abbas’ Palestinian Authority has limited rule over parts of the West Bank and cooperates with Israel on security matters.

Israel will allow an additional 5,500 Palestinians to be added to the Palestinian population registry — which it effectively controls — so they can get ID cards. Rights groups say tens of thousands of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza lack such status, forcing them to live under severe movement restrictions.

Israel said it would grant another 1,500 permits for Palestinian laborers in Gaza to work inside the country, bringing the total number to 15,500 — the highest since the Islamic militant terror group Hamas seized power in Gaza from Abbas’ forces 15 years ago. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/hyttweioq>

**Key witness in trial denies Netanyahus got luxury gifts out of genuine friendship**

***Hadas Klein, on first day of cross-examination, rejects claims she hid evidence by throwing phones in pool, says she told Sara Netanyahu ‘what she wanted to hear’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 5:35 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/F220712OF04.jpg)

Hadas Klein at the Jerusalem District Court in Jerusalem on July 12, 2022. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

On her first day under cross-examination, a key witness in the corruption trial of Benjamin Netanyahu who is a top aide to Hollywood mogul Arnon Milchan denied claims by the defense that she had hidden evidence, that she had exaggerated gifts to the Netanyahu family, and that such presents were given out of genuine friendship rather than any quid pro quo.

After three days of testimony, Hadas Klein took the stand on Tuesday for cross-examination by Netanyahu’s defense attorney, Amit Hadad, in Case 1000, [relating to the luxury gifts](https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahus-wife-threatened-suicide-demanded-46000-bracelet-key-witness-says/) the former prime minister and his family received and any quid pro quos Netanyahu may have provided in return.

Netanyahu was not in court for the proceedings despite indicating earlier that he would attend. He has not attended the vast majority of hearings.

The indictment against Netanyahu in Case 1000 charges the former prime minister with fraud and breach of trust for accepting luxury gifts from Milchan and Australian billionaire James Packer worth NIS 691,776 (about $200,000) and for intervening on behalf of Milchan when he was seeking a US visa renewal and assisting him with regulatory benefits.

In an apparent attempt to frame the high-end gifts to the Netanyahus as an exchange between friends, Hadad presented correspondence between Klein and Packer, as well as between Klein and Sara Netanyahu.

[A group of people in a hallway

Description automatically generated with medium confidence](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/F220712OF16.jpg)In a screenshot of an email to Klein, Packer was said to have written: “Sister Sara gave me some wonderful presents I am so grateful Pls make sure she knows how touched, appreciative and moved that I am. They mean the world to me. I am so happy to be an Israeli resident. Jame [sic].”

When Hadad posited to Klein that messages shown to the court were an example of the warm friendship she had with Sara Netanyahu, the executive assistant said that being nice to people was part of her job.

Amit Hadad, defense attorney for Benjamin Netanyahu, arrives for a hearing in the former prime minister’s corruption trial at the Jerusalem District Court, July 12, 2022. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

“I did it happily because it’s my job and I do everything needed, including being nice. It’s part of my job — I cannot tell Arnon that I do not agree to do it, because then I would be sent home,” Klein said. In response to Hadad showing further friendly messages between Klein and Sara Netanyahu, Klein told the court: “I told her what she wanted to hear.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/key-witness-in-trial-denies-netanyahus-got-luxury-gifts-out-of-genuine-friendship/>

**Nitzan Horowitz to step down as Meretz chairman ahead of elections**

***Health minister will still run for a seat on left-wing party’s Knesset slate, and keep his ministerial role until new government is formed***

*By* [*Jeremy Sharon*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jeremy-sharon/) *Today, 2:43 pm*

Health Minister Nitzan Horowitz, the leader of the Meretz party, announced on Tuesday that he will not be running in the upcoming leadership contest, although he will still seek a position on the party’s electoral slate.

The party has been foundering in the polls of late, slipping extremely close to or even under the electoral threshold, and Horowitz was facing a primary challenge from Deputy Economy Minister Yair Golan.

In a statement posted on Facebook, Horowitz noted his achievements as health minister and celebrated having helped establish the now-outgoing government, but said he would not seek to lead the party into the new elections set for November 1.

“At this point in time, after more than three years as Meretz chairman in which I led the party in three election campaigns, brought it into the ‘change government’ and made numerous achievements, I have decided not to run for the Meretz chairmanship,” wrote Horowitz.

He thanked the other ministers and MKs who served under him in Meretz, notably failing to mention Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi, who severely undermined the stability of the coalition and was a factor in its ultimate demise.

Horowitz personally selected Rinawie Zoabi for the fourth spot on the Meretz slate, circumventing the primary results ahead of the March 2021 election, despite the fact that she had never been a party activist or even a member before that point. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/nitzan-horowitz-to-step-down-as-meretz-chairman-ahead-of-elections/>

**Busted: Thousands of ancient coins and arrowheads seized from northern Israel home**

***Israel Antiquities Authority theft prevention unit says Afula man illegally dug up and traded in ancient finds, likely also smuggled items abroad to public auctions***

*By* [*Amanda Borschel-Dan*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/amanda-borschel-dan/) *Today, 4:20 pm*

~An Israel Antiquities Authority bust in the northern Israeli city of Afula late last week yielded thousands of ancient coins and arrowheads, the authority said on Tuesday. An Afula resident is suspected of illegal trade and illegally excavating antiquities at archaeological sites, causing untold damage, and the use of a metal detector to discover thousands of gold, silver and bronze coins.

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| [Israel Antiquities Authority inspectors examine finds taken during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/1.-מפקחי-רשות-העתיקות-בוחנים-את-הממצאים-שהתגלו-בבית-החשוד.-צילום-יולי-שוורץ-רשות-העתיקות.jpg)  Israel Antiquities Authority inspectors examine finds taken during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA) | [Coins taken during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/2.אלפי-מטבעות-עתיקים-נתפסו-בבית-בעפולה.-צילוים-יולי-שוורץ-רשות-העתיקות.jpg)  Coins taken during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA) |
| [Ancient arrowheads seized during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/ראשי-חץ-קדומים.-צילום-יולי-שוורץ-רשות-העתיקות4..jpg)  Ancient arrowheads seized during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA) | [Ancient rings seized during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/7.-טבעות-שנמצאו-בבית-החשוד.-צילום-יולי-שוורץ-רשות-העתיקות.jpg)  Ancient rings seized during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA) |
| [Ancient weights seized during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/5.משקולות-עתיקות.-צילום-יולי-שוורץ-רשות-העתיקות.jpg)  Ancient weights seized during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA) | [Ancient silver coins seized during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/מטבעות-קטנים-עשויים-כסף.-צילום-יולי-שוורץ-רשות-העתיקות6.jpg)  Ancient silver coins seized during the search of a home in Afula, July 7, 2022. (Yoli Schwartz/IAA) |

The man was detained at the Afula police station, questioned, and confessed to committing the offenses. The suspect’s case will be examined by the IAA for the filing of an indictment.

Following intelligence information and a covert investigation in cooperation with international law enforcement agencies, the IAA’s theft prevention unit raided the Afula Ilit resident’s home on July 7. The suspect allegedly smuggled at least part of the illegally obtained antiquities abroad for sale in public auctions.

According to Ilan Hadad, who heads the IAA unit, the suspect is known to the authorities and was even convicted of similar crimes in the past.

“Apparently the punishment was not adequate for him to learn from his mistakes,” said Hadad.

According to the 1978 Antiquities Law, all antiquities discovered in Israel post-1978 are the property of the State of Israel. Anyone who finds an artifact must turn it over to the Israel Antiquities Authority within 15 days.

It is forbidden to trade in antiquities without receiving a license from the Culture Ministry or from the IAA. All antiquities shipped abroad must be registered and shipped through a licensed dealer. The IAA reserves the right to confiscate any item not registered.

Failure to abide by the antiquities law can bring a sentence of up to two years in jail.

“It’s heartbreaking to see how people are harming antiquities sites and looting ancient finds, thereby disrupting the restoration of our history for the sake of greed,” said Hadad. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/busted-thousands-of-ancient-coins-and-arrowheads-seized-from-northern-israel-home/>

**UNRWA inciting violence with U.S. funding , study shows**

***IMPACT-se study of learning material published by the UN body shows includes inciting violence and is anti-Semitism; appears in school books distributed in dozens of schools despite earlier commitments, crossing what U.S. envoy says are 'red lines'***

*Itamar Eichner | Published: 07.12.22, 14:10*

A new IMPACT-se study which analyzed hundreds of pages of the new United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) school books, shows the agency continues to incite violence as well erase Israel’s existence from maps.

The new study materials for 2022 were not uploaded to UNRWA’s online study portal, where the agency claims all materials it produces can be found after meticulous editing that comply with the UN values such as peace and tolerance.

The materials reviewed in the study conducted by the Institute for Monitoring Peace and Cultural Tolerance in School Education (IMPACT-se), was produced, edited and approved by UNRWA and released to thousands of students, teachers and staff in over 30 schools.  
 Lessons in the curriculum includes calls to free Jerusalem with blood. Arabic spelling and vocabulary exercises which include words like “Jihad fighters” against the “Occupiers” and an obligation to “free” Palestine.   
 Arabic is taught through poem that teach the “hobby” of killing Israelis and dying as a martyr in the holy war, and that peace is an unwanted sign of weakness.  
 In eight grade school books, female students are taught about women who sacrificed themselves and their children for Islam and earned fame as role models to follow, in Palestinian society.  
 Antisemitic materials are also included in the updated school books published by UNRWA, who had [committed not publish any more inciting materials](https://www.ynetnews.com/article/bjfo11fbvf).

In those books, Jews and Jewish traits are described as impure and treacherous and anti-Islam and Muslims. The books teach that Israel was an anti-Arab plan of European colonization set to divide the Arab world.



UNRWA head Philippe Lazzarini (Photo" Reuters)

Israel, which is part of the UN, is wiped from all records in the agency’s maps, presenting Palestine instead and asking students to name cities in areas under Israeli control.

The study showed that content produced previously by UNRWA, which it claims teachers were told to avoid, are still present in the new materials published as well.

IMPACT-se representatives met with UNRWA head, Philippe Lazzarini, in May and said they were worried about the covert production of new materials and their absence from online presence . The study was brought to Lazzarini last week before it was published.

UNRWA committed in 2021 to removing material inciting hate and violence that it produced, as well as to deal harshly with any who may try to teach such content.

The agency had to announce its employees produceג and distributed “in error”, “unfit” material which goes against UN guidelines. Their online portal was created shortly after. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/h1110bn5i9> [The UN and UNRWA is filled with a huge number of anti-Semites who have been lying to the world and those who fund them for years. The accountability with these turkeys stinks. – rdb]

**Putin set to meet Erdogan and Raisi in Iran next week**

***Trip announced a day after US warned that Tehran could provide Moscow with hundred of UAVs, some of them weapons-capable, for its war in Ukraine***

*By* [*AP*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/ap/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 2:17 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/AP22181732097673-e1657622265704.jpg)

Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, speaks to Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi, back to a camera, on the sideline of the summit of Caspian Sea littoral states in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, June 29, 2022. (Grigory Sysoyev, Sputnik, Kremlin Pool Photo via AP, File)

Russian President Vladimir Putin will visit Iran next week, the Kremlin said Tuesday, a day after the US warned that Tehran could provide Moscow with drones for its invasion of Ukraine.

During a trip to Tehran next Tuesday, Putin will attend a trilateral meeting with the leaders of Iran and Turkey — Ibrahim Raisi and Recep Tayyip Erdogan, respectively — the so-called Astana format of meetings for Syria-related talks, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

It will be Putin’s second trip abroad since Russian troops invaded Ukraine on February 24. In June, the Russian leader traveled to Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, two former Soviet states in central Asia.

Russia and Iran are Syrian President Bashar Assad’s most prominent military and political supporters. Turkey, on the other hand, has played a role in the Syrian civil war by arming the forces opposing Assad, primarily the Free Syrian Army.

Putin’s visit to Iran will follow [US President Joe Biden’s trip to Israel and Saudi Arabia this week](https://www.timesofisrael.com/biden-upcoming-flight-from-israel-to-saudi-arabia-a-small-symbol-of-warming-ties/), during which Iran’s nuclear program and malign activities in the region will be a key subject of discussion. [Interesting timing on this one.Perhaps sizing up to see if “Bi-Dum" had any significant impact on the ME Situation. RDB

Peskov told reporters that on the visit to Tehran, Putin will also have a separate meeting with Erdogan.

In March, Erdogan helped mediate talks between Russian and Ukrainian representatives in Istanbul. Peskov said there was no discussion about a new round of such negotiations.

The White House said Monday that it believes Russia is turning to Iran to provide it with “hundreds” of drones, including those capable of carrying weapons, for use in Ukraine.

US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said it was unclear whether Iran had already provided any of the vehicles to Russia, but said the US has “information” that indicates Iran is preparing to train Russian forces to use them as soon as this month.

“Our information indicates that the Iranian government is preparing to provide Russia with up to several hundred UAVs, including weapons-capable UAVs on an expedited timeline,” Sullivan told reporters, referring to drones by the acronym for unmanned aerial vehicles.

Iran hasn’t commented on Sullivan’s statement.

Iran long has worked on the development of drones, including so-called loitering munitions, the “kamikaze” drones like the Switchblade that the US has delivered to Ukraine.

The US decision to publicly reveal that the two countries’ chief regional rival was helping to rearm Russia comes as both Israel and Saudi Arabia have resisted joining global efforts to punish Russia for its action in Ukraine due to their domestic interests.

In Tehran, Mohammadrez Pourebrahimi, the head of the Iranian Parliament’s economic committee, told state-run news agency IRNA that Putin’s trip would seek to improve economic relations between the two sanctions-hit nations. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/putin-set-to-meet-erdogan-and-raisi-in-iran-next-week/>

**Israel to send new batch of defensive equipment to Ukraine**

***Defense Minister Benny Gantz approves aid package of helmets, protective vests and more, continuing policy of not supplying Kyiv with offensive weapons***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 4:12 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/AP22190384224348.jpg)

Rescue workers clearing rubble of destroyed house after a Russian attack in a residential neighborhood in downtown Kharkiv, Ukraine, on July 9, 2022. (AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka)

Defense Minister Benny Gantz on Tuesday approved a new shipment of defensive aid to Ukraine’s emergency services as Russia’s invasion presses on.

The latest aid package will include 1,500 helmets, 1,500 protective vests, hundreds of mine protection suits, 1,000 gas masks and dozens of hazmat filtration systems, according to Gantz’s office.

The protective equipment will be transferred to the country in the coming weeks, the Defense Ministry said.  
 Jerusalem has so far avoided providing direct military aid to Kyiv — including offensive arms or advanced defensive technology — since Russian troops invaded Ukraine on February 24, in an attempt to avoid sparking a crisis with Moscow.  
 Israel is one of the few countries that maintains relatively warm relations with both Ukraine, a fellow Western democracy, and Russia.  
 But Israel has found itself at odds with Russia as it has increasingly supported Ukraine while seeking to maintain freedom of movement in Syria’s skies, which are largely controlled by Moscow.  
 In April, Gantz okayed for the first time sending Ukrainian emergency services 2,000 helmets and 500 flak jackets after long refusing.  
 That move came following reports of mass killing of civilians, rape and other atrocities committed by Russian forces in the Kyiv suburb of Bucha, leading to a change of tone from Israeli politicians.  
 Advertisement   
 At the time, Foreign Minister Yair Lapid, who is now also prime minister, explicitly accused Russia of war crimes over the reports, in the strongest comments against Moscow yet by a top Israeli official.  
 Ties between Israel and Russia were further frayed following a claim by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov that Adolf Hitler had Jewish heritage, in an attempt to defend Moscow’s invasion of Ukraine as an attempt to “de-Nazify” a country whose president, Volodymyr Zelensky, is Jewish.  
 While Jerusalem somewhat shifted its tone to align more with Western powers, it has so far steadfastly declined to contribute to the Ukrainian military effort.  
 Israel has sent some 100 tons of humanitarian aid, as well as setting up a field hospital in western Ukraine for six weeks. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-to-send-new-batch-of-defensive-equipment-to-ukraine/> [This is probably THE most touchy situation in all those involved in Ukraine

**Nine EU states reject Israeli ban on 6 Palestinian NGOs for terror ties**

***"In the absence of such evidence, we will continue our cooperation and strong support for the civil society in the [occupied Palestinian territories]."***

*By* [*LAHAV HARKOV*](https://www.jpost.com/author/lahav-harkov) *Published: JULY 12, 2022 19:39 Updated: JULY 12, 2022 21:42*

Nine European states rejected Israel’s designation of six Palestinian NGOs as terrorist organizations, in a joint statement released on Tuesday.[Here is a revolutionary thought. Since the NGOS are operating in Israel does it really matter if the EU states agree with Israel on their assessment or not. Oftentimes these states are funding the radical NGO groups. – rdb]

Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden came out against the Israeli decision, announced in October. The [Shin Bet](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-710955) (Israel Security Agency) and the Foreign Ministry said then that Palestinian NGOs Addameer, Al-Haq, Bisan Center, Defense for Children International Palestine (DCI-P), Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) and the Union of Palestinian Women’s Committees (UPWC) had extensive enough ties to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine to be considered branches of the group, designated as terrorists by the US, EU and others.  
 “No substantial information was received from Israel that would justify reviewing our policy toward the six Palestinian NGOs on the basis of the Israeli decision to designate these NGOs as ‘terrorist organizations,’” the statement reads.  
 “Should evidence be made available to the contrary, we would act accordingly. In the absence of such evidence, we will continue our cooperation and strong support for the civil society in the [occupied Palestinian territories]. A free and strong civil society is indispensable for promoting democratic values and for the [two-state solution](https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-711263).”  
 Among the items the Israeli government has made public to show the connection between the organizations and the PFLP is a video from the Palestinian Wattan Media Network of leading figures in the NGOs, including Khalida Jarrar and Abdullatif Ghaith of Addameer, Shawan Jabarin of Al-Haq, Gebril Muhamad of Bisan, and Ahmad Sa’adat of the UPWC, at an event in a hall with dozens of PFLP flags hanging.  
 Yair Lapid holds first meeting with Shin Bet chief as Israeli PM July 1, 2022. (credit: CHAIM TZACH/GPO)  
**Background** The event in [Ramallah](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east-news/article-711613) honored PFLP political bureau member Rabah Muhanna, who according to information posted by the PFLP, took part in the establishment of Addameer, UHWC and UAWC.  
 In 2019, the PFLP planted a bomb, killing 17-year-old Rina Shnerb and injuring her relatives.  
**"Should evidence be made available to the contrary, we would act accordingly. In the absence of such evidence, we will continue our cooperation and strong support for the civil society in the [occupied Palestinian territories]"**  
 The joint statement  
 UAWC’s Finance and Administration director Abdul Razeq Farraj was indicted in October 2019 on four counts, including aiding an attempted murder in the terrorist attack on the Shnerb family. Farraj’s indictment refers to Ubai Al-Aboudi, a PFLP member working with Farraj on recruitment, and the UAWC’s Monitoring and Evaluation Officer until April 2019. The commander of the PFLP terror cell that prepared and detonated the bomb was Samer Arbid, and accounted for UAWC at the time of his 2019 arrest.  
 The Netherlands previously acknowledged the UAWC’s ties to the PFLP, and that Dutch funds paid the salaries of the NGO’s employees that carried out the attack that killed Shnerb.  
 “When European officials say they see ‘no evidence’ of the terror links of their Palestinian NGO clients, they are ignoring numerous open-source verifiable examples,” said Prof. Gerald Steinberg, president of NGO Monitor that researches the activities and fundings of organizations. “There is no excuse for this blind abuse of taxpayer funds.” <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-711900>

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| **Tucker Carlson: July 11, 2022 26 minutes – infuriating.**  [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=35hSxOYABu4**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=35hSxOYABu4)  What treason is really going on in the current government ? Carlson clearly delineates it for you. The ONLY real news reporting on the Web. |

**Hunter laptop just a distraction, Tucker Carlson reveals REAL problem**

***Traces millions of dollars through multiple corporations to Hunter ... and Joe***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 12, 2022 at 4:25pm*

Fox News host Tucker Carlson used his monologue on Monday to warn that the evidence of drug abuse and engagement with prostitutes that has been uncovered on Hunter Biden's abandoned laptop computer are just a distraction. The real problem that's exposed from the evidence on that computer, he said, is that the Biden cartel is selling out the United States to China.

See the comments:

He cites the multiple steps Joe Biden took, when he became president, to protect China, including – apparently – the concealment of what may have been the Chinese military's development of and release of COVID-19, which killed millions.

Further, Joe Biden canceled a counter-espionage program so that China now can "spy and steal" with impunity.

"[Joe] Biden kept doing these like this," Carlson explained.

Further, Joe Biden had arrested two of the most ardent opponents of Chinese influence, Peter Navarro and Steve Bannon.

That left the message clear: "Don't criticize Chinese government or we'll put you in jail."

And Joe Biden turned over Afghanistan's mineral wealth to China, dropped President Trump's ban on Chinese surveillance programs in the U.S., reached a climate "pledge" with China and more.

"Whatever helps the Chinese government Joe Biden has dutifully done," Carlson explained.

Legacy media has ignored the likely problems – and possible threats – from the situation, but Joe Biden's lying has been confirmed by his numerous public statements that he's never discussed with Hunter his international business schemes including those with China – alongside a recently revealed recording of Joe Biden leaving a telephone message for Hunter Biden on that very subject.

Forget the titillating reports of drugs and hookers, Carlson suggested, and focus on how America's first family is selling out America to China.

[At Big League Politics,](https://bigleaguepolitics.com/tucker-carlson-the-biden-family-is-selling-out-america-to-china/) a report documented that Carlson would presume that the Chinese Communist Party is "very happy" with Joe Biden.

"This is one corrupt system the Biden's sit at the top of," Carlson said.

The report explained, "As Carlson would later emphasize, Americans must understand that the reason mainstream media outlets are refusing to cover such a smoking gun story about its nation’s compromised leadership has more to do with China’s influence than Hunter Biden. It’s why big tech and other powerful left-wing institutions care far more about keeping China pleased and Joe Biden in office than pursuing truth. And it’s why they were willing to not only suppress the 'laptop from hell' ahead of the 2020 election but also gaslight Americans for listening to their own lying eyes and ears and buying into the ultimate 'right-wing conspiracy theory' of the time."

Carson further pointed out the conspiracy theory created by Democrats, including key figures such as Hillary Clinton and even the White House when Barack Obama was president and Joe Biden was vice president, that accused President Trump of dealing secretly with Russia, claims that have been completely debunked.

Carlson said those claims are, "almost exactly what they accused the Trumps of doing, except in the case of the Biden’s they really were getting rich from a foreign power that means us harm." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/hunter-laptop-just-distraction-tucker-carlson-reveals-real-problem/> [The blatant criminal treason going on by our seated government, both executive and legislative is beyond belief If things progress to another tainted election in NOV there will have to be a full blown grassroots revolution to preserve the nation. – rdb]

**Biden's CDC director demands seniors get yet ANOTHER booster 'right away'**

***People are 'undervaccinated,' she claims***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 12, 2022 at 5:08pm*

Just when things were getting back to normal, mostly. People could do their shopping without wearing a face covering in most retailers. The masks still are being demanded in doctors' offices, but, heck, that's where sick people are anyway.

In light of that, Joe Biden's director of the Centers for Disease Control, Rochelle Walensky, has unleashed a new demand – for seniors to get their second booster shot against COVID-19 "right away."

"Many Americans are under vaccinated, meaning they are not up to date on their COVID-19 vaccines. Not all people over the age of 50 have received their first booster dose…" she started out.

Of those over 50 only 28% have gotten their second booster after lining up to take their first, she said. Those over 65 are even worse.

"So my message right now is very simple: It is essential that these Americans … get their second booster shot right away."

The [Gateway Pundit](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2022/07/back-cdc-director-walensky-urges-older-americans-get-second-booster-shot-right-away-video/) reported, "She's back!"Bottom of Form

And the report said Xavier Becerra, the lawyer Joe Biden named to manage the Health and Human Services, predicted a "resurgence" of the virus. "What I will tell you is that come the fall and winter – uh, most everyone who’s uh an expert on pandemics and these viruses will tell you strong chance that we’ll see a resurgence of the virus whether it’s the [COVID] variants we have now or new variants and we gotta be ready,” Becerra said.

Meanwhile, an MIT study as tied COVID shots to cardiac arrest among young patients. And the CEO of the maker of the Astrazeneca shots was caught saying millions of people should avoid them completely.

Previously, Joe Biden's medical adviser, Anthony Fauci, said he really doesn't know how many shots ultimately will be recommended, but studies have shown they're virtually ineffective for children.

And the FDA has warned Joe Biden may end up demanding annual shots.

[WND reported](https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/no-one-get-boosted-alex-berenson-urges-dangerous-covid-shots-withdrawn/) earlier this year when New York Times reporter Alex Berenson called for the "dangerous" shots to be withdrawn.

On Tucker Carlson's Fox News program, he said the vaccines don't work against the omicron variant that makes up most of the new cases.

"We're at a very dangerous moment, Tucker, and I'm not exaggerating. I think this is probably the most important appearance I’ve had with you in the last two years," he said at the time, a few weeks ago.

"It is completely clear now that the vaccines don’t really work at all against omicron. In these highly vaccinated and highly boosted countries, rates of infection are incredibly high and rates of serious disease and death are also rising," said Berenson.

Earlier, renowned cardiologist and medical scientist Dr. Peter McCullough [told WND in a video interview](https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/dr-peter-mccullough-official-covid-narrative-crumbled/) the official pandemic narrative is "completely crumbling" and the vaccines "should be pulled off the market."

Last August, [Berenson was permanently banned from Twitter](https://www.wnd.com/2021/08/4942081/?preview=true) for "repeated violations" of the social-media platform's rules on spreading "misinformation."

He has self-published [four booklets on the pandemic](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08FCQNS2J?binding=kindle_edition&ref=dbs_dp_rwt_sb_tukn) along with the book [Pandemia: How Coronavirus Hysteria Took Over Our Government, Rights, and Lives."](https://www.amazon.com/Pandemia-Coronavirus-Hysteria-Government-Rights-ebook/dp/B08XJRRZJP/)

On social media, many commenters rejected Walensky's medical ideology, stating simply, "No."

Or sometimes, "No, no, no." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/bidens-cdc-director-demands-seniors-get-yet-another-booster-right-away/> [Why do they want SENIORS to get their shots? Because the shots destroy your immune system and ability to function correctly and put you in danger of devastating complications. It is a GREAT WAY TO CUT DOWN ON THE SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE BUDGETS which will be insolvent in a few years because of governmental malfeasance. THAT is why they want people to get the JAB. They won’t have to run the risk of being unpopular by limiting ‘benefits’ because they will be killing off enough instead. RUN don’t walk if they come at you with a needle. Does this sound radical and conspiracy oriented? The problem is it is reality and they know it. – rdb]

**New York City prepares residents for nuclear devastation**

***'Just know that the big one has hit'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 12, 2022 at 2:19pm*

Wait! What! Is there something people should know?

New York City has triggered a wave of outrage online by releasing an instruction video on what to do after a nuclear attack.

"Just know that the big one has hit," the video instructs, before giving a lesson on getting inside and staying away from radioactive debris.

A commentary at [Twitchy,](https://twitchy.com/brettt-3136/2022/07/11/new-york-city-instructs-citizens-to-get-inside-fast-and-stay-there-if-theres-a-nuclear-attack/) explained, "New York City has all sorts of laws restricting your right to purchase and carry a handgun, but say someone sets off a nuke (President Eric Swalwell, maybe). We’re not sure why New York City’s Emergency Management Department went with the green-screen treatment here, but they thought they’d better put together tips on what to do if there’s a nuclear attack. There are just three steps: get inside, stay inside, and follow whatever media hasn’t been knocked out by the blast."

According to the [New York Daily News,](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/nyc-launches-a-public-service-announcement-on-how-to-survive-a-nuclear-attack-e2-80-98you-got-this-e2-80-99/ar-AAZuFYf) "City Hall wants you to be ready for anything — even a nuclear attack. The New York City Department of Emergency Management released a new public service announcement this week to help New Yorkers prepare for the unthinkable: the detonation of an atomic bomb."

The 90-second video instructs New Yorkers to get inside, stay inside, and stay tuned.

"Anyone who was outside when the blast hit should remove and bag all clothing to avoid the danger of nuclear contamination or radioactive dust and debris," the report explains. And for sure, "Stay indoors until officials say it’s safe to come outside."

The responses, however, were far from serious. MORE -

<https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/new-york-city-prepares-residents-nuclear-devastation/> If you live in Metro NY and the big boom lands in the center of Manhattan I am not sure you will need to worry about ‘what to do’. If you do survive and are that close to the boom you may not want to survive anyway unless you are deep underground. Does someone in our government know something is about to go on????? – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**Why Arabs Are Fed up With the Palestinians**

*by* [*Khaled Abu Toameh*](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Khaled+Abu+Toameh) *July 12, 2022 at 1:00 pm* The Palestinians are [disappointed](https://www.sadanews.ps/news/119154.html): their Arab brothers have stopped providing them with financial aid. The truth is that most of the Arab countries long ago turned their backs on the Palestinians. They can only blame themselves for ruining their relations with the rest of the Arab world.  
 It is ironic that while the European Union recently announced its decision to [resume](https://arabic.euronews.com/2022/06/14/von-der-leyen-announces-the-resumption-of-european-financial-support-for-the-palestinians) unconditional financial aid to the Palestinians, the Arab countries continue to completely ignore the Palestinians. It is also ironic that while the Biden administration continues to talk about providing financial aid to the Palestinians, the Arab countries do not seem to care at all about their Palestinian brothers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.  
 The Palestinians receive a lot of lip service from the Arabs, but see hardly any money being channeled to their coffers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Consequently, for the past few decades the Palestinians have become almost entirely dependent on American and European taxpayer money.  
 Palestinian Authority (PA) Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh recently [revealed](https://www.sadanews.ps/news/119154.html) that, with the exception of Algeria, the Arab countries have stopped sending financial aid to the treasury of the PA.  
 Shtayyeh refrained from offering any reason as to why the Arabs had decided to cut off the funding to the Palestinians.  
 Shtayyeh and the PA have [condemned](https://ar.timesofisrael.com/%D8%AE%D9%8A%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%84%D8%B7%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%81%D9%84%D8%B3%D8%B7%D9%8A%D9%86%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%AA%D9%87%D8%A7%D8%AC%D9%85-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5/) the Arab countries that signed normalization agreements with Israel during the Trump administration era. Some of these countries, especially the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, used to help the Palestinians in many fields, including financial aid and providing jobs to tens of thousands of laborers.  
 The Palestinian leadership has [accused](https://hadfnews.ps/post/73900/%D8%A5%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A9-%D9%81%D9%84%D8%B3%D8%B7%D9%8A%D9%86%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D9%84%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%B7%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%B9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%88%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%8A-%D9%88%D8%B5%D9%85%D8%A9-%D8%B9%D8%A7%D8%B1-%D9%88%D8%AE%D9%8A%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A9-%D9%84%D9%81%D9%84%D8%B3%D8%B7%D9%8A%D9%86) the UAE, Bahrain and Sudan of "betraying" the Palestinian people, Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque (in Jerusalem) by agreeing to make peace with Israel.  
 It is these serious allegations that have alienated these countries and other Arabs, who are accusing the Palestinians of being [ungrateful](https://english.alaraby.co.uk/news/popular-saudi-soap-attacks-ungrateful-palestinians-normalises-israel-relations) and biting the hand that feeds them.  
 Earlier this year, prominent Kuwaiti journalist Ahmed Al-Jarallah explained why he and many others are fed up with the Palestinians. Reminding the Palestinians of what the Gulf states have done for them over the years, Al-Jarallah [wrote](https://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/normalize-let-insulters-fend-for-themselves/):  
 "We are the only ones who rescued them [Palestinians] in the year 1970 when they launched their war on Jordan. The late Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah evacuated their leader Yasser Arafat from Amman. The Arabian gulf states, led by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, boycotted oil export to the western countries during the 1973 [Israel-Arab] war. Furthermore, Riyadh presented two initiatives to solve the conflict. Despite their [Palestinians'] support of Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait and their participation in acts of intimidation, abuse and killing against Kuwaiti citizens, the Gulf states continue to support the Palestinians. All of this is just the tip of the iceberg of what the Gulf states and their people offered to the Palestinians, who were and still are ungrateful."  
 The Arabs are apparently not only fed up with the Palestinian leadership, but also with international organizations and agencies that help the Palestinians. Arab financial aid to the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) has dropped by 90% in the past few years, according to the agency's [spokesperson](https://www.qudspress.com/index.php?page=show&id=80129) Adnan Abu Hasna.  
 In another sign of Arab disregard for the Palestinians, the Palestinian Islamic-Christian Committee for the Support of Jerusalem and the Holy Sites warned of the repercussions of drying up the Arab financial support provided to the city.  
 The committee [said](https://www.alwatanvoice.com/arabic/news/2022/07/04/1480712.html) that this year witnessed a "dangerous and unprecedented decline" in the level of financial support provided by a number of Arab countries to Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem.  
 The committee added that a number of governmental and civil bodies that were formed in some Arab countries to provide direct support to dozens of Palestinian institutions were suspended for reasons that were not disclosed.  
 "Cutting off this Arab aid caused the disruption of vital services that were provided to Jerusalemites, especially in the health and educational fields," the committee added. "Dozens of cultural, social and sports institutions are suffering from a stifling financial situation that threatens to close them and lay off their employees."  
 The Palestinians can only blame themselves for antagonizing their Arab brothers and consequently losing the Arab money. The Palestinians have been spitting in the face of the Arab countries, while at the same time expecting these countries to continue funding them.  
 The Arabs are clearly not as naïve as the Americans and Europeans, who are continuing to pour millions of dollars annually on the Palestinians without conditions and without demanding accountability.  
 Had the Palestinians welcomed the many peace accords between Israel and the Arab states instead of condemning them and bad-mouthing the Arab leaders, they would have been in a much better situation today. They would have continued to receive financial aid from the Arabs and been able to use this money to build a better future for their children.  
 The Palestinian leadership, however, chose to spit in the well it has drawn from for many years, and now it is drinking the bitter waters of its decisions.  
 The Arab countries have more urgent issues to deal with than the corrupt, thankless Palestinian leaders do. You can start with the welfare of their own people. The Palestinian leadership, by contrast, is happy to fail its people by indoctrinating generation after generation with bloodlust for Jews. When Palestinian society finds itself left in the global dust of progress, it can thank its leaders for bringing them to that sorry pass.

*Khaled Abu Toameh is an award-winning journalist based in Jerusalem.* <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18694/arabs-fed-up-with-palestinians>

**You're a Scientist? So What?**[*Dennis Prager*](https://townhall.com/columnists/dennisprager/) *Posted: Jul 12, 2022 12:01 AM* A caller to my radio show yesterday, a physician, took strong issue with me regarding COVID-19 therapeutics. He accused me of not believing in science. His last words before we had to go to a commercial break were, "I'm a scientist."  
 Given that I am not a scientist, he assumed that comment would persuade me -- or at least persuade many listeners -- that I was not qualified to disagree with him.  
 If that was his assumption, he was wrong.  
 "I don't care," I responded. "It's irrelevant. Scientists have given science a bad name."  
 I would not have said that as recently as three years ago.  
 But in recent years, and especially in the past two years, some basic suppositions of mine have changed.  
 I no longer assume when I read a statement by a scientist that the statement is based on science. In fact, I believe I am more committed to scientific truth than are many scientists.  
 The American Medical Association advocates the removal of sex designation from birth certificates. If many doctors or other scientists have issued a dissent, I am not aware of it.  
 "Assigning sex using binary variables in the public portion of the birth certificate fails to recognize the medical spectrum of gender identity." Those are the words of the author of the AMA report, Willie Underwood III, M.D.  
 Sarah Mae Smith, M.D., an AMA delegate from California, speaking on behalf of the Women Physicians Section, said, "We need to recognize gender is not a binary but a spectrum."  
 When the American Medical Association and a plethora of physicians tell us that human beings, unlike every other animal above some reptilian species, are "not binary," i.e., neither male nor female, the assertion "I am a scientist" becomes meaningless.  
 In mid-2020, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, when the medical community was demanding physical distancing, mask wearing and the lockdown of businesses and schools, more than a thousand health care professionals announced that the protests against racism then taking place -- events with no social distancing, often no masks, plenty of yelling, and people "coughing uncontrollably" (New York Times description) -- were medically necessary.  
 Jennifer Nuzzo, a Johns Hopkins epidemiologist, tweeted, "We should always evaluate the risks and benefits of efforts to control the virus. In this moment the public health risks of not protesting to demand an end to systemic racism greatly exceed the harms of the virus."  
 Over 1,000 health care professionals signed an "open letter advocating for an anti-racist public health response to demonstrations against systemic injustice occurring during the COVID-19 pandemic."  
 The letter said, among other things, "Do not disband protests under the guise of maintaining public health for COVID-19 restrictions" and labeled "pervasive racism ... the paramount public health problem." That's a left-wing cant, not science.  
 Now you can better appreciate why "I am a scientist" no longer means what it once did.  
 How about the cruelty of not allowing the dying to be visited by loved ones -- even if they wore a hospital mask, even if they agreed to wear a hazmat suit? Did that enhance your view of scientists' medical judgment?  
 Then there was the American medical community's opposition to therapeutics, dismissing hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin (both used with zinc) as frauds despite the testimony of numerous physicians that they saved COVID-19 patients' lives when used appropriately. State medical boards around the country threatened to revoke the medical license of any physician who prescribed these drugs to treat COVID-19 -- despite these drugs being among the safest prescription drugs available.  
 As early as July 2020, Harvey Risch, M.D., Ph.D., professor of epidemiology at the Yale School of Public Health, wrote in Newsweek:  
 "I myself know of two doctors who have saved the lives of hundreds of patients with these medications, but are now fighting state medical boards to save their licenses and reputations. The cases against them are completely without scientific merit."  
 As a result of the American medical community's opposition to therapeutics, Risch wrote, "tens of thousands of patients with COVID-19 are dying unnecessarily."  
 Doctors throughout America were essentially telling COVID-19 patients, "Go home, get rest, and wait to see if your COVID-19 gets worse. If you can't breathe, come to the hospital where we can put you on a ventilator." Ventilators, it quickly became clear, were a virtual death sentence for COVID-19 patients. And then they died alone.  
 Another example of the decline of seriousness about science among scientists was National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins urging his colleagues to boycott any "high-level" scientific conference that doesn't have women and underrepresented minorities in marquee speaking slots.  
 And another: Heather Mac Donald reported that in 2020, "The NIH announced a new round of 'Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research.' Academic science labs could get additional federal money if they hire 'diverse' researchers; *no mention was made of relevant scientific qualifications* (italics added)."  
 How many scientists protested the shutting down of schools for nearly two years? Some did, like those who signed the Great Barrington Declaration, but for the most part the scientific community was silent. In other words, scientists helped ruin millions of American children's educations, not to mention abetted the unprecedented increase in depression, drug use and suicide among young people.  
 These are only a few of the reasons not to take "I am a scientist" as seriously as we once did.  
 But there may be two consolations:  
 One is that the same rule now applies to 'I am a professor,' 'I am a teacher,' 'I am a rabbi,' 'I am a priest,' 'I am a pastor,' 'I am a journalist,' and 'I am a doctor.'  
 The other is that there are exceptions. Thank God. <https://townhall.com/columnists/dennisprager/2022/07/12/youre-a-scientist-so-what-n2610084>

**How Angela Merkel's Green Agenda Caused the Economic Collapse of Germany**[*Stephen Moore*](https://townhall.com/columnists/stephenmoore/) *Posted: Jul 12, 2022 12:01 AM* Remember how the world, especially the American media, fawned over former German Chancellor Angela Merkel?  
 The adoration was so over the top that in 2015 Time magazine named Merkel its "Person of the Year." It described her as the "Chancellor of the Free World."  
 Time owes whatever readers it has left a solemn apology. Today, Germans are suffering the bitter fruits of nearly every major economic and geopolitical decision Merkel made as chancellor.  
 Start with the German economy that she attempted to reset for the 21st century, which is reminiscent of how President Joe Biden explains to inflation-weary voters that we are going through "an incredible transition."  
 But Merkel's Germany was ahead of us in its "transition." Today, the German economy is in tatters. A recent headline from Business Insider summarized the chaos: "German Industries Could Collapse Due to Russia Natural Gas Supply Cutbacks." The Daily Telegraph recently described Germany as "the sick man of Europe." Things are getting so desperate that the Germans are now considering rationing gas for their major industries to keep the lights on.  
 How did one of the five wealthiest countries in the world so quickly careen into this economic ditch?  
 It was Merkel's vision of a new Germany. Merkel was the one who made the decision a decade ago to move Germany away from fossil fuels and nuclear power and instead "go green." Her green energy crusade, which environmentalists heralded as a model for the world, nearly bankrupted the German manufacturing economy until the entire solar and wind energy debacle was scuttled. (Sadly, Biden apparently never got that memo.)  
 It was Merkel's decision, against the advice of then-President Donald Trump, to build the Nord Stream pipeline. When Trump sagely warned in 2018 that Germans would rue the day they became overly reliant on Russian President Vladimir Putin's energy, Merkel's administration openly scoffed.  
 Putin isn't the only one getting rich from Merkel's blunders. She negotiated trade deals with China, blatantly undermining Trump's strategy of economically isolating the Beijing menace. She chose to align Germany with rogue and militaristic regimes in Russia, China and Iran. This helped undermine NATO and Germany's post-World War II close ties with the United States.  
 She refused to pony up the 2% of GDP that Germany owed NATO for Europe's defenses, and she bristled when Trump demanded that be raised to 4%. Perhaps if the Germans and Europeans had heeded Trump's advice, the debacle of Ukraine wouldn't have happened.  
 The American media, during all this time that Merkel was steering Germany over a green energy cliff, took Merkel's side in her open dispute with Trump. Susan Glasser of the New Yorker snorted in 2018 that Trump had "made war on Angela Merkel and Europe" and the NATO countries were "run(ning) out of patience with the President."  
 That statement is foolish today, given the collapse of the euro and the economic downturn throughout the continent.  
 Even as an environmentalist, Europe's savior was a flop. Merkel hogtied German industries to expensive and unreliable "renewable" energy by spurning natural gas and closing nuclear plants. The experiment failed miserably, and now Germany is vastly increasing the share of its power that comes from burning coal. That's no strategy to stop climate change.  
 Under Merkel's weak leadership, the euro was supposed to replace the dollar as the world currency soon. Instead, the euro is a currency in collapse. Even the Russian ruble is stronger.  
 Merkelism can be summarized as a strategy of patronizing enemies and alienating allies. Now with 20/20 hindsight, it is clear that the legacy of Merkelism is a chaotic world and a diminished Germany.  
 It turns out that peace through weakness is a failed national and economic security strategy. If Merkel was the "Chancellor of the Free World," why is it that today's world is not safer?  
 It is not cleaner.  
 It is not freer.  
 And it is not a more prosperous place.  
 In short, every major decision she made regarding global affairs made the world more dangerous, less free and less prosperous. She was to Germany what Biden has been to the U.S. -- a complete and dismal failure.  
 Let's hope we figure this out more quickly than the Germans did. <https://townhall.com/columnists/stephenmoore/2022/07/12/how-angela-merkels-green-agenda-caused-the-economic-collapse-of-germany-n2610047>

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| **Tucker Carlson Tonight 7/12/22 FULL HD –**  **The GREEN NEW DEAL EXPOSED**  **Why & how world governments are causing the collapse and destruction of countries.**  [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=inRj3rk5tek**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=inRj3rk5tek)  Folks this is about 25 minutes and the most revealing exposition concerning the activities of the WEC and UN along with the criminals associated with them are literally killing entire societies. – rdb] |

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Political source: Biden to sign 'Jerusalem Declaration' with commitments to Israel**

***Political source says US President, Israeli PM to sign joint 'Jerusalem Declaration' on Thursday on security commitments to Israel.***

[*Israel National News*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Israel_National_News) *Jul 13, 2022, 4:18 AM GMT+3*

A senior diplomat reveals tonight Tuesday that US President Joe Biden's visit will culminate on Thursday when a joint declaration by President Biden and Prime Minister Lapid will be signed under the title "Jerusalem Declaration."

According to the source, the declaration "is a confirmation of the unbreakable ties between the two countries and the United States' ongoing commitment to Israel's security."

He added that "President Biden has reiterated the United States' firm commitment to maintaining and strengthening Israel's capabilities to deter its enemies and to defend itself in the face of any threat or combination of threats." MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356394> [in case these folks haven’t discovered it yet – EVERYTHING “Bi-Dum" does is essentially a lie. Count on nothing. If push comes to shove he would let Israel fall into a pit. – rdb]

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**07/12/2022 NEWS**

**TOP 10 BEST PLACES TO VISIT IN ISRAEL - DISCOVER ISRAEL**

# <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vaVsAVAup4U>

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| "Therefore, the jury have the power of deciding an issue upon a general verdict. And, if they have, is it not an absurdity to suppose that the law would oblige them to find a verdict according to the direction of the court, against their own opinion, judgment, and conscience?  ... [I]s a juror to give his verdict generally, according to [the judge’s] direction, or even to find the fact specially, and submit the law to the court?  Every man, of any feeling or conscience, will answer, no. It is not only his right, but his duty, in that case, to find the verdict according to his own best understanding, judgment, and conscience, though in direct opposition to the direction of the court." -- John Adams (1735-1826) Founding Father, 2nd US President |

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

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

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

Exodus 21:35And if one man's ox hurt another's, so that it dieth; then they shall sell the live ox, and divide the price of it; and the dead also they shall divide. 36Or if it be known that the ox was wont to gore in time past, and its owner hath not kept it in; he shall surely pay ox for ox, and the dead beast shall be his own.

**IDF reportedly warns failure to advance measures for PA risks security coordination**

***Security establishment drafts document ahead of Biden visit, stating that Abbas has no accomplishments to point to and recommending more substantial initiatives be approved***

*By* [*Sara Serfaty*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/sara-serfaty/) *Today, 1:41 am*

Israel’s security establishment reportedly warned the political echelon that failure to advance steps to strengthen the Palestinian Authority ahead of US President Joe Biden’s trip to Israel will place Ramallah’s security coordination at risk.

The warning was passed along in a document drafted last month in the final days of Naftali Bennett’s tenure as prime minister, Channel 13 reported on Monday.

The document states that PA President Mahmoud Abbas has no political achievements to point to and that neighboring Arab countries are continuing to expand their ties with Israel, without taking the Palestinian issue into account.

The PA’s expectations for the Biden administration, such as the reopening of the US [consulate](https://www.timesofisrael.com/pas-abbas-dismisses-us-bid-to-boost-ties-unless-consulate-reopened/) in Jerusalem have gone unmet, the document states, adding that “failure [by Israel] to take immediate steps, including ones with political visibility, will lead to damage to security coordination with the PA.”

The security coordination is regularly touted by the IDF as critical to maintaining stability in the West Bank and even preventing terror attacks against Israeli civilians. It is also unpopular among Palestinians who increasingly see the PA as doing Israel’s bidding in the West Bank, even in the absence of any political horizon toward statehood.

Ties between Israel and the PA have deteriorated in recent months amid clashes at the Temple Mount, expanded Israeli settlement activity and the killing of Palestinian-American reporter Shireen Abu Akleh. Abbas warned visiting US officials in June that he was prepared to cut security coordination absent significant changes on the ground and an end to Israeli unilateral measures.

The US in turn managed to get Israel to commit to delaying three moves ahead of Biden’s visit: the advancement of a controversial settlement project in the West Bank’s E1 area, new restrictions on foreigners entering Palestinian areas of the West Bank and evictions in Masafer Yatta — a collection of rural Palestinian villages in the South Hebron Hills. It is unclear whether the commitments will hold after Biden leaves the country, but they appeared to be enough to convince Abbas to hold off on taking more drastic steps in the meantime.

Biden will also announce a series of Israeli and US measures aimed at strengthening the PA during his visit next week, though they are expected to be somewhat limited in scale, as Washington has no plans to launch a high-stakes diplomatic initiative and Jerusalem is further limited in what it can advance, given that the country is now being run by a caretaker government.

The steps will focus on economic issues and include one initiative from the US that the PA has been pushing for years, a senior Biden administration official [told](https://www.timesofisrael.com/coalition-collapse-could-impede-concessions-for-palestinians-ahead-of-biden-trip/) The Times of Israel last week.

Biden will also announce $100 million in US funding for the East Jerusalem Hospital Network when he visits the Augusta Victoria Hospital next Friday. Israeli officials have been seeking to join Biden on the visit, an Israeli source revealed, adding that thus far they have been snubbed by the US, which is trying to avoid overly politicizing the visit. MORE - https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-said-to-warn-failure-to-advance-gestures-for-pa-will-put-security-ties-at-risk/

**IDF general previously censured over troop deaths tapped to lead West Bank division**

***Brig. Gen. Yaki Dolf was rebuked after paratrooper recruit and reconnaissance soldier under his command were killed in separate accidents during training exercises in 2019***

*By* [*Emanuel Fabian*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/emanuel-fabian/) *Today, 5:29 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2020/05/Yuval_Gez_and_Yaakov_Dolf._II.jpg)

Col. Yaki Dolf, then-commander of the Paratroopers Brigade, at a military ceremony in June 2019. (Israel Defense Forces)

A general reprimanded over the deaths of two soldiers in separate incidents was chosen Monday to head Israeli military forces in the West Bank.

Brig. Gen. Yaki Dolf, who currently serves as military secretary to Defense Minister Benny Gantz, had his promotion delayed for a year over the death of [Ron Oved](https://www.timesofisrael.com/top-idf-officers-get-rebuked-over-death-of-recruit-subpar-probe/), 18, during a tryout for the Paratroopers Brigade in 2019, and a flawed investigation into the event.

That same year Dolf, who commanded the paratroops, also received an official censure on his record over the drowning of Sgt. [Evyatar Yosefi](https://www.timesofisrael.com/three-officers-indicted-over-drowning-of-soldier-during-hike/), 20, during a navigation exercise.

Dolf will replace Brig. Gen. Avi Blot, the current commander of the Israel Defense Forces’ Judea and Samaria Division, in the coming months, the military said.

[A picture containing person, sky, water, outdoor

Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2019/06/Screen-Shot-2019-06-20-at-10.46.47.png)The IDF and Gantz have not yet named a new military secretary for the defense minister. Gantz must still give final approval to the appointment.

Dolf has moved up the IDF’s ranks despite the series of reprimands over deadly incidents in 2019.

On April 11, a bus that was parked on an incline above tents in which a group of recruits were sleeping — in clear violation of IDF protocol — rolled down the hill into the structure, killing Oved, 18, and injuring five others.

Ron Eliyahu Oved, right, and his father. Oved was killed in an accident during a tryout for the IDF Paratroopers Brigade on April 11, 2019. (Courtesy of the family)

The military’s initial investigation, which was completed within two months, blamed Oved’s death squarely on the bus driver and the company that hired him, deeming the incident a vehicular accident rather than a training accident.

No one in the military was punished over the incident. The bus driver was charged with negligent manslaughter.

The Military Police conducted its own investigation into Oved’s death, finding that the initial investigation was woefully insufficient, failing to look at larger issues of how the Paratroopers Brigade conducts tryouts for recruits and how safety protocols were apparently ignored.

In light of the Military Police probe and a report in the Haaretz newspaper around the same time, which included claims by Oved’s family that the military had failed to adequately look into the case, IDF Chief of Staff Aviv Kohavi ordered an additional investigation into the event itself and into the way it was examined.

The final investigation found that the first probe was “insufficient and did not expose all of the lacunae,” Kohavi said last year. Two brigadier generals — including Dolf — were formally reprimanded and a third was called to a disciplinary hearing. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-general-previously-censured-over-troop-deaths-tapped-to-lead-west-bank-division/>

**Israel says Biden visit may augur common Mideast market, with Saudis**

***Finance Minister Liberman sets sights on 'big challenge' he says 'will change the reality here from end to end, in both the fields of security and of economics'***

*Reuters | Published: 07.11.22, 12:59*

Finance Minister Avigdor Liberman said on Monday he hoped a regional visit by U.S. President Joe Biden this week will lead to a common Middle East market that includes Saudi Arabia.

Biden arrives in Israel on Wednesday and continues to Saudi Arabia on Friday. The White House has said the visit's aims include "expanding regional economic and security cooperation".

Asked at an economic conference hosted by Ynet's sister publication Calcalist what he expects to arise from Biden's visit, Liberman said: "The creation of a new, common market in the Middle East. That's the big challenge."

"It will change the reality here from end to end, in both the fields of security and of economics. Therefore I hope the emphasis during Biden's visit will be on creating this new market in the Middle East."

Israel normalized relations with four Arab countries under a 2020 U.S. diplomatic drive that received Riyadh's blessing. But Saudi Arabia has stopped short of formally recognizing Israel in the absence of a resolution to Palestinian statehood goals.

In separate remarks to the conference, National Security Adviser Eyal Hulata said that within the framework of Biden's visit "it is certainly possible to begin talking about the potential expansion of our markets in the region".

"It's no coincidence that Biden is coming here on Wednesday and continuing on Friday from here to Saudi Arabia by direct flight," Haluta added. "The ability to attend to these things carefully, step by step, can bring about breakthroughs."

Liberman said his regional vision would include "a kind of trans-Middle East highway" and rail network linking up partner countries.

Turning to domestic matters, Liberman said that despite the rising cost of living and an inflation rate that has topped 4%, inflation in Israel still remains well below Western peers, while data show a strong economy with consumers continuing to spend locally and travel heavily abroad. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/rykkcwfs9>

**Settlers fear Biden visit may strengthen Palestinian hold on Area C**

***The Palestinians believe that all of Area C, where the Israeli settlements are located, must be part of the final borders of their state.***

*By* [*TOVAH LAZAROFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/tovah-lazaroff) *Published: JULY 11, 2022 21:35*

BEDOUIN BONE to pick: Bedouin village Khan al-Ahmar in Area C of the West Bank. (photo credit: YONATAN SINDEL/FLASH90)

Settlers fear Israel is weighing the retroactive [legalization of Palestinian homes](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/gantz-approves-1000-new-housing-units-for-palestinians-in-west-bank-676443) in Area C as a gesture to US President Joe Biden that would be announced [during his visit,](https://www.jpost.com/israeli-news/article-711768) Yesha Council CEO Yigal Dilmoni said on Monday.

“We are talking about scores of illegal Palestinian sites,” Dilmoni said, as he clarified that he did not know which specific areas were on the table.

Nor, he said, had the Yesha Council be given any formal information on the matter.

But Biden’s visit, for them, has underscored the fragility of Israel’s hold on Area C of the West Bank, which is under Israeli military and civilian control and comprises 60% of the West Bank. Biden has been supportive of [Palestinian](https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/article-711804) development of Area C and opposed Israeli construction there.

United States politicians and presidents have been divided on the question of Area C. Even US President Donald Trump, however, believed that half of it should be part of the borders of a future Palestinian state.

United Right leader Ayelet Shaked is seen at the Knesset on Monday. She is resolute in her party's ability to push for annexation of Area C of the West Bank. (credit: MARC ISRAEL SELLEM)

The [Palestinians believe that all](https://www.jpost.com/business-and-innovation/article-706249) of Area C, where the Israeli settlements are located, must be part of the final borders of their state.

In the absence of a peace process, the Right, including the settlement movement, has increasingly argued that all of Area C must be part of Israel final’s borders.

So they have opposed any steps to authorize Palestinian development and building there, fearing that any such construction would ensure that the territory would inevitably be part of a Palestinian state.

***The fight for Area C***

Settlers and the Israeli Right have argued that there is a plan, established by former Palestinian Prime Minister Salam Fayyad, to fortify certain strategic areas of Area C.

“We are fighting against this,” said Dilmoni, so “we have to stop each step.”

Biden’s trip is heavily focused on Saudi Arabia and Iran, but his stop in Israel, including this, plans to visit Bethlehem and an east Jerusalem Palestinian hospital placing the focus on the frozen peace process.

It’s unlikely that Biden could resurrect that process and there are only a few concrete gestures that the can offer the Palestinians.

***What are the options?***

One possible arena is to push Israel to either approve new plans for Palestinian development in Area C or to retroactively legalize existing homes.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz has already indicated that [he is supportive](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/politics-and-diplomacy/article-703237) of Palestinian development in Area C, particularly in exchange for Israeli construction there.

Such steps are also some of the few gestures, that can be done during an election period, with only the approval of Gantz and Prime Minister Yair Lapid.

Binyamin Regional Council head Israel Gantz warned that such a move in Area C, “brings the establishment of a Palestinian state closer and puts an arrow in the heart of Jewish settlement in Judea and Samaria.”

Both he and Dilmoni said they believed that fact that it was an election period, meant that such steps should not occur.

“The transitional government has no mandate to take such irreversible steps and endanger the Jewish hold in the heart of the Land of Israel,” he said.

“We will not allow this,” he added. <https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/article-711817> [The idea of land for peace has demonstrated for years that it is a losing proposition and accomplishes nothing for either side. You won’t get peace from the “PA” ever and they won’t be satisfied until they have all of Israel. - rdb]

**Israelis fear Russia may halt Jewish immigration**

***Immigration activist says Jewish Agency should expedite existing requests immediately before Russian government acts after demanding to receive information on Jews requesting to immigrate***

Israeli activists said on Monday that the dispute between the Russian government and the Jewish Agency, may halt immigration of Russian Jews to Israel.

Speaking in an interview to Ynet, social activist Alex Rif said Russia is a dictatorship and is not kind to foreign agencies operating within its borders.



Jewish immigrants from Russia arrive in Israel (Photo: Ittai Shickman )

The Jewish Agency said last week that it was [considering a halt to its operations in Russia](https://www.ynetnews.com/article/bysw3311iq) after the Kremlin sent a sternly written letter to the Jewish Agency, demanding that it stop collecting information about Russian citizens.

The agency in its process of granting immigration papers to Jews requesting to leave Russia for Israel, investigates their claims and background.

Russia's move was seen in context with its demand that information gathered by the agency be transferred to Russian authorities - which could result in a danger to Jews in that country.

Attempts by the agency to reach an understanding with the Russians have so far been unsuccessful and Immigration and Absorption Minister Pnina Tamano Shate appealed to Prime Minister Yair Lapid to intervene.

Rif said the Jewish Agency must expedite Russian requests before they are prevented from leaving.

"I am very concerned because senior Russian officials have not denied the content of the letter," she said. "How long can the Jewish Agency operate like that?" she asked.

“The Immigration processes must be digitized. It currently take months and involves a great deal of bureaucracy. Should Russia decide to stop Jewish immigration, leaving Jews stuck in Russia, It will be on our conscience,” Rif said

Since the [Russian invasion of Ukraine](https://www.ynetnews.com/article/sjjm11j4ec), some 15,000 Jews immigrated from Russia. Rif says there are 30,000 who have already begun the immigration process and could arrive quickly.

"Israel must prepare for a wave of immigrants," she said. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/hkbkxrto5>

**Netanyahu says will make peace with Saudis if back in power**

***In what he called a 'policy statement,' at the start of his election campaign former PM says Biden visit important because of his direct flight from Israel to Saudi Arabia; extended appreciation to Saudi crown prince for his role in Abraham accords***

*Moran Azulay | Published: 07.11.22, 20:44*

Opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu said on Monday that if he returns to power, he will sign a peace deal with Saudi Arabia. Netanyahu addressed the press in what he called a statement of policy.



Benjamin Netanyahu makes a policy statement at the start of his election campaign (Photo: Eli Mandelbaum )

In a moment of confusion, the former prime minister said he welcomed the visit of president Donald Trump.

"This is an important visit because from here, the president will fly to Saudi Arabia," Netanyahu said.

"A direct flight is an expression of the massive change we have brought to the Middle East. Our policy has truly created a new Mideast," he said.

During his term, Israel [signed the Abraham Accords](https://www.ynetnews.com/article/186KP7TG3), normalizing relations with four Sunni Arab nations.

"I would like to extend my appreciation to Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman for his contribution to the four peace agreements we had forged," he said.

Netanyahu was ousted from power last year when Naftali Bennett was able to establish a coalition of parties from the left and right of the political spectrum which also included for the first time, an Arab party. MORE - <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/hyz8jy5ic>

**Netanyahu’s wife threatened suicide, demanded $46,000 bracelet, key witness says**

***Hadas Klein details high end jewelry and clothing sent to Netanyahus from benefactors Milchan and Packer, plus meddling by Hollywood mogul in choice of national security adviser***

*By* [*Jeremy Sharon*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jeremy-sharon/) *Today, 10:42 pm*

Sara Netanyahu threatened to commit suicide over a meeting regarding pool renovation plans, while heaping verbal abuse on an assistant to two billionaires accused of plying the Netanyahus with expensive gifts, the assistant told Jerusalem’s District Court Monday.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/F220711YS03.jpg) Hadas Klein, the personal assistant of Hollywood producer Arnon Milchan and an aide to Australian billionaire James Packer, also detailed  the continuous conveyor-belt of gifts the Netanyahus requested and received, including a diamond-studded bracelet worth nearly $50,000.

Hadas Klein arrives in court to give testimony in the trial against former Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, at the District Court in Jerusalem on July 11, 2022. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Klein, a key witness for the state prosecution in Netanyahu’s corruption trial, was testifying for the third time regarding Case 1,000 of the former premier’s trial, relating to the luxury gifts he received and any quid pro quos he may have provided in return.

During Monday’s hearing in the Jerusalem District Court, Klein detailed how Sara Netanyahu had sought to have a pool at her family’s private home in Caesarea renovated at the state’s expense, a plan Netanyahu ultimately stymied.

She testified that Gal Gefen, the head of Milchan’s household in Israel who was also working as a building inspector for Packer’s new home in Caesarea, told her that Sara had requested he come to a meeting with the director of the Prime Minister’s Office.

Klein told Gefen not to go since he was already working for Milchan and Packer, and phoned Sara to tell her of the situation.

[A picture containing text

Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/11/bracelet.jpg) “I got an outpouring of screaming and shouting, a really difficult phone call,” testified Klein. “She needed to scream that because of me she would be late to work and she doesn’t have my salary and that she would commit suicide and write a [suicide] letter.”

A couple of hours later, the then-prime minister called Klein and said she should let Sara have whatever she wants since it was legal. But months later, when Sara told Klein that the state would pay to have their private pool resealed if Gal’s price quote of NIS 120,000 ($34,400) dropped under NIS 100,000 ($28,700), Klein arranged a meeting with Netanyahu, but not his wife, to explain the situation.

“I told this to Netanyahu and he banged on the table and said it wouldn’t happen,” she said.

Klein also testified about how Packer’s assistant bought a diamond-studded bracelet worth $46,000 for Sara Netanyahu, after she requested “something beautiful,” ahead of the couple’s anniversary.

A bracelet allegedly given illicitly to Sara Netanyahu (Channel 12 /Uvda screenshot)

“Ian Morris [Packer’s assistant] called me and said ‘I bought some amazing jewelry for Mrs. Netanyahu’ and he told me how much it was and I was shaken and I said ‘That’s crazy,’” Klein told the court.

Milchan, who originally was going to split the cost of the jewelry Sara had requested, was similarly worried about the high value of the gift and decided not to participate in the cost of the bracelet. Klein said he subsequently instructed her to obtain the receipt from Morris and give it to Sara, but that when she tried to do so the then-prime minister’s wife refused to accept it.

Klein also testified about earrings worth thousands of shekels that Sara had requested from Milchan, as well as high-end jackets from North Face and Columbia, and shirts from Brioni worth “several hundred pounds sterling each.”

Klein’s testimony has mostly revolved around the various gifts she helped arrange for the Netanyahus, as well as the former premier’s alleged willingness to intervene on behalf of Milchan, including when he tried to renew his US visa.

While on the stand, Klein mentioned an incident in which Milchan seemingly intervened to help Yossi Cohen, a Netanyahu confidant who would go on to head the Mossad, secure the post of National Security Council head.

Cohen was present at private visits made by Netanyahu to Milchan’s home in Beit Yannai, Klein said last week.

Klein said Cohen contacted Milchan about his interest in the position and that Milchan had told Cohen he would talk to Netanyahu about it, according to Milchan.

Klein said Milchan phoned her on a subsequent Friday and told her to tell Cohen that he had spoken with Netanyahu and Sara, and that they had agreed to Cohen’s appointment.

Klein is set to be cross-examined by Netanyahu’s defense attorney’s on Tuesday. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahus-wife-threatened-suicide-demanded-46000-bracelet-key-witness-says/> [HUMMM? Sounds to me like Bibi has been taking lessons from the “Bi-Dum" family on how to work a political system “for fun and profit”. – rdb]

**Ben Gvir urges far-right allies to merge, but seeks bigger slice of nationalist pie**

***Otzma Yehudit leader issues plea to Bezalel Smotrich to again run on joint slate, says positions in combined list should be selected by research into public support***

*By* [*Tobias Siegal*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/tobias-siegal/) *Today, 7:17 pm*

Far-right lawmaker Itamar Ben Gvir called on his ideological compatriots to rally around a united flag Monday, as negotiations over party mergers meant to consolidate power ramped up ahead of the November 1 elections.

But in a twist, Ben Gvir suggested that independent research should be conducted to determine how many slots each party would get in a united list and their placement. Bezalel Smotrich currently heads the Religious Zionism party, which merged with Ben Gvir’s Otzma Yehudit faction ahead of last year’s election.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/F220711YS41.jpg)

Otzma Yehudit party leader Itamar Ben Gvir speaks during a press conference ahead of the upcoming elections, in Jerusalem, July 11, 2022. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Ben Gvir is hoping that partnering with Smotrich now, rather than after the Religious Zionism party holds its primaries, will give him a better chance of guaranteeing desired slots in a future government; convincing party members to concede slots won in the primaries in favor of Otzma Yehudit members might prove more difficult.

The negotiations between Ben Gvir, Smotrich and the heads of other potential partner factions are shaping up to be more challenging than before, with both Ben Gvir and Smotrich confident about their base and their prospects of crossing the threshold required to enter the Knesset, even if they decide to run separately.

However, despite his seemingly growing support, Ben Gvir is likely not as eager to run alone in the upcoming elections as Smotrich would be if forced to. Smotrich knows he enjoys a broad base of voters and would probably regain some votes lost from the more liberal religious Zionists who oppose the party’s partnership with Ben Gvir.

As such, Ben Gvir hopes to secure a merger with Smotrich as soon as possible.

Ben Gvir proposed that an external committee hold surveys to determine the level of public support his Otzma Yehudit and the other factions that make up Religious Zionism enjoy to determine the specifics of how they would allocate positions in a future merger.

“Hold a professional study, research, across the entire right,” he urged. “And an outside panel will examine the relative strength of all the parties.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/ben-gvir-urges-far-right-allies-to-merge-but-seeks-bigger-slice-of-nationalist-pie/>

**Freshly lost suitcases said thrown out amid airport chaos, as hundreds more pile up**

***Transportation Minister Michaeli instructs airport managers to probe alleged looting after TV news reports luggage tossed in compactor as staff rummaged for valuables***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 2:43 pm*

With hundreds of lost suitcases piling up amid recent travel snafus at Ben Gurion Airport, some luggage that became separated from travelers flying abroad has been thrown into the garbage, Channel 12 news reported Sunday.

Some members of the airport staff were said to have first rummaged through the contents of the bags that were tossed, looking for valuables.

A large room full of luggage

Description automatically generated with low confidence The station published video and images provided by an unnamed eyewitness who said he encountered the activity and recorded it. In the video, suitcases were being loaded into a trash compactor while personal effects were strewn on the ground nearby.

Abandoned suitcases at Ben Gurion Airport, July 2022 (Courtesy)

Items spilled from the cases included clothes, car keys, books and even prayer books, the images showed.

Transportation Minister Merav Michaeli said in response to the report that the apparent disposal of lost suitcases is “a very serious incident that cannot be allowed to happen.”

Michaeli tweeted Sunday that she had instructed airport managers to probe the incident.

A shortage of handling staff in the wake of layoffs brought on by the travel restrictions instituted because of the coronavirus pandemic has created havoc at airports around the world, including at Ben Gurion Airport, Israel’s main international terminus.

Travelers have been separated from their suitcases on the way out, or forced to wait hours to pick up their luggage after arriving back in the country. Some give up and simply go home empty-handed, then return another day to search for their belongings or file insurance claims.

However, those who do try to locate their baggage are faced with the challenge of sifting through hundreds of suitcases that have accumulated in storage rooms and airport halls.

Posts on social media by individuals who were allowed in to search for their suitcases indicate that many bags have their owners’ identification and contact details clearly marked, but that no effort is currently being made to reach them.

The witness who spoke to Channel 12 said the suitcases he photographed belonged to passengers who had only days earlier flown out of the country and were still waiting to be reunited with their lost bags.

The witness claimed that airport workers were throwing out the suitcases but keeping any valuables they found for themselves.

“I saw them destroying the suitcases in a compactor and stealing clothes, perfumes, and all kinds of other valuables,” the witness said. “They placed them to one side.”

According to the witness, “no one in Ben Gurion bothered to photograph the suitcases to try to find their owners and in some of them there were personal items. The workers raided them in broad daylight and stole the items.” MORE -

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/freshly-lost-suitcases-said-thrown-out-as-hundreds-pile-up-amid-airport-chaos/> [You have to wonder how many other airports are having problems. This is a real nightmare for travelers and even though you may be short of staff if you identify people stealing goods they need to be prosecuted and terminated. – rdb]

**Russia offers fast-track citizenship to all Ukrainians**

***All Ukrainians, as as well as citizens of the two Donbass republics, may now apply using a simplified procedure***

*11 Jul, 2022 14:53*

Any Ukrainian national may now apply for Russian citizenship under a simplified scheme, according to a decree signed by President Vladimir Putin on Monday. The measure also applies to stateless persons permanently living in Ukraine as well as to citizens of the two Donbass republics, recognized earlier by Russia as independent.  
 Ukrainians may now file the relevant request without the need to live in Russia for five years, to have a source of income or to pass a Russian-language test – something foreigners are normally required to do before they can apply for Russian citizenship.  
 The presidential decree modifies the procedures earlier reserved for the citizens of the Donetsk and Lugansk People’s Republics as well as the residents of the two southern Ukrainian regions that have been under the control of the Russian forces almost since the start of the conflict between Moscow and Kiev.  
 Back in 2019, a simplified procedure was introduced for those living in territories controlled by the two Donbass entities, which in February were recognized by Moscow as sovereign states. They could have their citizenship paperwork processed in just three months.  
 As of February, 950,000 people had reportedly filed applications and 770,000 of them have become Russian citizens. Monday’s decree also explicitly stated that people serving in the Donbass militias and its local law enforcement authorities are eligible to applying for Russian citizenship as well, and that their status as foreign military personnel could not be used as a reason to deny them citizenship.    
 In May, another decree added the residents of Zaporozhye and Kherson regions in the south of Ukraine to those eligible for the citizenship scheme. A separate document signed by the president the same month made orphaned children from the Donbass republics and Ukraine eligible for processing as well. An application could be filed on their behalf by their guardians or foster families.  
 Russia sent troops into Ukraine on February 24, citing Kiev’s failure to implement the Minsk agreements, designed to give the regions of Donetsk and Lugansk special status within the Ukrainian state. The protocols, brokered by Germany and France, were first signed in 2014. Former Ukrainian president Petro Poroshenko has since admitted that Kiev’s main goal was to use the ceasefire to buy time and *“create powerful armed forces.”*  
 In February 2022, the Kremlin recognized the Donbass republics as independent states and demanded that Ukraine officially declare itself a neutral country that will never join any Western military bloc. Kiev insists the Russian offensive was completely unprovoked. <https://www.rt.com/russia/558783-ukraine-citizens-fast-track-citizenship/>

**Brazil seeking Russian fuel supply – Bolsonaro**

***The South American nation may clinch a deal with Moscow on cheap diesel imports, its president says***

*11 Jul, 2022 16:24*

President Jair Bolsonaro says Brazil is close to reaching a deal for the purchase of much cheaper diesel from Russia, Reuters reported on Monday.

Last week, BRICS Information Portal reported that Bolsonaro had a telephone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin, who had reportedly vowed to guarantee the South American country a steady supply of fertilizers, which are crucial for Brazil’s vast agribusiness sector.

*“We have food security and energy security, there are chances that we will buy diesel from there, which is at a more convenient price,”* the Brazilian leader was quoted as saying on Wednesday.

Bolsonaro has been working on proposals to ensure adequate fuel supplies for the country with a minimal impact on prices as the nation struggles with high inflation. According to estimates, Latin America’s largest economy, which consumes more than five million cubic meters of diesel per month, will have to increase imports by over 15% to meet domestic needs. <https://www.rt.com/business/558773-brazil-seeking-russian-fuel-supply/>

**Protests rage as banks in one country won't let people withdraw their funds**

***Accounts have been frozen for months***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published July 11, 2022 at 11:02am* ***By Jack McEvoy*** *Daily Caller News Foundation*

Crowds of Chinese bank customers demonstrated outside a bank on Sunday over bank accounts that were frozen for months in the Chinese city of Zhengzhou, according to the Associated Press.

Several hundred protesters shouting slogans gathered in the early morning at the entrance to a branch of the People’s Bank of China (PBOC) in Zhengzhou, a Chinese city located 380 miles southwest of Beijing, [reported](https://apnews.com/article/covid-health-china-beijing-bad852e21bc4c5fbbbcc3996ab4bce91) the AP. The protesters are among thousands of depositors who found that they could not withdraw their money from the accounts for months due to an upgrade of the bank’s internal systems, Reuters [reported](https://www.reuters.com/world/china/chinese-protesters-demanding-bank-deposits-tussle-with-security-men-2022-07-10/).

Police, who closed off the area after they arrived, told protesters that they were illegally assembled and would be [detained](https://apnews.com/article/covid-health-china-beijing-bad852e21bc4c5fbbbcc3996ab4bce91) if they refused to disperse, the AP reported. A banking regulator and a local government official also arrived to address the crowd, but the protesters shouted them down.

Protesters were pushed and dragged off the bank’s steps by plainclothes security teams. When the security staff rushed to disperse the crowd, protesters threw objects, including water bottles, at them.

The demonstrators were then escorted to numerous sites where they were forced to sign letters vowing that they would no longer protest at the bank, according to the AP.

Four banks in the Henan province [froze](https://www.reuters.com/world/china/chinese-protesters-demanding-bank-deposits-tussle-with-security-men-2022-07-10/) deposits worth up to $1.5 billion in mid-April amid China’s recent [economic downturn](https://www.cnn.com/2022/06/23/economy/china-bank-runs-protests-intl-mic-hnk/index.html), leaving thousands of citizens in the Henan and neighboring Anhui province without access to their bank accounts.

This led to unrest and planned protests after the banks and authorities failed to respond to complaints, [reported](https://apnews.com/article/covid-technology-health-government-and-politics-7b1ea828f10f76e8190410457a05286f) the AP. Last month, the planned demonstrations were [suppressed](https://apnews.com/article/covid-technology-health-government-and-politics-7b1ea828f10f76e8190410457a05286f) by China’s COVID-19 tracking app, which barred citizens from traveling to the bank by designating them as a public health risk.

The banks, which include the Shanghai Huimin Country Bank and Yuzhou Xinminsheng Village Bank, are under investigation by the authorities for illegal fundraising, the state-run Global Times [reported](https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202207/1270207.shtml).

The PBOC did not immediately respond to the Daily Caller News Foundation’s request for comment. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/protests-rage-banks-one-country-wont-let-people-withdraw-funds/> [This is most disturbing. While this may be China you have to understand that this type activity is a definite possibility in most any of the countries that are have economic difficulties today. I would not trust the FDIC any more than I trust anything else from the government of the US. – rdb]

**'Anonymous' U.S. leaks divulging Israel's secrets to Iran**

***'Extraordinary incompetence and unprofessionalism from Biden'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 11, 2022 at 3:00pm*

Someone in the Biden administration may be "leaking" details about Israel's covert operations in order to try to persuade Iranian leaders to return to the failed Iran nuclear deal created – at a cost of billions of dollars – by Barack Obama.

President Donald Trump withdrew America from the deal, which purported to prevent the rogue regime in Tehran from obtaining nuclear weapons but actually only delayed that, when he determined there was no benefit to the United States. Joe Biden has been trying to resurrect it.

Now [Just the News](https://justthenews.com/government/security/ahead-bidens-mideast-trip-us-leaks-outing-israel-alleged-covert-ops-remain) is reporting just as Biden is preparing to travel to Israel and Saudi Arabia next week, that "anonymous U.S. officials" are "leaking information to the media details about alleged covert Israeli operations against Iran, from targeted killings to explosions at nuclear sites."

Those leaks could, in fact, generate a number of complications, from retaliation by Iran to failed efforts to take out Iran's threats.

"It's a sign of extraordinary incompetence and unprofessionalism from Biden and his foreign policy team," Fred Fleitz, a former CIA analyst who also served as a senior staffer on both the House Intelligence Committee and the National Security Council, told Just the News.

"It's outrageous they would leak this kind of information."

The "anonymous" reports have included those made recently to CNN about Israel increasing its covert attacks in Iran, the report said.

And, the report said, it was just a month earlier when an American intelligence official told the New York Times Israel informed the Biden administration it was behind the assassination of a top officer of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/anonymous-u-s-leaks-divulging-israels-secrets-iran/>

**Support being rallied for floating abortion business to elude state limits**

***'We have to create options'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 11, 2022 at 1:31pm*

An academic has begun rallying support for an abortion ship that would avoid state restrictions on the lucrative industry because it would be on the water.

The [idea is being suggested](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/california-doctor-proposes-floating-abortion-clinic-gulf-of-mexico) by Meg Autry, a professor at the University of California in San Francisco.  
 Abortion promoters have been proposing all sorts of extreme ideas in the two weeks since the Supreme Court returned oversight of the abortion industry to states.  
 The immediate impact of the court's ruling was that states now are vested with the authority to impose restrictions on abortion, and many already have.  
 In fact, several states like South Dakota already have gone abortion-free, with no operating abortion businesses inside their boundaries.  
 To protect the revenue stream for abortionists, there have been various demands that Congress establish abortion in federal law – but that already has failed.  
 Autry's proposal would be to float an abortion business in the Gulf of Mexico.  
 She said the federal government has jurisdiction on the waters, but states don't.  
 "There's been an assault on reproductive rights in our country, and I'm a lifelong advocate for reproductive health and choice," she claimed. "We have to create options and be thoughtful and creative to help people in restrictive states get the health care they deserve."  
 "Health care" is a somewhat misleading term, since in successful abortion businesses, one of every two patient who enters dies.  
 Autry said she is raising funds to bring the floating clinic idea to fruition. Her goal is to provide abortion for residents of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.  
 The [Associated Press](https://apnews.com/article/abortion-health-reproductive-rights-government-and-politics-bfab2bd6604229d7b2bcad630037c4e8) said Florida, another Gulf coast state, also has limits on abortion.  
 Autry said for women in those states, it might be closer and easier to travel to the coast and board a boat than to travel to other states where state officials are protecting the abortion industry. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/support-rallied-floating-abortion-business-elude-state-limits/> [I guess when you are a member of a death cult you will do anything to kill children and Babies. – rdb]

**Dick Morris makes stunning 2024 prediction for Trump**

***'He has never, for a moment, taken his eye off the ball'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 11, 2022 at 4:47pm*

A longtime associate of the Clinton empire, a man who played a key role in Bill Clinton's successful 1996 presidential race, is predicting the victor in the 2024 race, which is lining up, potentially, to be a replay of the 2020 race between Joe Biden and President Donald Trump.

Dick Morris has unleashed his own comments on the possibility his longtime friend, Trump, will be back, in a new book, imminently to be released, called "The Return."

"Will he run in 2024? You bet he will. Will he be the GOP nominee? Absolutely. Will he win the election? Yes,"” Morris writes.

The details come from Paul Bedard in the [Washington Examiner,](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/washington-secrets/comeback-kid-trump-wins-with-whites-hispanics-says-dick-morris) which obtained a preview of the publication.

"Our candidate in 2024 will be, and must be, Donald J. Trump. Accept no substitutes. Only he can put together the coalition that generated 74 million votes in 2020. And we don’t want a bleached-out, kinder, nicer, gentler Donald Trump, either! We want and need the same Donald Trump who won in 2016, increased his vote share in 2020 by eleven million votes, and in between, was one of our truly great presidents," said Morris.

He now is host of Dick Morris Democracy.

Morris, who actually was a "secret unpaid adviser" to Trump in 2020, explained, "I have spoken with the former president dozens of times since he left office, and our conversations were always either about how he was cheated in 2020, or how he would get back in 2024. He has never, for a moment, taken his eye off the ball – getting back in the White House!" more said in the Examiner report.  
 His book explains what went wrong in 2020 – Trump was at war with the media and Biden simply got more votes – and the 2024 strategy.  
 Bottom of Form

He doesn't dismiss the idea of election fraud and "how it undermined Trump’s reelection."  
 And he suggested states try to get back to pre-COVID voting rules, "that GOP voters elect Republican secretaries of state who set election rules, and that the GOP do a better job turning out the vote," the report explained.  
 Working for a possible Trump candidacy – and against a Democrat candidate – would be the economy, illegal immigration and surging crime.  
 Morris suggested of reminding voters that they all were check while Trump was president, and the problems exploded when Biden got the keys to the White House.  
 "Each of the three has the same unique feature: none was a problem under Donald Trump, and all emerged as serious issues on the day that Biden was inaugurated," Morris explained in the report.  
 "The GOP should then try to convince voters that Biden nor his team have figured out a way to change the direction of those issues, and won’t because they want to 'transform America into a nation none of us will recognize by destroying social, cultural, economic, and political freedoms,'" the report explained.  
 Nobody will change Trump's tough talk, he said.  
 "Trump is Trump. Like it or lump it. He’ll never change, and I came to realize that his manner could not be divorced from his successful outcomes. Change one, and you would forfeit the other," said Morris.  
 He said Trump will build his base on white and Latino voters.  
 "Trump’s political power is rooted in his unique ability to attract, as no other American political figure can, two key groups of swing voters who became part of his core constituency: white high-school-educated voters and Hispanic-American patriots," Morris explained.  
 There were a lot of unusual factors that affected the 2020 presidential election, and while just about every election has some sort of fraud that shows up, many experts agree that there likely wasn't enough to change the Electoral College vote count.  
 But that doesn't mean it wasn't deliberately rigged, according to a senior legal correspondent Margot Cleveland of [The Federalist.](https://thefederalist.com/2022/06/22/j6-committee-focuses-on-election-fraud-claims-while-ignoring-tactics-used-to-rig-the-2020-election/)  
 "Stealing an election by fraud is not the only way to rig an outcome. Elections are rigged when systemic violations of election law occur," she wrote. "That there was no widespread fraud in November 2020 doesn’t mean that the election was not rigged to keep Donald Trump out of the White House."  
 She pointed out: "The election was rigged with every illegal drop box placed in Democrat-heavy precincts."  
 And, "The election was rigged when the Pennsylvania legislature unconstitutionally authorized no-excuse absentee voting and when Philadelphia clerks illegally inspected ballots and then told Democrat activists which voters needed to cure their ballots for their votes to count."  
 And, "The election was rigged when Wisconsin election officials ignored the state election code, telling voters they were 'indefinitely confined' because of Covid and that nursing homes could ignore Wisconsin’s requirement that special voting deputies oversee elections in residential facilities."  
 And, "The election was rigged with every dollar of Zuck Bucks designed to get out the Democrat vote, and with every leftist activist embedded in county clerks’ offices to push such efforts while accumulating untold voter data to the benefit of the Biden campaign."  
 And, "The election was rigged when Georgia rendered the election code’s mandate of signature verifications inoperable and the state court delayed a hearing on Trump’s challenge to the Georgia outcome until after the vote certification, thereby ignoring evidence that more than 35,000 illegal votes were included in the state’s tally — more than enough to require a court to throw out the election."  
 What is known about the 2020 election is that the results almost without doubt were influenced by the $420 million in Mark Zuckerberg money that he handed out to mostly leftist elections officials, who often used it for get-out-the-vote efforts in Democrat strongholds. That money was distributed outside the channels of any regulation that normally applies to political campaign spending.  
 Further, the legacy and social media corporations cooperated in suppressing accurate, but very damaging, reporting about Joe Biden, his son Hunter and the family's international business schemes just days before the election.  
 Analysts have concluded that either of those actions alone could have pushed the election results into the Biden column.  
 Even further, many local elections officials simply ignored their own state laws regarding mail-in and absentee ballots, counting them days after the voting was supposed to have been closed.  
 Cleveland explained, "The Jan. 6 show trial continues this week in the House, with several partisan aims remaining in focus, chief among them conditioning the public to believe the Nov. 3, 2020, election was the most secure in American history. By limiting their focus to select and disproven claims of election fraud, the Democrat-stacked House committee provides a bait-and-switch prime-time presentation designed to convince the country that Trump lied to his supporters when he declared the election was stolen."  
 Rigging was evident, she said, "when the press refused to bare the secret that Hunter Biden provided his dad, the 'Big Guy,' a 10 percent kickback from the various millions made in a pay-to-play scandal."  
 And, "When Twitter blocked the New York Post’s reporting on the Hunter Biden laptop and the material uncovered from its hard drive and then when every elite media outlet ignored the story."  
 And, "When the same legacy and social media outlets that censored the explosive Joe Biden scandal instead promoted the false claim that the Post’s reporting was Russian disinformation."  
 And, "When the lapdog media outlets pantingly ran the Russia disinformation cover story to protect Joe Biden, knowing Attorney General William Barr’s Department of Justice would not leak the truth, but would instead preserve its independence and remain silent while the corrupt press lied to the American public."  
 No evidence of "fraud?" Could be.  
 "But the election was still rigged against Trump six ways to Sunday," she said. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/dick-morris-makes-stunning-2024-prediction-trump/> [Things could get most interesting. Dick definitely has a long history of political involvement. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**The Future WHO (World Health Organization)***by* [*Pete Hoekstra*](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Pete+Hoekstra) *July 11, 2022 at 5:00 am* Recently the World Health Assembly (WHA), the governing organization of the World Health Organization (WHO), met to discuss and evaluate proposed amendments to the [International Health Regulations](https://www.politico.eu/article/countries-deal-global-health-rules-who-us-world-health-assembly/). This document sets the legal framework for how countries respond to public health outbreaks that can cross borders and the broad range of responsibilities for the WHO in response. Amazingly, it was the Biden administration that proposed the set of amendments that would have dramatically expanded the scope and authorities of the WHO.  
 Rep. Chris Smith, the ranking member of the House Global Health Subcommittee, [warned](https://chrissmith.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=409995):  
 "The alarming amendments offered by the Biden Administration to the WHO's International Health Regulations would grant new unilateral authority to [WHO] Director-General Tedros to declare a public health crisis in the United States or other sovereign nations, without any consultation with the U.S. or any other WHO member.  
 "Specifically, the Biden Amendment would strike the current regulation that requires the WHO to 'consult with and attempt to obtain verification from the State Party in whose territory the event is allegedly occurring in,' ceding the United States' ability to declare and respond to an infectious disease outbreak within the United States, dependent on the judgment of a corrupt and complicit UN bureaucracy."  
 Just as amazingly, the amendments failed to be accepted at the WHA meeting. Instead, future amendments and potentially a future International Pandemic Treaty were pushed out into the future. The delay was declared by some to be a huge win. Color me skeptical. I believe that the time will be used to develop and market even more diabolical policies. Now is not the time to take a victory lap, it is the time to be ever vigilant.  
 In January of 2022, the Biden Administration quietly proposed thirteen amendments to be considered by the WHA. There was no notification to the U.S. Congress on the amendments, which would have significantly enhanced the WHO's power. For example, experts believed that the language would have [enabled](https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2022/06/bidens-who-takeover-matthew-vadum/) the WHO director to unilaterally declare a "pandemic" or "serious health status" within any country without providing the country a chance to respond or advising the WHO prior to a declaration. Instead, the director would unilaterally establish the parameters and basis for the decision.  
 Similar to the U.S. [Disinformation Board](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/senate-republicans-demand-answers-mayorkas-disinformation-board-misleading-testimony) that the Department of Homeland Security recently proposed, the WHO would now also be empowered to combat supposed disinformation and misinformation. It is disconcerting that governmental institutions and international organizations are seeking the power and public resources to combat what they determine to be misinformation; it is a development that should concern us all.  
 The Biden Administration alarmingly wanted to give this power to an international organization with no transparency, no accountability to the U.S. or anyone else, and an abysmal track record of [disregarding warnings](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-taiwan/taiwan-says-who-ignored-its-coronavirus-questions-at-start-of-outbreak-idUSKBN21B160) from Taiwan about the human-to-human transmissibility of the COVID-19 virus and instead [colluded](https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/04/02/china-coronavirus-who-health-soft-power/) with the Chinese Communist Party in [lying](https://nypost.com/2021/01/19/health-care-workers-admit-china-lied-about-covid-19-documentary/) to the world about the danger of the virus while the CCP [shut down domestic travel](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/blogs/Whathappensif/how-china-locked-down-internally-for-covid-19-but-pushed-foreign-travel/) but encouraged foreign travel.  
 The good news is that these amendments have not been adopted. The WHA basically tabled the amendments for potential future consideration. Instead, it created a working group to further develop and consider those and other amendments. It also will begin work on a new [International Pandemic Treaty](https://www.cnn.com/2022/05/23/opinions/global-pandemic-treaty-covid-19-wef-poonawalla/index.html). Expectations are already being created for what the result of these actions should be: unsettlingly, they seek to expand on the authorities the Biden Administration was prepared to concede to the WHO.  
 For example, a group of UN experts already has set the expectation that "ongoing multilateral negotiations on a new international instrument on pandemic preparedness and recovery is grounded in human rights." What that means is not clear, but if these experts use as a model the UN Human Rights Commission, a [scandal-plagued](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/asylum-sale-whistleblowers-say-u-n-refugee-agency-does-not-n988391) and ineffective commission at best, we will be in serious trouble.  
 Adar Poonawalla, CEO of the Serum Institute of India, the largest manufacturer of vaccines (by volume), already has laid out some of his [ideas](https://www.cnn.com/2022/05/23/opinions/global-pandemic-treaty-covid-19-wef-poonawalla/index.html). Among them, he wants the sharing of intellectual property, global agreement on regulatory standards, and universal travel vaccine certificates on a digital platform. He goes on to explain either implicitly or explicitly that these types of activities could be regulated by international organizations, such as the WHO.  
 Unfortunately, what is being proposed here, beginning with the Biden Administration amendments, is an international organization whose leadership would have the ability to:  
 Identify independently what constitutes a pandemic or serious health concern;  
 Would define the rationale for such a designation;  
 Would be funded to combat "misinformation" and "disinformation";  
 Would establish the values (e.g., human rights) that would define how the pandemic would be addressed;  
 Would define how intellectual property would be shared and who controls it;  
 Would implement and manage global regulatory standards; and  
 Would develop a universal travel vaccine certification on a digital platform.  
 These proposals would be only the tip of the iceberg. At the moment, the plan has all the earmarks of empowering and funding an untransparent, unaccountable, un-removeable behemoth. Just imagine what other schemes these globalist bureaucrats may be envisioning as they begin the process of creating this new monster global health apparatus. There is little room for national sovereignty, and even less consideration for individuals making their own choices.  
 While some [critics](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/05/22/wha-who-pandemic-treaty/) have expressed skepticism and that these concerns are overblown, this isn't just a perceived or manufactured threat to the freedom of American citizens and the sovereignty of the U.S. The Biden Administration and allies in Europe and Asia were all on board for the initial package of amendments. Imagine the surprise that the coalition that stopped this from happening was more than 40 countries on the continent of Africa and Brazil. Ironically, China, which in many respects [controls the WHO](https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/04/02/china-coronavirus-who-health-soft-power/), also wasn't fully on board.  
 For China, the current model works. The WHO has limited powers that can be used effectively to China's benefit as long as its leadership is pro-China. If the WHO leadership goes against China, China can just block them. Under the new proposals for the WHO, with a neutral or anti-China bias, China would be extremely vulnerable because the WHO could take action unilaterally. China might be thinking why fix something that, from their perspective, is not broken.  
 Despite the setback, the WHO and its supporters are still using the global COVID pandemic as the impetus to make these types of proposals reality. For those opposed, here are some steps that can and should be taken. A more than solid case can be made that the WHO failed spectacularly in the current crisis. There must be a laser-like focus pointing out how the WHO's actions were [politicized](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10930501/WHO-chief-believes-Covid-DID-leak-Wuhan-lab-catastrophic-accident-2019.html) and its recommendations were many times [deeply flawed](https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2022-04-26/is-covid-spread-airborne-or-droplet-who-s-delay-still-muddles-precautions). Further, Americans must demand that Congress do thorough investigations of the WHO and U.S. funding going to the organization. Those should be complemented by continued efforts to encourage more whistleblowers to expose additional shortcomings or scandals involving the WHO.  
 The American people must demand full transparency from the Biden Administration and future administrations, as they participate in ongoing discussions around the International Health Regulations and the International Pandemic Treaty -- and any another other untransparent and unaccountable transnational organizations. This year, the current administration, by secretive actions, almost got away with yet another capitulation to Communist China that would have seriously weakened America. The U.S. Senate also needs to be more vigilant in its congressional oversight function of treaties. This vigilance by both the Senate and the public must start now, it cannot wait until proposals are finalized. That is too late.  
 This is a critical issue to the future of every American citizen and our country. Will the U.S. maintain control of its well-being and sovereignty, and those of our allies, or put our trust in failed international organizations? It is imperative that everyone understand the immense importance and associated risks of such a decision.

*Peter Hoekstra was US Ambassador to the Netherlands during the Trump administration. He served 18 years in the U.S. House of Representatives representing the second district of Michigan and served as Chairman and Ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee. He is currently Chairman of the Center for Security Policy Board of Advisors.* <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18683/world-health-organization>

**Are We Looking At Another Civil War?**[*Kurt Schlichter*](https://townhall.com/columnists/kurtschlichter/) *Posted: Jul 11, 2022 12:01 A* Consider the logic of the left and it’s no wonder that many people are considering the unspeakable – whether America will devolve into actual violent conflict. But I dare speak about it at length in my brand-new book [We’ll Be Back: The Fall and Rise of America](https://www.amazon.com/Well-Be-Back-Fall-America/dp/1684513308), which confronts this issue of systematic political violence head-on. The most important question related to the long decline of America at the hands of a corrupt, incompetent, and terminally foolish ruling caste that controls our major institutions is whether we can pull out of this tailspin without bloodshed.  
 I sure hope so, but the risk is real and we need to confront it.  
 The logic of the left accepts political violence. A few years ago, one of its acolytes tried to wipe out the congressional Republican caucus on a softball field; last month, another member of the MSNBCNN target demo tried to off Justice Kavanaugh for somewhat limiting the ability of progressives to conveniently kill babies. Even the reaction to the recent molestation of the famously beer-ophilic jurist as he nibbled on a rib-eye at Morton’s in DC was indicative – this personal confrontation was celebrated by the left instead of decried. What’s the logical limit when you sign onto the idea that one can legitimately influence politics via the personal intimidation of officials placed in office by our agreed constitutional procedures? If you can get in his face, why can’t you slap it? Or put a bullet in it? If there is a boundary, the left is not setting it. Keep in mind that civil conflict is not unknown in America, Our revolution was also a civil war – one sparked by tyrants seeking to enforce gun control. The Civil War that followed four score and change years later was sparked by Democrats angry over the Republican demand that they stopped treating human beings inhumanly – a theme that continues to this day. Prior to the War Between the States was a war between the pro- and anti-slavery militias along the Missouri-Kansas borders. In the late-sixties/early-seventies, there was an urban leftist insurgency by groups like the Weather Underground and the Black Panthers that resulted in hundreds of bombings and many killings. It was dealt with as a law enforcement matter, but in a distinctly militaristic way. The Los Angeles Police Department famously annihilated most of the Symbionese Liberation Army – whose battle cry was “DEATH TO THE FASCIST INSECT!” – in a blazing firefight in South Central that was [broadcast on national TV](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhsMdlRoniQ).  
 But don’t insult our intelligence by referencing the minor fracas that was J6. If that was an insurrection, you would have seen some armed insurrecting instead of selfie-snapping. If red America wanted to start something, they would have brought along their ARs like progressive James Hodgkinson did.  
 So, while the chance of civil conflict is low, violence is not only possible but it has been used by the left as a means of making political change in America in the past. And the evidence is that the left remains ideologically open to using violence in the future to achieve its goals.  
 But what would a civil conflict look like if, heaven forbid, it ever came to pass again? The potential for a low-grade leftist insurgency may be the most likely scenario if it were to happen, but there is also the threat of a more substantial conflict involving paramilitary (i.e., groups of armed civilians) and even traditional military forces – right up to actual maneuver combat between blue forces that are primarily urban and red forces that are primarily rural with suburban territory mixed or contested. In that scenario, you must consider the respective correlation of forces and the territory red and blue forces would control initially to understand how this horrific situation might break down. My new book [We’ll Be Back: The Fall and Rise of America](https://www.amazon.com/Well-Be-Back-Fall-America/dp/1684513308) examines this in detail as a cautionary example, and puts it this way:  
 “[T]he blues face a real challenge. They will have those massively over-extended logistical lines. It’s nice to hold cities, but if you do not also hold all the rural territory between the cities, as well as the routes to the places where you are getting your food and fuel (and holding those is a big question in itself), then you have a real problem. The stuff that keeps cities alive has to pass through Indian country, and even assuming you could convince civilian truckers to make that passage, the blue states would still have to devote a massive proportion of their forces to defending those routes. Even a small-scale campaign against those supply lines could cause chaos in the cities. Imagine the madness as soft urban professionals, unused to privation and largely disarmed, find themselves both starving and subject to the will of the strong and merciless. It’s The Road Warrior, and there is no Mad Max coming to save you.  
 Meanwhile, in the red areas, they are growing food. And when they eventually win, they want payback. Perhaps they might negotiate a national divorce—sort of like the converse of a shotgun wedding—or perhaps they might just channel Michael Corleone and resolve to take care of all family business at once. They would not want to risk going another round with the enemy next door. As Cato the Elder might have said, ‘Blue America delenda est.’”  
 Remember that a US city cut off from food – and it’s easy for even light paramilitary forces to interdict the long rural stretches of the interstates and railroads – is five days from becoming Mogadishu. Advantage: Red America.  
 Keep in mind that a civil conflict that spins beyond a law enforcement operation is certain to involve paramilitary forces – bands of civilians with their own private weapons while living their best Second Amendment lives by fighting against what they see as tyranny. That has happened before, and as a result we don’t drive on the left and have generally good teeth.  
 But we should not be glib about it. Civil wars are the least civil wars of them all. As [We’ll Be Back](https://www.amazon.com/Well-Be-Back-Fall-America/dp/1684513308) demonstrates in shocking and graphic detail, this possible future is terrifying, and anyone telling you that systematic political violence can just be turned off is lying to you. It would change America forever, and not for the better.  
 My book is not giddy over the threat of conflict – instead, it is a warning that comes from both my personal history and what I saw overseas. My earliest memories are of the Gettysburg battlefield, which we visited often because my family comes from nearby Chambersburg – a town burned down by Confederate raiders. During my own military career, I served in the Los Angeles riots with the Army for three weeks and saw up close and personally both how fast the façade of civilization can collapse and how essential it is for every citizen to keep and bear modern weapons to defend themselves, their families, their communities, and their Constitution. In Kosovo, I served in the ruins of a civil war where factions (mostly divided by ethnicities that were inexplicable to outsiders) butchered each other – neighbors killed neighbors when a few years before they had lived in peace. I never forgot it, and I see similar attempts to divide Americans here as a huge threat.  
 Leftist critics and their fellow travelers at garbage outlets like The Bulwark will no doubt lie and claim that I am somehow advocating what I am warning against – sadly, this kind of bad faith refusal to engage and debate honestly has become all too common today and itself promotes conflict by eliminating the possibility of resolving disputes through reason. It leaves the exercise of raw power as the only means to solve problems, a situation common in much of the rest of the world. But we must look the monster of political violence in its eyes if we hope to defeat it. The way to bring America back to greatness need not be force. We have the Constitution, and it gives us the answers to all our questions. We citizens must demand that we do our fighting in the political arena instead of on the battlefield. A good start would be to leave your political opponents to finish their bone-in New York in peace.  
 Coming Thursday: "Is It Time for a National Divorce?" <https://townhall.com/columnists/kurtschlichter/2022/07/11/are-we-looking-at-another-civil-war-n2609990>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**US National Security Advisor: Iran planning to provide Russia with UAVs to use in Ukraine**

***Ahead of Biden's Middle East visit, Jake Sullivan says President will work to promote relations between Israel and Saudi Arabia, but "any normalization will be a long process."***

[*Israel National News*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Israel_National_News) *Jul 12, 2022, 7:40 AM GMT+3*

US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan spoke with reporters on Monday ahead of President Joe Biden's visit to the Middle East later this week.

“During the visit Biden will work to deepen Israel's integration in the region. During the summit with the Gulf states in Jeddah, Biden will make a key statement of his vision for the Middle East,” said Sullivan.

He added that Biden will work to promote relations between Israel and Saudi Arabia, but also stressed, “Any normalization will be a long process.”

Asked why Biden will be meeting with opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu during the visit, Sullivan replied, “So it's a standard protocol for an American President to meet with leaders across the Israeli political spectrum, and the reason is simple. It's because the President, this President and previous Presidents, have wanted to display that the relationship between the United States and Israel transcends politics, transcends parties, it doesn't matter who's in charge in Washington, or who's in charge in Israel.”

Sullivan also spoke about the talks with Iran on resuming compliance with the 2015 nuclear deal and, when asked how much time there is to revive the deal, he said, “We have not marked a date on the calendar. There's a deal on the table, available to Iran and Iran should step forward and take that deal.”

“Iran has a choice: It can come back to compliance or face increasing pressure form US and increasing (global diplomatic) isolation, as evidenced by 30 nations supporting [a] resolution at the IAEA Board of Governors,” added Sullivan.

Finally, the National Security Advisor said that the US has intelligence indicating that Russia is looking to Iran for UAVs. He said that the Iranian government is preparing to provide Russia with several UAVs for use in Ukraine, and train Russian forces to use these UAVs.

He added that it is unclear if Iran has delivered any of these UAVs to Russia already. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356344>

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**07/11/2022 NEWS**

**ISRAEL First Impressions (one day in Tel Aviv)**

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

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| "Liberty must at all hazards be supported. We have a right to it, derived from our Maker. But if we had not, our fathers have earned and bought it for us, at the expense of their ease, their estates, their pleasure, and their blood." -- John Adams (1735-1826) Founding Father, 2nd US President Source: A Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Law, 1765 |

**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 CF – fell off ladder and bad fracture leg.**  **Pray for EL – Had stoke – doing better**  **Pray for KH – diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 21:32If the ox gore a bondman or a bondwoman, he shall give unto their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned. 33And if a man shall open a pit, or if a man shall dig a pit and not cover it, and an ox or an ass fall therein, 34the owner of the pit shall make it good; he shall give money unto the owner of them, and the dead beast shall be his.

**Iran says it started enriching uranium to 20% using new centrifuges**

***IAEA chief Grossi says Iran using a special setup that allows it to swiftly switch between enrichment levels; Tehran reportedly has 43 kilograms of uranium enriched to 60% purity***

*By* [*Nasser Karimi*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/nasser-karimi/) *Today, 2:38 pm*

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran announced Sunday that it has begun enriching uranium up to 20% using sophisticated centrifuges at its underground Fordo nuclear plant, state TV reported, an escalation that comes amid a standoff with the West over its tattered atomic deal.

That Tehran is enriching uranium up to 20% purity — a technical step from weapons-grade levels of 90% — with a new set of its most advanced centrifuges at a facility deep inside a mountain deals yet another blow to the already slim chances of reviving the accord.

Behrouz Kamalvandi, a spokesman for Iran’s Atomic Energy Organization, said uranium enriched to 20% was collected for the first time from advanced IR-6 centrifuges on Saturday. He said Iran had informed the UN nuclear watchdog about the development two weeks ago.

Centrifuges are used to spin enriched uranium into higher levels of purity. Tehran’s 2015 nuclear agreement with world powers had called for Fordo to become a research-and-development facility and restricted centrifuges there to non-nuclear uses.

Iran had previously told the IAEA that it was preparing to enrich uranium through a new cascade of 166 advanced IR-6 centrifuges at its underground Fordo facility. But it hadn’t revealed the level at which the cascade would be enriching.

The International Atomic Energy Agency, the UN’s nuclear watchdog, told The Associated Press that it had verified on Saturday that Iran was using a set-up that allowed it to more swiftly and easily switch between enrichment levels.

Iran  
Documentation of IR-6 centrifuges and IR-5 machines [pic.twitter.com/QWgb4gYsyU](https://t.co/QWgb4gYsyU)

— Pegida Canada (@PegidaCanada) [July 2, 2022](https://twitter.com/PegidaCanada/status/1543315433318653954?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

In a report to member states, Director General Rafael Grossi described a system of “modified sub-headers,” which he said allowed Iran to inject gas enriched up to 5% purity into a cascade of 166 IR-6 centrifuges for the purpose of producing uranium enriched up to 20% purity.

Iran did not comment on the latest IAEA finding. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-says-it-started-enriching-uranium-to-20-using-new-centrifuges/>

**Biden visit set to cause traffic chaos in central Israel; 16,000 cops to be deployed**

***Main Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway to close on Wednesday; police, Air Force prepares to secure routes to be taken by US president, bars use of drones over airport and Jerusalem***

*By* [*Sara Serfaty*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/sara-serfaty/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:45 pm*

US President Joe Biden’s visit later this week is set to snarl traffic in central Israel, with the main highway connecting Jerusalem and Tel Aviv set to close for hours in both directions on Wednesday afternoon, police announced on Sunday.

Biden will land at Ben Gurion Airport on Wednesday afternoon and depart from it en route to Saudi Arabia on Friday afternoon. Security arrangements for the visit, officially titled “Blue Shield 3,” are set to include over 16,000 police officers, Border Police officers and volunteers.

The Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway, known as Route 1, will be closed between the airport-area Shapirim Interchange and the entrance to Jerusalem, police said in a statement. Traffic in both directions will be redirected to Routes 44, 444 and 443.

The police warned of traffic disruptions and roadblocks throughout the country’s center, Jerusalem and the highways leading to it during Biden’s visit, adding that details will be posted on the Israel Police’s social media outlets.

Meanwhile, the Israel Police and the Israeli Air Force have been conducting drills in advance of Biden’s arrival throughout the center of Israel, primarily focusing on securing travel between Biden’s planned destinations. The military drill was scheduled to end Sunday night.

The police presence will be focused on the Ben Gurion Airport area, Jerusalem and main throughways to the capital. Police control centers and hotlines will be active throughout the US president’s visit, the statement said.

The statement also emphasized that all private aircraft, including drones, are forbidden in the airspace of Ben Gurion Airport and Jerusalem throughout the visit.

Biden’s trip to Israel and Saudi Arabia marks his first time in the Middle East as US president, but his tenth visit to Israel overall. While originally scheduled for late June, his trip was pushed back to this week due to scheduling issues that an Israeli official said were related to the [Saudi Arabian](https://www.timesofisrael.com/white-house-announces-biden-trip-to-israel-west-bank-and-saudi-arabia-july-13-16/) leg of his trip. Biden accepted Israel’s invitation to visit in late April.

According to the latest version of Biden’s schedule, [released Thursday](https://www.timesofisrael.com/iron-dome-yad-vashem-maccabiah-bethlehem-bidens-2-days-in-israel-and-west-bank/), the president will be greeted by Prime Minister Yair Lapid upon his arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, and will then tour various security systems with Defense Minister Benny Gantz, also at the airport. The latter part was originally set to take part at the Palmachim airbase, but was moved to the airport on Sunday to save commuting time and traffic arrangements.

He will then travel to Jerusalem, where he will visit the Yad Vashem Holocaust museum.

On Thursday, Biden is scheduled to have various meetings with Israeli politicians, including Lapid and Alternate Prime Minister Naftali Bennett. Biden and Lapid will then attend a virtual I2U2 forum meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and United Arab Emirates President Mohamed bin Zayed to discuss food security and other potential areas of collaboration between the UAE and Israel, a White House official said.

Biden will then meet with President Isaac Herzog at his residence in Jerusalem, where he will be awarded the [Medal of Honor,](https://www.timesofisrael.com/herzog-to-honor-biden-with-presidential-medal-of-honor-next-week/) and will then speak with former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Biden will also address the crowd with Lapid and Bennett at the opening of the Maccabiah Jewish Olympic games Thursday evening.

On Friday, Biden will visit the Augusta Victoria Hospital on East Jerusalem’s Mount of Olives, a cornerstone of the Palestinian healthcare system that works with Israeli healthcare providers. It will mark the first time a sitting US president visits a largely Palestinian neighborhood in East Jerusalem that is not the Old City. There, Biden will announce US funding for the East Jerusalem Hospital Network as well as funding from other Gulf States.

Biden will then travel to Bethlehem for a meeting with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, after which he will announce a number of steps that both the US and Israel plan to take to strengthen the Palestinian Authority; exact details have not yet been finalized, a senior US official said.

After his meeting with Abbas, Biden will travel directly to Saudi Arabia, where he is scheduled to attend the GCC+3 summit on Saturday with leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council, including representatives from Qatar, Jordan and Iraq. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/biden-visit-set-to-cause-traffic-chaos-in-central-israel-16000-cops-to-be-deployed/>

**Blue and White, New Hope said close to deal for joint run in elections**

***Parties reportedly hope former IDF chief Eisenkot will take 3rd spot on slate; Regev says no room in Likud for Yamina leader Shaked, who insists she’ll stick with her own party***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 3:43 pm*

Defense Minister Benny Gantz’s Blue and White party and Justice Minister Gideon Sa’ar’s New Hope party are reportedly in advanced negotiations to run as a joint slate in the upcoming election.

Members of the two parties have met to agree on the terms of a joint run in the November 1 vote, according to Hebrew media reports, which would see Gantz head the slate, with Sa’ar in second place.

Former IDF chief of staff Gadi Eisenkot, who is being heavily courted by both Blue and White and Prime Minister Yair Lapid’s Yesh Atid party and is seen as a major catch for either party due to his high public profile and general popularity, would take the third slot if he were to choose to run with a combined Blue and White-New Hope faction.

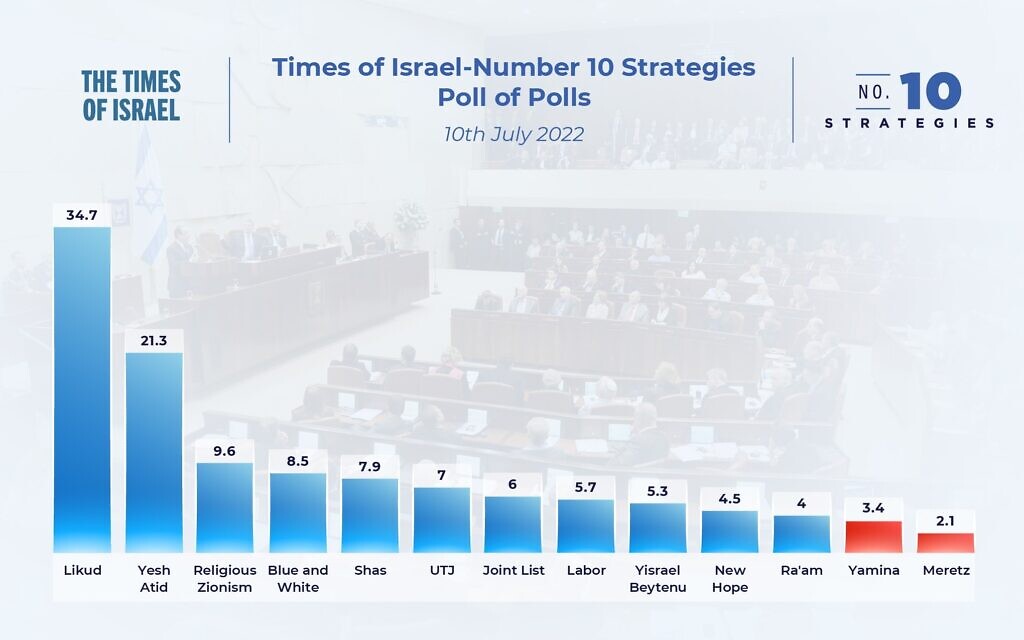
Eisenkot, who was military chief of staff from 2015 to 2019, is believed to have the ability to bring in voters from both the left and the right. The retired general was one of the most coveted figures during the March 2021 election cycle, with his name linked in reports to a number of parties, but he eventually decided not to run.

According to reports, the remaining places at the top of the joint slate would be held by Immigration Minister Pnina Tamano-Shata (Blue and White), Culture Minister Chili Tropper (Blue and White), Education Minister Yifat Shasha-Biton (New Hope), Knesset Economics Committee head Michael Biton (Blue and White) and Housing Minister Ze’ev Elkin (New Hope).. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/blue-and-white-new-hope-said-close-to-deal-for-joint-run-in-elections/>

**Elections 2022: How to make sense of the opinion polls**

***In the first of a regular series leading up to November 1, Simon Davies and Joshua Hantman explain how Israel’s pollsters work, highlight the flaws, and identify 4 decisive issues***

*By* [*Simon Davies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/simon-davies/) *and* [*Joshua Hantman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/joshua-hantman/) *Today, 10:41 am*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/poll.jpg)

The state of the Israeli election campaign: Poll of polls, showing the number of seats parties would be expected to win if the election was held today, based on a weighing of the latest opinion polls.

As Israel’s fifth election campaign kicks off, public opinion polls are back at the center of the national discourse. They shape media coverage, influence which parties end up running and which drop out or merge, and ultimately, impact voter behavior.

There is nothing inherently wrong with this.

To borrow and adapt the famous Winston Churchill quote, polling is the worst way of measuring public sentiment, except for all the others that have been tried. And as campaign strategists and pollsters ourselves, who have conducted polling for senior politicians and parties in Israel and over twenty countries around the world, every day we give advice to clients based on polling data.

The key is to understand exactly what the data is and is not telling us. To understand it in its proper context. To recognize its limitations.

This column aims to do just that. Every week for the duration of the campaign, we will try to unpick the polls — analyzing the prevailing trends, highlighting which issues to look for, and pointing out what the various parties and strategists will be deducing from them.

We will also include a “poll of polls,” updated weekly, which will bring together all the publicly available polling data to provide a snapshot of where the election stands as November 1’s election day draws closer.

Our first “poll of polls” is at the top of this article. It shows the number of seats parties would be expected to win if the election was held today. We are not rounding up or down — so that you can see more precisely how the parties are doing. Meretz is currently averaging below the 3.25% threshold for Knesset seats, while Yamina is right on the brink.

***How polls in Israel work***

Before analyzing the current state of play, it is worth looking for a moment at how polling in Israel works.

It is important to differentiate between the polling that the public is seeing, largely conducted on behalf of media organizations, and the polling the parties themselves are doing.

Public polls are designed to be cheap and quick, asking just a few questions in order to get a snapshot of the race, which can in turn inform coverage.

In contrast, the parties are doing in-depth, strategic polling, with many more questions. This quantitative research is then combined with qualitative focus groups, in order to provide a much more comprehensive understanding of public sentiment. This is used to build and refine strategy, and to test messaging.

While in the media, polls are used to give us a sense of current public opinion, the parties are using polling to help them manipulate and shape public opinion to their benefit.

Methodology is fairly similar across all the major polling companies. Polling in Israel today is largely conducted online, with a representative sample of somewhere between 500 and 600 Israeli adults taken from an online “panel” made up of tens of thousands of people. Pollsters will generally top up this sample with phone interviews to ensure an adequate representation of harder-to-reach groups, such as Haredim, the elderly, immigrants from the FSU and the Arab community.

Each pollster will have their own model of calculating seats from this data, with slightly different approaches to weighting, but the discrepancies between different companies’ polls are generally fairly small. MORE -

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/elections-2022-how-to-make-sense-of-the-opinion-polls/>

**Yamina defector Chikli to resign from Knesset, opening the door for joining Likud**

***Resignation set to remove sanctions imposed by Yamina’s declaration of him as defector, meaning he can now join an existing party; however, panel could rule move illegal***

*By* [*Michael Horovitz*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/michael-horovitz/) *Today, 10:22 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/F220710NRF08-e1657473137825.jpg)

MK Amichai Chikli arrives at the Jerusalem District Court, for his appeal against his designation as a defector, July 10, 2022. (Noam Revkin Fenton/ Flash90)

Rebel Yamina MK Amichai Chikli is expected to resign from the Knesset in a deal that would remove sanctions and allow him to run with an existing party in the upcoming election, amid rumors that the right-wing lawmaker is set to receive a reserved spot on the Likud party slate.

However, the Central Elections Committee still has to confirm that the agreement is legal.

The deal was reached during a hearing at the Jerusalem District Court on an appeal filed by Chikli against his designation as a defector by his Yamina party. That status would have prevented him from running as part of an existing party in the upcoming November 1 national vote.

Chikli and lawyers from former prime minister Naftali Bennett’s Yamina agreed that the renegade MK could resign from the current Knesset, despite resisting such a proposition when proceedings began a month ago. This would free Chikli from his restrictions and possibly allow him to join Benjamin Netanyahu’s opposition Likud party in the upcoming vote.

Chikli last year opposed his party’s forming of a government with an ideologically diverse group of factions, blasting the inclusion of the Islamist Ra’am party, consistently voting alongside the opposition. He was [ejected](https://www.timesofisrael.com/vote-on-yamina-ouster-of-chikli-turns-into-political-theater-over-coalitions-future/) from Yamina in April and declared a defector.

Chikli’s removal was widely seen at the time as a sign to other Yamina lawmakers to stay in line after former coalition whip MK Idit Silman jumped ship. Yamina filed its request to eject Chikli from the party a day after Silman’s departure and he was booted shortly thereafter. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/yamina-defector-chikli-to-resign-from-knesset-opening-the-door-for-joining-likud/>

**Lapid calls for solution to Gaza conflict, rather than rounds of fighting**

***PM said Gazans must understand that they could be living different lives and pressure the Hamas rulers; said Israel to continue 'economy for security principle in allowing workers into Israel; Family of fallen soldier whos remains held by terror group slam government for inaction***

*Haim Goldich | Published: 07.10.22, 20:33*

Prime Minister Yair Lapid said on Sunday that Israel needs a better solution to the conflict on the Gaza border, than repeated rounds of fighting with Hamas.

Speaking at a ceremony marking eight years since Israel's 50-day war with Hamas in 2014, Lapid said Israel must find better options.

"Gazan civilian population must understand that they can live differently, and pressure Hamas to stop shooting rockets at Israel, Lapid said. " And to do so, we expanded the number of work permits, and will continue to promote the 'economy for security' principle," Lapid said.

"In the past year, the Israeli government maintained a zero-tolerance policy towards terror acts from the Gaza Strip. Every hostile move received an immediate response. Incendiary balloons, suitcases full of cash, and rocket fire from time to time were almost completely stopped," he said.

The prime minister said that Israel has a sacred obligation to bring home the fallen soldiers, Hadar Goldin and Oron Shaul, who were killed in the 2014 war and whos remains are being held by Hamas, for burial.

"The fallen soldiers of Operation Protective Edge did not die in vein. If we can die for each other, we must know how to live for each other."

Family members of the fallen troops criticized the government for leaving the bodies of their loved ones in the hands of Hamas for eight years. MORE - <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/bjej7dui5>

**Beleaguered head of key settlement umbrella group announces resignation**

***Yesha Council chief David Elhayani’s popularity has been low within West Bank settlers’ political leadership, due to his support for Netanyahu rival Sa’ar’s New Hope party***

*By* [*Jeremy Sharon*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jeremy-sharon/) *Today, 8:18 pm*

David Elhayani, the chairman of the Yesha Council umbrella organization representing local authorities in West Bank settlements, announced on Sunday that he would be stepping down from his role, after a tempestuous three-year tenure.

In his letter of resignation on Sunday, Elhayani emphasized “differences of opinion” that arose during his leadership, but insisted that despite these problems and the COVID-19 pandemic, which dominated much of his time as Yesha chair, he did succeed in advancing the interests of the settlements.

“I saw in my position a national mission of the first order, and I undertook it out of a deep faith in the importance of the settlements for the future of the State of Israel,” said the outgoing chairman.

He also referred in his letter to “political developments and new elections” as reasons for his departure, although it remains unclear if he is seeking to run for the Knesset.

Elhayani was narrowly elected Yesha chair in November 2019, in a race in which he had become a compromise candidate, after two leading candidates quit the election at the last moment. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/beleaguered-head-of-key-settlement-umbrella-group-announces-resignation/>

**Court rules online civil marriages valid, upending Israel’s religious status quo**

***Interior Ministry now obligated to register as married Israeli couples who wed in online ceremonies through the US state of Utah***

*By* [*Jeremy Sharon*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/jeremy-sharon/) *Today, 2:06 pm*

[An Israeli couple marries in an online civil marriage ceremony under the auspices of Utah County in the US State of Utah. 
(Courtesy WedinSea)](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/Utah-marriage.jpeg)

An Israeli couple marries in an online civil marriage ceremony under the auspices of Utah County in the US State of Utah. (Courtesy WedinSea)

A ruling by the Lod District Court has upended the religious status quo in Israel and could augur a marriage revolution in the Jewish state.

In a decision published on Friday, Judge Efrat Fink ruled that the Population and Immigration Authority of the Interior Ministry is obligated to register as married couples who wed through an online civil marriage service carried out under the auspices of the US state of Utah.

The decision means that Israeli couples can now get married in civil ceremonies without leaving the country, granting a de facto victory to advocates in the decades-long struggle for civil marriage in Israel.

Orthodox political parties have long fought efforts to institute civil marriage in Israel, citing their religious objections to the state sanctioning interfaith marriages and other unions prohibited by Jewish law.

Friday’s ruling in effect circumvents the political roadblock, making civil marriage available to all Israelis without having to travel outside the country. It swiftly invoked the ire of Orthodox politicians, who denounced it as “undermining” the Jewish character of the state. [This is HUGE! A major challenge to the very orthodox control of marriage. – rdb]

Israeli law only allows for marriage through Israel’s established religious institutions — e.g., the rabbinate for Jews, sharia courts for Muslims — meaning that hundreds of thousands of Israeli citizens cannot get married in Israel due to various religious barriers.

Although couples have been able to marry in civil ceremonies abroad and have them registered by the Population Authority for nearly six decades, this process involves considerable expense and inconvenience.

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2012/06/F101221YZ02.jpg)

An Israeli couple after a civil marriage in Cyprus. (Yossi Zamir/Flash90)

In December 2020, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, several Israeli couples got married through an online marriage service provided by Utah County, in Utah.

When these couples approached the Population and Immigration Authority to register as married their requests were approved, but then-interior minister Aryeh Deri, the leader of the ultra-Orthodox Shas party, later froze the process and ordered a legal review of the issue.

Other couples who had married through Utah’s service then filed lawsuits against the Interior Ministry demanding that their marriages also be approved.

The ministry published the legal opinion ordered by Deri in June 2021, arguing that since the couples were located in Israel at the time of their marriages, Israeli law applies to them and their marriages were therefore invalid.

By then, senior Yamina politician Ayelet Shaked had replaced Deri as interior minister, but she declined to intervene on the matter and did not offer an opinion.

In its decision on Friday, the Lod District Court ruled that the location of an online service is a highly complex issue — beyond what a Population Authority clerk is authorized to deal with.

The court went further, ruling that the only issue relevant for officials in the Population Authority is the validity of the documentation provided to them.

“When it became clear that the marriage certificate confirms that the applicants were married in a ceremony recognized by the State of Utah, and that the certificate was issued by an authority authorized to do so, the clerk should have been instructed to carry out the registration,” wrote the judge.

Although Israel has no provision for civil marriage, the Interior Ministry has been required to register as married couples who wedded in civil services performed abroad since a Supreme Court ruling on the issue in 1963.

In 2019, 9,950 couples who married abroad in which at least one spouse was an Israeli citizen were registered as married by the Interior Ministry.

But traveling abroad to get married became all but impossible during the pandemic, leaving thousands of people without any marriage option for an indefinite period of time.

In December 2019, Utah County launched its “remote appearance marriage” ceremonies as part of its efforts to streamline a series of administrative services for its residents.

Although Utah County officials never intended to facilitate civil marriage for foreign couples, Burt Harvey, the division manager of public services and tax administration for the Utah County Clerk Auditor, said he was happy that the county’s services would help those outside of the state and indeed the country.mr- <https://www.timesofisrael.com/court-rules-online-civil-marriage%d7%93-valid-upending-israels-religious-status-quo/>

**El Al inks deal to restore pilots’ salaries to pre-COVID rate, ending labor dispute**

***Alongside pay raise, pilots agree to prepare for resumption of long-haul flights later this year; dispute saw pilots call in sick, causing flights to be canceled***

*By* [*Michael Horovitz*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/michael-horovitz/) *Today, 8:13 pm*

El Al signed an agreement with pilots on Sunday to restore their salaries to pre-COVID rates by the start of next year, ending a months-long labor dispute which had seen daily disruptions to flights.

A separate demand by the pilots — to be represented by an independent, professional union separate from the union that represents all El Al staff — was left out of the understanding.

The disputing parties welcomed the deal, which will be valid until 2025, with Arnon Bar-David, chair of the Histadrut labor federation, expressing confidence “that the agreement will return El Al to growth,” after difficult years of pandemic-related travel restrictions.

Pilots had been calling in sick, forcing flights to be canceled, on a daily basis during the peak travel season, while they demanded that their paychecks be increased in accordance with a previous agreement signed in 2017.

El Al had [requested](https://www.timesofisrael.com/court-refuses-to-step-into-el-al-work-dispute-more-flights-face-cancellation/) an injunction to force pilots to come to work in June, but the Tel Aviv Labor Court rejected the petition, telling both sides to return to negotiations, but also urging them to maintain a regular flight schedule. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/el-al-inks-deal-to-restore-pilots-salaries-to-pre-covid-rate-ending-labor-dispute/>

**Kiev comments on US congresswoman’s allegations**

***The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has responded to Victoria Spartz, who claimed Zelensky’s chief of staff “raises many*** *concerns”*



U.S. Rep. Victoria Spartz (R-IN) © Getty Images / Kevin Dietsch / Staff

*10 Jul, 2022 16:22*

Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesman Oleg Nikolenko on Saturday accused US Congresswoman Victoria Spartz of attempting to bring “Russian propaganda” into American politics.

Spartz had earlier called on the US administration to develop a mechanism for tracking military assistance provided to Kiev, and expressed doubts about the reliability of President Volodymyr Zelensy’s chief of staff in an open letter to Joe Biden.

*“We advise Ms. Spartz to stop trying to earn extra political capital on baseless speculation around the topic of war in our country and the grief of Ukrainians. Especially cynical are manipulations about Ukraine and its leadership from a congresswoman of Ukrainian origin,”* Nikolenko wrote on Facebook.

He also called on Spartz to “stop undermining the existing mechanisms of providing US military assist*ance to Ukraine,”* claiming that Kiev’s interaction with its American partners is completely transparent. Any *“further bureaucratization and delaying the process”* will only help the Kremlin, the Foreign Ministry spokesman claimed.

On July 8, in an interview with Fox News, Spartz called on Congress to establish “proper oversight” of billions of dollars in assistance provided to Ukraine. Just a few days prior to that, the Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu said that *“some of the foreign weapons supplied by the West to Ukraine are spreading throughout the Middle East region, and also end up on the black market.”*

The head of Interpol, Jurgen Stock, also expressed concern that the conflict in Ukraine would result in numerous weapons being sold illegally.

In her open letter to the president, a redacted version of which was published on the same day, Spartz said the Ukrainian president’s chief of staff, Andrey Yermak, “raises many concerns with a variety of peopl*e”* in the US and around the world. However, the congresswoman noted, he is believed to be *“highly regarded”* by Biden’s National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan.

*“Based on a variety of intelligence, actions taken by Mr. Yermak in Ukraine and his alleged dealings in connection with Russia, Congress needs to obtain this information urgently to confirm or deny various serious allegations,”* Spartz’s office explained.

The congresswoman brought Biden’s attention to the appointment of Oleg Tatarov as Yermak’s deputy responsible for the fight against corruption. She claimed that Tatarov “has been delaying the appointment of an independent anti-corruption prosecutor for over *a year.”* Spartz also noted that, prior to his appointment, Tatarov was investigated by the National Anti-Corruption Bureau but later his case *“was allegedly inappropriately transferred to a regular prosecutor and closed.”*

*“Mr. Tatarov was also a top police official under former president Yanukovych prosecuting Euromaidan protesters,”* the congresswoman said.

Tatarov became deputy chief of staff in August 2020. His appointment caused outrage for several reasons, including his alleged ties with Russia. The public organization ‘Family of the Heavenly Hundred’, which represented relatives of those killed during the Western-backed Euromaidan protests of 2013-2014, accused the former deputy head of the Interior Ministry’s investigation department of justifying and covering up *“mass crimes and violations of human rights.”*

Since 2017, Tatarov has been under investigation over alleged misuse of money set aside for the construction of housing for the National Guard. He has kept his position despite the fact that both his immediate supervisor, Andrey Yermak, and President Zelensky were forced to publicly defend him.

In late 2021, Yermak explained the appointment of Tatarov by saying the HR department had found Tatarov’s *“professional level”* to be suited to the position for which he was considered.

He also said that four-year-old accusations against Tatarov *“have nothing to do”* with his work in the presidential office.

In July 2021, responding to a petition demanding Tatarov’s dismissal, Zelensky stated that *“no one shall be compelled to do what is not prescribed by law.”* In 2020, he stated that Oleg Tatarov had not been involved in the dispersal of activists during the Maidan. <https://www.rt.com/news/558737-congresswoman-ukraine-allegations-response/> [It sounds to me that people would do well to listen to Ms Spartz’s concerns. She seems to be more responsible than most of those in DC who just let money fly with no accountability. There are way too many questions causing concern with the Ukrainian group, Z included. – rdb]

**Le Pen blasts reverse effect of anti-Russia sanctions**

***10 Jul, 2022 14:42***

***The EU’s punitive measures ‘sanctioned the French more than they sanctioned Russia,’ she told French media***

Marine Le Pen, the leader of France’s right-wing National Rally party, has dismissed EU sanctions against Russia as “completely inefficie*nt.”*

Speaking to French broadcaster BMF TV on Sunday, Le Pen said the “sanctions had enriched Russia; they have sanctioned the French more than they had sanctioned Russia*.”*. The right-wing opposition leader also added that, due to Western sanctions, France had been forced to buy oil from India, a country that itself depends on oil exports from Russia. [Nice to see that there are some political folks in the EU block that have the brains to figure out that the actions against Russia are only hurting themselves. Too bad the dolts of DC aren’t smart enough to understand that. – rdb]

Her comments come as the EU plans to phase out Russian gas by 2030 in response to Moscow’s military offensive in Ukraine. In early June, the bloc adopted a new package of sanctions that included a partial embargo on Russian oil imports.

At the same time, according to a recent Bloomberg report, although the Russian economy was hit hard by sweeping Western sanctions, it proved to be more resilient than anticipated, with surging oil shipments responsible for blunting the impact of punitive measures.

The EU imposed a raft of new sanctions after Russia attacked Ukraine in late February, following the nation’s failure to implement the terms of the Minsk agreements, first signed in 2014, and Moscow’s eventual recognition of the Donbass republics of Donetsk and Lugansk. The German- and French-brokered protocols were designed to give the breakaway regions special status within the Ukrainian state.

The Kremlin has since demanded that Ukraine officially declare itself a neutral country that will never join the US-led NATO military bloc. Kiev insists the Russian offensive was completely unprovoked and has denied claims it was planning to retake the two republics by force. <https://www.rt.com/news/558735-le-pen-reverse-sanctions-effect/>

**Germany plans winter ‘warm-up spaces’ in case of gas shortage**

***The measure being considered by a number of German cities is aimed at those struggling to afford high heating costs, media report***

*10 Jul, 2022 14:43*

Gas shortages and skyrocketing heating costs might see many Germans unable to afford their heating bills this winter, Germany’s Bild tabloid reported on Sunday, adding that the nation’s Cities and Municipalities Association has suggested providing the most vulnerable people with public “warm-up” places instead. Some German cities have already gone ahead with such plans, the paper added.

The western German city of Ludwigshafen is about to convert its Friedrich-Ebert-Halle arena into a giant warm-up hall, Bild reported, citing the city mayor, Jutta Steinruck. The facility that used to host sports events, exhibitions and concerts and served as a vaccination center during the Covid-19 pandemic will now be potentially saving people from freezing winter temperatures, according to media reports.

*“We are currently preparing for all emergency scenarios for autumn and winter,”* the mayor told Bild. The measure comes as the Cities and Municipalities Association calls for similar practices to be adopted by cities all over Germany.

*“Nobody can say exactly how dramatic the developments will be,”* the association’s head, Gerd Landsberg told the tabloid, adding that one should consider establishing *“heat islands”* and *“warm rooms, where people can stay, even during a very cold winter.”*

According to Bild, Germany might experience not just another price hike in the coming winter but face an acute energy supply shortage in case Russia stops its gas supplies completely for whatever reason. Earlier this week, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said that Moscow guarantees reliable energy supply for Europe, adding that European customers would no longer see *“off-the-scale”* utility bills.

The western German towns of Neustadt, Frankenthal and Landau have also been planning to create *“heat islands”* of their own for the winter, according to Bild. Other energy-saving strategies involve turning off external lighting for public buildings and traffic lights at night.

The city of Dusseldorf plans to reduce heating temperatures for autumn and winter to save energy, Bild reported. The use of air conditioning in summer is to be reduced as well, it added.

Last month, Russian gas monopoly Gazprom reduced the flow through the Nord Stream pipeline to 40% of capacity, citing operational risks after Canada had not returned a pipeline turbine sent there for maintenance.

Ottawa said on Saturday it would return the turbine to Germany, following Berlin’s requests. Moscow had earlier said that gas supplies to Europe would be increased if the turbine was returned. However, on July 11, Gazprom is set to close Nord Stream for 10 days for scheduled maintenance. During that time, all gas flows via the pipeline will stop.

The developments come amid EU attempts to reduce the bloc’s reliance on Russian energy amid a standoff over Moscow’s military action in Ukraine. <https://www.rt.com/news/558736-germany-warm-up-spaces-winter-gas/> [Too bad the German leadership can’t figure out what the problem is. The role of government is to protect their citizens and it is obvious that dolts of DC and those in the EU have by and large forsaken and/or ignored that role. Russia had very simple requests and wasn’t threatening the US but those in charge want Pootie Poot gone along with a large segment of the world population, so they don’t care. – rdb]

**Health minister wants to be able to KILL children up to age 12!**

***Proposal made to 'alleviate' suffering of those with serious illnesses***

*By* [*WND News Services*](https://www.wnd.com/author/wndnewsservices/) *Published July 10, 2022 at 12:11pm* ***By Bridget Sielicki****Live Action News*

Dutch health minister Ernst Kuipers has introduced a proposal to parliament that would allow euthanasia for young children aged one through 12. The Netherlands already boasts some of the most relaxed euthanasia laws in the world, including allowing death for children who are over the age of 12, and for babies under age one who are thought to be terminally ill.

According to [NL Times](https://nltimes.nl/2022/06/28/health-min-wants-expand-euthanasia-access-terminally-ill-children-12), Kuipers believes that euthanasia should be allowed for children ages one through 12 who “are expected to die in the foreseeable future,” without any recourse for relieving their suffering. He believes that it will only affect “a small group of terminally ill children who suffer hopelessly and unbearably and for whom all options of palliative care are insufficient to alleviate their suffering.”

The medical community appears to be behind the idea — Kuipers made the proposal after an [appeal](https://www.iamexpat.nl/expat-info/dutch-expat-news/dutch-government-takes-step-towards-legalising-euthanasia-children) from a group of pediatricians — while Euro Weekly [reports](https://euroweeklynews.com/2022/06/29/health-minister-proposes-euthanasia-protocol-for-children-between-one-and-12/) that the “vast majority” of 72 doctors surveyed said they were in support of euthanasia for children who were experiencing acute suffering.

Ultimately, it will be the parents who will be the ones deciding to euthanize their children, as both will be required to consent to the procedure. Additionally, a doctor must affirm that there is no possibility of a cure or treatment to relieve the child’s suffering, and this must be confirmed by an independent third party. Finally, they must discuss this decision with the child in a “manner appropriate to the child’s comprehension.”

While these stipulations are meant to make the euthanasia of young children appear like a carefully-planned act of mercy, there is no instance in which it is ethical to kill a child — even if that child is suffering. Young children are *incapable of giving free consent to their own deaths*, and they will be particularly vulnerable to coercion if their own parents are the ones who are suggesting or allowing it. What these children need is better palliative and comfort care, and a dedicated medical team who will do everything possible to make sure they are well cared for. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/health-minister-wants-able-kill-children-age-12/> [Sorry folks but this is too much playing the role of God. – rdb]

**U.S. Energy Department sued over Biden's 'political' oil-reserve releases**

***SPR created for real emergencies, 'not falling poll numbers caused by failed energy policy'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 10, 2022 at 1:30pm* The U.S. Department of Energy has been sued by a watchdog organization questioning whether Joe Biden's decision to release millions of barrels of oil from the nation's emergency reserve actually is a political move.  
 Reports have confirmed some of that oil, which Biden promised would be used to lower gasoline prices across the U.S., actually was shipped out to China.  
 But Tristan Justice at The [Federalist](https://thefederalist.com/2022/07/07/watchdog-sues-energy-department-to-learn-if-bidens-oil-releases-are-politically-motivated/) reported that watchdog Functional Government Initiative sued the DOE over its refusal to comply with Freedom of Information Act requests that relate to Biden's use of the valuable national asset in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.  
 The FGI wanted documents that would offer insight into the official deliberations that preceded that decision, and any remarks about whether the oil could be used for political purposes.  
 Peter McGinnis, a spokesman for the group, said in a prepared statement, "With each release from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, we weaken our ability to respond to a legitimate supply crisis. The SPR was created to respond to real emergencies, a category that does not include falling poll numbers caused by a failed energy policy. Americans deserve to know if political motives are behind moves that put their security at risk."  
 FGI said it started looking into Biden's actions in January, just a few weeks after Biden ordered millions of barrels of oil released in a failed attempt to reduce surging gasoline prices, which reached more than $5 a gallon in many locations.  
 Biden since then has released hundreds of millions of barrels of oil and his plan is that before the end of this year, some 260 million barrels of oil from the nation's emergency reserve will have been used.  
 That will put the supply's level at its lowest since 1986.  
 The reserve was created by Congress following the 1970s energy emergencies where Arab nations cut off supplies to the U.S., and drivers spent long hours waiting for opportunities to fill their gasoline tanks.  
 The purpose of the reserve was to mitigate future emergencies to include natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina where crude oil output and natural gas production was interrupted by the weather emergency.  
 The report said America's shortage of supplies now is caused by "self-inflicted scarcities in supply after months of animosity toward the industry from the Biden administration, which is telling Americans to simply buy expensive electric cars."  
 Biden, in fact, has opposed drilling, leasing, exploration, pipelines and more, insisting that everybody go out and buy ultra-expensive electric vehicles, for which there are not enough chargers yet available should consumers do that

<https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/u-s-energy-department-sued-political-oil-reserve-releases/>

**5 indicted for scheme to silence American critics of Chinese communists**

***Accused of targeting U.S. residents whose politics enraged PRC government***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 10, 2022 at 1:46pm*

Five men have been indicted for allegedly running a scheme that targeted – and tried to silence – U.S. residents whose political views were opposed by the Chinese Community Party.

The Department of Justice said the defendants include one federal law enforcement officer and a private investigator.

The federal grand jury originally had indicted Fan "Frank" Liu, 62, of Jericho, New York; Matthew Ziburis, 49, of Oyster Bay, New York; and Qiang “Jason” Sun, 40, of the PRC for the scheme. Added in a superseding indictment were Craig Miller and Derrick Taylor. Miller is a 15-year employee of the Department of Homeland Security and Taylor is a retired DHS law enforcement agent now working as a private investigator.

They are charged with running a "transnational repression scheme that targeted U.S. residents whose political views and actions are disfavored by the PRC government."

"Among other items, these defendants allegedly plotted to destroy the artwork of a PRC national residing in Los Angeles, who was critical of the PRC government and planted surveillance equipment in the artist’s workplace and car to spy on him from the PRC," the DOJ said.  
 "Miller and Taylor are charged with obstruction of justice for allegedly destroying evidence after they were approached by FBI agents and asked about their procurement and dissemination of sensitive and confidential information from a restricted federal law enforcement database regarding U.S.-based dissidents from the PRC," the DOJ said.  
 "We will defend the rights of people in the United States to engage in free speech and political expression, including views the PRC government wants to silence," said Assistant Attorney General for National Security Matthew G. Olsen. "As charged, these individuals aided agents of a foreign government in seeking to suppress dissenting voices who have taken refuge here. The defendants include two sworn law enforcement officers who chose to forsake their oaths and violate the law."  
 U.S. Attorney Breon Peace for the Eastern District of New York noted, "As alleged, this case involves a multifaceted campaign to silence, harass, discredit and spy on U.S. residents for exercising their freedom of speech – aided by a current federal law enforcement officer and a private investigator who provided confidential information about U.S. residents from a restricted law enforcement database, and when confronted about their improper conduct, lied and destroyed evidence."  
 The charges include conspiring to act as agents of the PRC government, conspiring to commit interstate harassment and criminal use of a means of identification. Also conspiracy to bribe a federal official and obstruction of justice.  
 "As alleged, Liu and Ziburis operated under Sun’s direction and control to discredit pro-democracy PRC dissidents residing in the United States, including those in New York City, California and Indiana, with efforts to disseminate negative information about, and to spy on, stalk, harass and surveil U.S.-based dissidents," the DOJ said.  
 Miller and Taylor allegedly were involved through their work to obtain information about the targets, and provide it to the Chinese agents. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/5-indicted-scheme-silence-american-critics-chinese-communists/> [ Working against the constitutional rights of others on behalf of another government should border on treason. – rdb]

**Commentary:**

**A Revolution Against the Administrative State**

[***Daniel Greenfield***](https://www.blogger.com/profile/13575285186581875356) [***July 10, 2022***](http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2022/07/a-revolution-against-administrative.html)

Four days before Independence Day, the Supreme Court fired its own shot at the modern tyranny that has dismantled the Constitution and runs our lives to a degree King George III could never have imagined and that the Founding Fathers would never have tolerated.

The shot fired at the administrative state was almost missed in the fury over the Supreme Court’s abortion ruling. While the amateur liberals who live on ActBlue, wield blue checkmarks on Twitter and inhabit blue states raved over the fall of Roe v. Wade, the professionals of Washington D.C. were much more worried about another Supreme Court decision.  
 “Supreme Court climate case might end regulation,” E&E News, a Politico green energy site, warned. That may be excessively pessimistic for big government proponents or optimistic for conservatives, but there’s no question that big government has suffered a serious shock.  
 West Virginia v. EPA wasn't just a victory for the coal miners of Appalachia, it sent shudders through the vast infrastructure of the D.C. administrative state. Dobbs v. Jackson was a cultural blow to a post-everything feminism that discarded women, but retained abortion, that felt like an earthquake, but changed surprisingly little, while West Virginia v. EPA is the real revolution.  
 S&P Global [warned](https://www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/news-insights/latest-news-headlines/supreme-court-decision-to-complicate-fcc-ftc-rulemaking-processes-experts-say-70952924) that the decision would "complicate FCC, FTC rulemaking processes". Net Neutrality now appears to be dead all over again. And Americans have new tools for challenging the unaccountable administrative state wielding power over every aspect of their lives.  
 The implications of West Virginia v. EPA go far beyond environmental regulations. If abortion was the cultural third rail of politics, West Virginia v. EPA is the third rail of government.  
 Liberalism has taken it for granted that abortion ought to be easily accessible and that government bureaucrats ought to be able to do anything they like. Abortion may be a moral evil, but the administrative state is the root of all evil. Its members made up the “resistance” who sabotaged Trump administration policies, as they did those of his Republican predecessors.  
 Even as its media and political allies shout about a “threat to democracy”, the administrative state spent generations making elections and elected officials irrelevant. Congress might legislate, presidents might sign bills into law, and judges might rule on them, but the actual implementation was left to a massive expanding bureaucracy which had its own agendas.  
 The administrative state is why elections feel pointless to most Americans. Elected officials, at least if they’re Democrats and especially if they’re leftists, can have some influence on the system, but no matter how many decades they’ve spent in office, they’re still amateurs. The professionals are the careerists who are permanently on the payroll and who can’t be fired.  
 It wasn’t supposed to be this way.  
 "That Congress cannot delegate legislative power to the President is a principle universally recognized as vital to the integrity and maintenance of the system of government ordained by the Constitution," Chief Justice John Marshall Harlan wrote in 1892.  
 "Congress is not permitted by the Constitution to abdicate, or to transfer to others, the essential legislative functions with which it is vested," Chief Justice Charles Evan Hughes stated in a ruling against another of FDR's unconstitutional New Deal programs.  
 The nondelegation doctrine fell victim to the same technocratic forces, the bureaucrats, regulators, experts, and think-tanks driving the New Deal. Eisenhower, the first of many White House Republicans to make peace with the New Deal, oversaw the continued expansion of the government as political elites accepted that the bureaucracy needed a free hand to run things.  
 Government had become too complicated for self-government, by the people or their representatives.  
 Reagan became the first post-New Deal Republican president to challenge the administrative state. While he was handicapped by Congress, two administration officials, Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito, began their long ascents to the Supreme Court. Two generations later, West Virginia v. EPA is a bullet shot into the side of the tyranny the Reagan Revolution was aimed at.  
 In her West Virginia v. EPA dissent, Justice Kagan made the big government counterargument that agencies ought to hold the real power because "Congress… gives an expert agency the power to address issues — even significant ones — as and when they arise."  
 What Kagan was really saying is that elected officials can’t handle running the government. And that’s true enough. It’s not just that Congress passes bills without reading them, it has even less idea of what those bills and how they will be implemented. Government has become unaccountable and three Supreme Court justices believe that we should be ruled that way.  
 Kagan's dissent fumed that expecting agencies to rely on Congress to pass laws would "prevent agencies from doing important work” and lambasted the “anti-administrative-state stance” of the conservative “majority opinion". “Climate change’s causes and dangers are no longer subject to serious doubt how to address climate change. And let’s say the obvious: The stakes here are high,” she wrote, insisting that the manufactured crisis would kill millions unless the bureaucrats were empowered and unleashed to handle the emergency by controlling our lives.  
 The temporary state of emergency of the New Deal has become a permanent emergency with a rotating list of crises that traditional constitutional authority is incapable of meeting.  
 "Whatever else this Court may know about, it does not have a clue about... it does not have a clue about how to address climate change," Kagan complained.  
 That message, always present, has become deafening in the era of the pandemic, the latest in a series of crises which only the experts are qualified to handle while elected officials are told their job is to keep the people from interfering with the delicate business of crisis management.  
 The highest court in the land, Kagan insists, isn’t qualified to interfere with the EPA’s experts.  
 A hereditary monarchy has been replaced with hereditary crises and an expert class of philosopher kings who claim to have all the answers and therefore all of the authority.  
 The Supreme Court could have done far more to roll back the unlimited authority of federal agencies. Chevron deference remains intact and the decision, written by Justice Roberts, is far too narrow, but it’s also a crack of light in the darkness of a free nation that is not actually free.  
 What has touched off all that fear in the administrative state was merely Justice Roberts, the most liberal Republican appointee on the court, writing that an "agency instead must point to 'clear congressional authorization' for the power it claims."  
 The fury over that modest proposal reveals how America is really run. And who runs it.  
 The media narrative seeks to convince Americans that the Supreme Court is radical and seizing unprecedented powers when it’s really the other way around. In the last few years, agencies have seized unprecedented power over every area of American life. The Biden administration has argued in court that the CDC can issue an eviction moratorium and that OSHA can force workers to get vaccinated. Big government was using a crisis to wield unlimited authority with agencies seizing the thinnest pretext of authority to weigh in on entirely unrelated areas.  
 West Virginia v. EPA is a response to unprecedented power grabs in which the country is increasingly ruled by ‘pen and paper’ executive orders to a vast omnipotent bureaucracy.  
 It’s not a final reckoning, but it’s a revolution against a tyranny that has virtually eliminated meaningful self-government and the power of the people. And it’s a long overdue revolution.  
 “He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance,” the Declaration of Independence accused King George III.  
 The multitude has only increased. And our substance is all but eaten out.

[*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/2022/07/a-revolution-against-administrative.html>

**Brussels: Capital of Europe or Eurabia?***by* [*Giulio Meotti*](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Giulio+Meotti) *July 10, 2022 at 5:00 am* While [Lieven Verstraete](https://www.7sur7.be/belgique/bruxelles-conquise-par-les-nouveaux-arrivants-les-propos-dun-journaliste-de-la-vrt-ne-passent-pas~a31454aa/), an acclaimed Belgian journalist who hosts the program, "De Zevende Dag" ("The Seventh Day"), was recently interviewing two members of the Green Party, he raised the issue of immigration and called Brussels "the perfect example of a city whose neighborhoods are conquered one by one by newcomers".  
 Newcomers? Conquered?  
 "How?" replied Nadia Naji, a politician of Molenbeek's Green party.  
 "Well," Verstraete, visibly uncomfortable, tried to explain, "more and more people with immigrant origins come to live there and claim their place. Do you feel Belgian in Molenbeek?"  
 A few hours after the broadcast, he apologized.  
 "In twenty years", the French newspaper [*Le Figaro*](https://www.lefigaro.fr/international/2008/03/21/01003-20080321ARTFIG00068-l-islam-premiere-religiona-bruxelles-dans-vingt-ans.php) predicted about Brussels, "the European capital will be Muslim".  
 "Almost a third of the population of Brussels already is Muslim", [stated](https://www.lefigaro.fr/international/2008/03/21/01003-20080321ARTFIG00068-l-islam-premiere-religiona-bruxelles-dans-vingt-ans.php) Olivier Servais, a sociologist at the University of Louvain. "Practitioners of Islam, due to their high birth rate, should be the majority 'in fifteen-twenty years'. Since 2001, Mohamed has been the most popular name among babies in Brussels".  
 Verstraete had told the truth -- but, as is said, in the time of universal deception, telling the truth is a revolutionary act.  
 "Molenbeek would love to be forgotten, because it is the very example of the failure of the multicultural society, which remains an untouchable dogma in Belgium", [wrote](https://www.lefigaro.fr/vox/societe/molenbeek-quand-un-depute-socialiste-n-y-reconnait-plus-la-belgique-20220503) Alain Destexhe, an honorary Senator in Belgium and former Secretary General of Doctors Without Borders. He was talking about the case of [Conner Rousseau](https://www.brusselstimes.com/219614/conner-rousseau-socialist-leader-criticised-for-remarks-about-not-feeling-in-belgium-in-molenbeek-brussels), president of Vooruit, the Flemish socialist party, who recently told *Humo* magazine, "When I drive around Molenbeek, I do not feel [as if I am] in Belgium".  
 "I no longer dare to walk hand in hand with a man in Molenbeek", [Gilles Verstraeten](https://www.rtbf.be/article/gilles-verstraeten-je-nose-plus-me-balader-main-dans-la-main-avec-un-homme-a-molenbeek-10982774), a gay parliamentarian, confessed.  
 "[I]n the Brussels region as a whole", Destexhe [noted](https://www.lefigaro.fr/vox/societe/molenbeek-quand-un-depute-socialiste-n-y-reconnait-plus-la-belgique-20220503), "only a quarter of Belgians are of Belgian origin, 39 per cent of Belgians are of foreign origin and 35 per cent are foreigners."  
 "Molenbeek is in fact only the tip of the iceberg of the progressive Islamization in all the major Belgian cities. Islam is increasingly visible in the public space of Molenbeek, and in the month of Ramadan almost all the shops and restaurants in the city are closed during the day. In many neighborhoods, women are no longer able to dress however they want or go out at night, and homosexuals have no right of citizenship. There are, however, hardly any voices to worry about this development, as if French-speaking Belgium, anesthetized in unison by the multicultural media, had resigned itself".  
 It is true not just Brussels. [Antwerp](https://katehon.com/en/article/antwerp-vlaams-belang-leader-denounces-islam-rooftops), the country's second-largest city, is now 25% Muslim. Another parliamentarian, [Herman de Croo](https://www.rtl.be/info/belgique/politique/-j-avais-prevu-de-ne-pas-sieger-au-parlement-flamand-mais-j-ai-change-d-avis-herman-de-croo-s-explique-1129631.aspx) , revealed that 78% of Antwerp's children aged 1-6 are foreigners.  
 The former Brussels Secretary of State [Bianca Debaets](https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/49612/too-many-no-go-areas-in-brussels-for-women-and-lgbt-says-minister/) recently said, "there are too many areas where it is difficult for women and homosexuals to walk".  
 The Chief Rabbi of Brussels, [Albert Guigui](https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/49612/too-many-no-go-areas-in-brussels-for-women-and-lgbt-says-minister/), was attacked by a group of Arabs. They insulted him, spat on him and kicked him. Since then, Guigui has not worn his skullcap in public.  
 No Jew lives in the Gare du Nord district anymore. "There are hardly any Jews left in this neighborhood," remarked [Michel Laub](https://daardaar.be/rubriques/les-juifs-delaissent-la-commune-bruxelloise-de-schaerbeek/), founder of the Museum of Deportation in Malines. "Yet this part of Schaerbeek near the Gare du Nord was once an important Jewish quarter."  
 For women, too, Brussels has become dangerous. "The Belgian political-media elites have surrendered in the face of the spread of Islamic fundamentalism", Fadila Maaroufi, a Belgian-Moroccan social worker and founder of the Observatory of Fundamentalisms in Brussels, told the French magazine [*Marianne*](https://www.marianne.net/societe/laicite-et-religions/entretien-aujourdhui-il-est-devenu-dangereux-de-parler-dislamisme-en-belgique).  
 "I grew up in a Moroccan family in a neighborhood near Molenbeek. In the 1980s, it was still quite cosmopolitan. Then, little by little, we saw the native Belgians leaving. I witnessed the rise of Islam, my sisters veiled while my parents wore flared pants. I myself have come under pressure, including from my family. It had become inconceivable that I did not veil myself .... When I tried to alert public authorities and associations, I found myself facing a wall. There have been attacks in Paris and attacks in Brussels, yet I had the feeling that we still did not grasp the extent of the problem".  
 In such an environment, freedom of expression also finds itself in dramatic retreat.  
 Belgian student associations [protested](https://www.valeursactuelles.com/societe/bruxelles-des-etudiants-boycottent-la-venue-de-charlie-hebdo-journal-reactionnaire/) the arrival in the capital of the publisher of satirical weekly newspaper *Charlie Hebdo*, "Riss", who survived a 2015 Islamist massacre in the paper's office.  
 The Filigranes bookshop in Brussels, the largest in the country, [canceled](https://www.lecho.be/economie-politique/belgique/general/filigranes-decommande-zemmour/9584087.html) a meeting with the journalist Éric Zemmour for "security reasons".  
 Demonstrations against Zemmour had been planned and a group, "Collective Against Islamophobia", had filed a complaint. The Hergé Museum [took back](https://www.lefigaro.fr/bd/2015/01/22/03014-20150122ARTFIG00177-le-musee-herge-annule-l-exposition-hommage-a-charlie-hebdo.php) its tribute to *Charlie Hebdo* by censoring itself. An exhibition that had been planned was canceled "for security reasons".  
 "Today the Muslim Brotherhood, spearhead of political Islam and of the insidious soft Islamisation of Western societies, continues its lobbying and blame games with its imaginary Trojan horse: Islamophobia", [wrote](https://www.cofoe.euractiv.com/post/europe-must-fight-to-defend-its-identity) a Belgian MEP, Assita Kanko, who fled Burkina Faso to look for freedom in Europe.  
 "The aim is clear: normalise radical Islamic codes and ways of life in order gradually to transform our Western societies instead of adapting to our European way of life. As a black woman and a secular Muslim, I know what it is to live under Islamic pressure and I know what it takes to emancipate oneself in order to finally live in dignity. The fight to preserve European civilisation is a fight to preserve humanism .... Two stones support the European temple: the Judeo-Christian heritage with the idea of human dignity and the Enlightenment, with the intellectual effervescence that accompanied it. It is from this subtle alchemy that European culture was born. European Judeo-Christian civilisation has created for itself over the centuries the conditions for its intellectual emancipation, and it can be proud of this .... Europe must urgently pull itself together and reaffirm its commitment to its own values...."  
 Destexhe, in his book "[Immigration et Intégration: avant qu'il ne soit trop tard](https://www.causeur.fr/immigration-belgique-alain-destexhe-159212)" ("Immigration and Integration: Before it will be too late") , recalled that from 2000 to 2010, Belgium welcomed more than a million migrants into a population of eleven million. It was a demographic tsunami that would forever change the face of Belgian society.  
 "Belgium was the first to recognize and subsidize Islam; it also elected the first veiled parliamentarian". Canadian journalist Djemal Benhabi told [*L'Echo*](https://www.lecho.be/dossier/apero-de-l-echo/djemila-benhabib-collectif-laicite-yallah-l-islamisme-est-plus-fort-en-belgique-car-c-est-un-pays-aux-multiples-fractures/10386508.html),  
 "Of all the European capitals, Brussels is the one through which the Islamist project intends to spread to Europe. Their lobbies are powerful there, so it is much easier for Islamists to break into the system and gradually transform it".  
 Journalist Marie-Cécile Royen also described the same collaboration in an [article](https://www.levif.be/magazine/comment-les-freres-musulmans-ont-pris-la-belgique-en-otage/), "How the Muslim Brotherhood took Belgium hostage".  
 We recently saw what the "left's" alliance with Islam means in Brussels. Socialists and Greens just voted in the Brussels Parliament not to ban the ritual slaughter of animals. [*Le Monde*](https://www.lemonde.fr/en/environment/article/2022/06/21/in-brussels-ritual-slaughter-preserved-under-pressure-from-religious-practices_5987516_114.html) called it the "community phenomenon": Brussels elects representatives who benefit from the support of one community or another in this highly multicultural region and are sometimes forced to abandon some of their convictions, or a facet of their identity, in order not to alienate voters.  
 Djemila Benhabib, in [*Le Point*](https://www.lepoint.fr/invites-du-point/serait-on-plus-musulman-a-bruxelles-que-dans-certains-pays-musulmans-24-05-2022-2476923_420.php), noted that "in Brussels half of the Socialist electorate is Muslim." "[I]n Brussels now", she [reported,](https://www.lalibre.be/debats/opinions/2022/06/01/a-bruxelles-les-politiques-ont-mise-sur-des-musulmans-conservateurs-5ZNXE6WM2FA4BEM5GZKEIE5QCU/) "politics is in the hands of conservative Muslims".  
 As they say: It's the demography, stupid.  
 According to French demographer [Michéle Tribalat](http://www.micheletribalat.fr/448383449), in the Brussels region (1.2 million inhabitants), 57% of those under 18 are of non-European origin; in the city of Brussels 68.4% of those under 18 are of non-European origin and in Antwerp (529,000 inhabitants), 51.3% of those under 18 are of non-European origin.  
 De-Christianization accompanies Islamization. 36 out of 110 churches in Brussels are [destined](https://www.lalibre.be/archives-journal/2016/03/21/leglise-de-bruxelles-pense-fermer-des-lieux-de-culte-mais-apres-consultation-6EDI3SNH35AO5GKZHGWD2TQYKI/) to change their use in the face of the dramatic decline of the faithful. According to an [*Rtbf*](https://www.rtbf.be/article/patrimoine-logements-musees-hotels-murs-descalade-que-faire-de-nos-eglises-desacralisees-10920342) dossier, this is the [plan](https://www.theeponymousflower.com/2016/04/after-50-years-of-liberal-church.html) of the archbishop of Brussels: "Homes, museums, hotels, climbing walls... What to do with our deconsecrated churches?"  
 Jean-Pierre Martin and Christophe Lamfalussy in their book "[Molenbeek-Sur-Djihad](https://www.cairn.info/revue-politique-etrangere-2017-2-page-192.htm)" disclosed that "in Molenbeek, in an area of ​​just six square kilometers, there are 25 mosques". What is that, if not Islamization?  
 Professor [Felice Dassetto](https://lactualite.com/monde/bruxelles-est-aussi-une-ville-musulmane/) , in his book, "L'iris et le croissant", wrote that with more than 200 organizations that explicitly refer to Islam, it, after football, is the most mobilizing organized reality in Brussels -- more than more than political parties, more than trade unions, more than the Catholic Church. "41 percent of public school students," noted [*Le Figaro*](https://www.lefigaro.fr/vox/monde/2015/01/16/31002-20150116ARTFIG00101-pourquoi-la-belgique-est-aussi-en-guerre.php)*,* "take the Muslim religion course".  
 Welcome to the "[European capital .. of the Muslim Brotherhood](https://global-watch-analysis.com/belgique-bruxelles-capitale-islamiste-europeenne/?lang=fr)" -- and the Muslim Brotherhood know it. "Where will we be in 50 years?" the president of the Islamic Cultural Center of Belgium felt free to [declare](https://www.dhnet.be/actu/faits/les-occidentaux-accuses-de-s-habiller-comme-des-chiens-les-casseroles-des-probables-futurs-president-et-vice-president-du-centre-culturel-islamique-de-belgique-5c7d6a549978e2710e90c59e). "All of Europe - inshallah - will be Muslim. So, have children!"  
 The greatest form of cultural racism in Europe today is that of EU elites who censor or support this spectacular change of civilization.  
 Meanwhile, discussion of Islam has become a "taboo" in the European capital, Florence Bergeaud-Blackler, CNRS researcher and anthropologist, told [*L'Express*](https://www.lexpress.fr/actualite/idees-et-debats/florence-bergeaud-blackler-l-islamisme-est-un-sujet-tabou-en-belgique_2152050.html). Certain districts of Brussels have become "a kind of sanctuary of Islam in Europe".  
 The [answer](https://www.unia.be/fr/articles/les-interviews-de-lete-felice-dassetto) is in Professor Felice Dassetto's book: in the mid-1970s there were only 6 mosques and Koranic schools in Brussels, in the early 1980s there were 38, now they are 80. And so, headlines [*Le Vif*](https://www.levif.be/actualite/belgique/les-projets-de-mosquees-fleurissent-a-bruxelles-quels-sont-les-enjeux/article-normal-1277461.html), "mosque projects are flourishing in Brussels".  
 How did we get here?  
 In the midst of the 1973 oil crisis, [Belgium](https://books.google.it/books?id=E-riDQAAQBAJ&pg=PT92&lpg=PT92&dq=roi+belgique+saoudien+Fayçal+1974&source=bl&ots=rfHv8WTS9x&sig=ACfU3U2Bj_nmUIYkKYMGlMoAoNLwLwsRzQ&hl=it&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjglf3SoaX3AhXlSvEDHRqcA-MQ6AF6BAgDEAM#v=onepage&q=roi%20belgique%20saoudien%20Fayçal%201974&f=false) turned to Saudi Arabia for supplies. Muslims in Belgium were of the first generation: they worked in the mines and wanted spaces to pray. Belgium's King Baudouin, in exchange for oil supplies, offered the Saudis the Pavillon du Cinquantenaire in Brussels, along with a 99-year lease. The building stands two hundred meters from the Schuman Palace and the headquarters of the European Union. Saudi Arabia soon transformed it into the Grand Mosque of Brussels, which has since been the de facto Islamic authority of Belgium.  
 As Alain Chouet, the former "number two" of the DGSE, the French counterintelligence service, recounted in his newly published book "[Sept pas vers l'enfer](https://www.lefigaro.fr/actualite-france/le-salafisme-voila-l-ennemi-un-ancien-responsable-de-la-dgse-brise-le-silence-20220204)" ("Seven Steps to Hell"), "in exchange, the Saudi king asked the Belgian king Baudouin to grant Arabia a monopoly on representing Islam and appointing imams in Belgium". The Belgian government officially recognized the Islamic religion. It was the first European country to do so. There followed the inclusion of the Islamic religion in the school curriculum.  
 "Eurabia" was born in those years, the years of an energy crisis, European weakness and the great rise of Islam. Sound familiar?  
*Giulio Meotti, Cultural Editor for* Il Foglio, *is an Italian journalist and author.* <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18695/brussels-europe-eurabia>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Al-Sisi's office: Lapid and Al-Sisi discussed resumption of peace process**

***Egyptian President's spokesman publishes statement following conversation with Lapid: The two sides agreed to work on arranging meetings in order to revitalize peace negotiations.***

[*Elad Benari*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Elad_Benari) *Jul 11, 2022, 11:14 AM GMT+3*

A spokesman for Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi published a statement on Sunday night, following the President’s [phone call with Prime Minister Yair Lapid](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356268).

The Spokesman for the Presidency said Lapid “extended greetings to President Al-Sisi on the occasion of Eid Al-Adha. For his part, President Al-Sisi congratulated Prime Minister Lapid on assuming the duties of his new post.”

“On the peace process, views were exchanged on the latest developments in the Palestinian issue. The two sides agreed to work on arranging bilateral and multilateral meetings including Egypt, Israel and the Palestinian President during the coming period in order to revitalize peace negotiations,” the statement said.

“The Israeli Prime Minister expressed his appreciation for Egypt’s efforts, led by President El-Sisi, to achieve security, stability and cooperation in the region. President El-Sisi reiterated that Egypt will continue its efforts to achieve just and comprehensive peace, based on the two-state solution and references of international legitimacy, opening up prospects for cooperation and development for all the peoples of the region. The President confirmed the need to sustain calm in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, stressing the importance of providing assistance to the Palestinian Authority in all areas, particularly in the economic field,” said the Egyptian spokesman.

“The call also tackled issues pertinent to bilateral relations between the two countries. The two sides agreed that the Israeli authorities conduct a full and transparent investigation into Israeli press reports with regard to historical events that occurred in the 1967 war on the Egyptian soldiers buried in Jerusalem. Mr. Lapid confirmed that Israel will deal with this matter in a positive and transparent manner, and that it will communicate and coordinate with the Egyptian authorities regarding developments in the matter in order to get to the truth,” the statement concluded.

Lapid’s office said earlier that during the conversation with Al-Sisi, “The President wished the Prime Minister success in his new role and noted their recent meeting in Cairo in which the two discussed a wide range of topics.”

“The two leaders discussed bilateral and regional matters, and emphasized the importance of the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel which laid the foundation for the countries’ strategic relations and is a central pillar of regional stability. The two expressed their commitment to continuing to develop relations, including in the economic sphere,” the Prime Minister’s office said.

“The two also discussed President Biden’s upcoming visit to the region this week. They also noted the Palestinian issue and the need for calm.” MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356275>

**British Foreign Secretary seeks to replace Johnson**

***British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss announces her leadership bid for the Conservative party.***

[*Israel National News*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Israel_National_News) *Jul 11, 2022, 8:35 AM GMT+3*

British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss on Sunday night launched her leadership bid for the Conservative party, following the resignation of Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

In an article for The Telegraph announcing her candidacy, the Foreign Secretary signaled that she will cut corporation tax, reverse the National Insurance rise and overhaul business rates.

“I will fight the election as a Conservative and govern as a Conservative,” Truss wrote.

“Under my leadership, I would start cutting taxes from day one to take immediate action to help people deal with the cost of living,” she added.

Truss’ article contains her first public comments on a leadership bid since rushing back from a G20 summit in Indonesia, after Johnson resigned last Thursday. MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356273>

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**07/10/2022 NEWS**

**How to Turn Sea Water Into Fresh Water Without Pollution**

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

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| "But, sir, the people themselves have it in their power effectually to resist usurpation, without being driven to an appeal of arms.  An act of usurpation is not obligatory; it is not law; and any man may be justified in his resistance.  Let him be considered as a criminal by the general government, yet only his fellow-citizens can convict him; they are his jury, and if they pronounce him innocent, not all the powers of Congress can hurt him; and innocent they certainly will pronounce him, if the supposed law he resisted was an act of usurpation." -- Theophilus Parsons (1750-1813) Source: in the Massachusetts Convention on the ratification of the Constitution, January 23, 1788, in \_Debates in the Several State Conventions on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution,\_ |

**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 CF – fell off ladder and bad fracture leg.**  **Pray for EL – Had stoke – doing better**  **Pray for KH – diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 21:28And if an ox gore a man or a woman, that they die, the ox shall be surely stoned, and its flesh shall not be eaten; but the owner of the ox shall be quit. 29But if the ox was wont to gore in time past, and warning hath been given to its owner, and he hath not kept it in, but it hath killed a man or a woman; the ox shall be stoned, and its owner also shall be put to death. 30If there be laid on him a ransom, then he shall give for the redemption of his life whatsoever is laid upon him. 31Whether it have gored a son, or have gored a daughter, according to this judgment shall it be done unto him.

**Iran starts advanced centrifuges at Fordo plant, UN watchdog report says**

***New units allow Iranians to switch between uranium purity levels more easily, papers obtained by foreign media say, as negotiations to restore 2015 deal remain stuck***

*By* [*Michael Horovitz*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/michael-horovitz/) *Today, 7:08 pm*

Iran has begun to use advanced centrifuges to enrich uranium at the underground Fordo facility, according to an International Atomic Energy Agency report [obtained by international media](https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-escalates-enrichment-with-adaptable-machines-fordow-iaea-reports-2022-07-09/) on Saturday.  
 The new machines mentioned in the confidential document obtained by Reuters have been the object of concern among Western states, as they make it easier for the Iranians to shift between enrichment levels.  
 Iran has told the IAEA it only plans to reach 20 percent enrichment with the upgraded centrifuges, below the necessary 90% needed for a nuclear weapon.  
 The report came amid stalled efforts by Western powers to forge an agreement with Iran that would place restrictions on the Islamic Republic’s nuclear program and prevent it from being able to weaponize the material.  
 Iran has held direct talks with the remaining parties to the deal, and indirect talks with the US, since last April in a bid to restore the previous deal signed in 2015, but those negotiations have been at an impasse since March.  
A person standing at a podium

Description automatically generated with low confidence The US accused Iran over the last week of making demands at the negotiating table which were “[wholly unrelated](https://www.timesofisrael.com/no-progress-made-us-blames-iran-for-failure-of-indirect-nuclear-talks/)” to its nuclear program, a claim which was [denied](https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-denies-us-accusation-it-is-making-demands-beyond-terms-of-nuclear-deal/) by Tehran.  
 Differences between Tehran and Washington have notably included Iran’s demand that its Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps be removed from a US terror list.  
   
 (R to L) Iran’s Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and Qatar’s Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani give a joint press conference at the foreign ministry headquarters in the capital Tehran on July 7, 2022. (Atta Kenare/AFP)  
 “We have no requirement which goes beyond the nuclear agreement — contrary to certain claims by the American party in the media,” Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian told reporters in Tehran.

In a meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday, Prime Minister Yair Lapid [stressed](https://www.timesofisrael.com/lapid-europe-and-the-us-feel-there-will-be-no-return-to-iran-deal/) to Israeli reporters the need for a “credible military threat” against Iran to ensure they would sign a deal acceptable to Israel.  
 There is also a growing acceptance, the prime minister asserted, that there won’t be a return to the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.  
 The US walked out of the previous Iran nuclear deal in 2018 under then-US president Donald Trump, who proceeded to reimpose biting sanctions on Tehran, prompting the latter to step away from many of the nuclear commitments it made under the accord.  
 Israel’s government fiercely opposed the JCPOA, believing Iran was unable to be trusted to adhere to the agreement.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-starts-advanced-centrifuges-at-fordo-plant-un-watchdog-report-says/>

**Report: IDF officials, government at odds over maritime talks with Lebanon**

***Military said to recommend halting negotiations after Hezbollah launches drones toward gas rig, but Israeli leaders see potential progress in talks***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 9:08 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/3OXwrfw-1-e1657127510855.jpg)

An Israeli Sa'ar Class 5 Corvette guards the Energean floating production, storage and offloading vessel at the Karish gas field, in footage published by the military on July 2, 2022. (Israel Defense Forces)

Israeli military officials are in favor of halting negotiations with Lebanon over a maritime border dispute, Channel 12 news reported Saturday.

The unsourced report said the Israel Defense Forces recommended freezing negotiations following attempts by the Hezbollah terror group to launch drones at the Karish gas field, which sits in a maritime area that both Lebanon and Israel claim as their own.

It said the government rejected the suggestion, as there appears to be some significant progress toward striking a deal with Lebanon.

The maritime border dispute between the two nations has been ongoing for several years. Despite US attempts to broker a deal, talks have repeatedly stalled over the issue, although US Envoy for Energy Affairs Amos Hochstein said last week that some progress had been made in recent negotiations.

Channel 12 said there “may” be some additional progress during US President Joe Biden’s trip to the region.

On Saturday, the IDF intercepted three Hezbollah drones heading for the Karish gas field. Hezbollah confirmed it launched the drones after previously threatening the field. In another incident last Wednesday, a drone launched by the terror group was downed over Lebanon’s waters.

After Saturday’s incident, parts of the drones were retrieved and taken for examination.

A picture containing sky, outdoor

Description automatically generatedA sea-based Iron Dome air defense system is seen on a Navy ship, guarding the Energean floating production, storage and offloading vessel at the Karish gas field, in footage published by the military on July 2, 2022. (Israel Defense Forces)

Defense Minister Benny Gantz on Thursday the drones were Iranian.

Hezbollah’s chief Hassan Nasrallah threatened Israel after a new drilling platform arrived at the gas field a month ago, saying that his organization was capable of preventing work there, including by force.

Israel and Lebanon have no diplomatic relations and are technically in a state of war. They each claim about 860 square kilometers (330 square miles) of the Mediterranean Sea as being within their exclusive economic zones.

The US has unsuccessfully sought to mediate between the sides for over a decade, with the last three administrations dispatching envoys to the region with the same task.

Both Israel and Lebanon have economic interests in the territory, which contains lucrative natural gas. Lebanon, which has been facing an economic crisis since late 2019, sees the resources offered as a potential road out of its current situation.

Talks saw a breakthrough in late 2020 before again stalling after Lebanon called for control over an additional 1,430 square kilometers (552 square miles) of maritime territory currently under Israeli control.

Tensions surrounding the dispute have risen in recent weeks, after a gas production vessel arrived in Israel to launch extraction operations in the Karish offshore field, drawing condemnation from Lebanon, which had laid claim to parts of it. Israel says the field is part of its UN-recognized exclusive economic zone. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/report-idf-officials-government-at-odds-over-maritime-talks-with-lebanon/>

**Israel taps Jewish doctors to immigrate and bolster health system**

*Yuval Niv | Published: 07.09.22, 19:00*

If the Immigration and Integration Ministry would ever need an educated young woman to be an example for a successful Aliyah, they should hire Dr. Alona Katlenikova.

 The Jewish doctor from Kazakhstan has been in Israel for eight months, and the only negative thing she can say is that bank officials are a little slow, and they don't bother to serve customers efficiently.

Dr. Alona Katlenikova and her daughter Anastasia

(Photo: Masa Israel Journey)

Other than that, Dr. Katlenikova thinks the Israeli health system is quite good, the weather is fine, and the local culture helps her connect with her Jewish roots.

If all goes well, she will soon pass the final licensing test of the Health Ministry and will become an Israeli doctor, as she tries to fulfill her dream of working in the emergency room at the Soroka Hospital in Be'er Sheva.

Dr. Katlenikova, 31, came to Israel as part of the "doctor's journey" program of the Masa Israel Journey NGO which was founded by the Jewish Agency and the Israeli government.

As part of the program, some 1,000 Jewish doctors from abroad made Aliyah in the past decade.

This week, the organization announced that in light of the health system's personnel shortage, it decided to expand the program, so in the next few months, 220 additional Jewish doctors are expected to arrive - under the Israeli Law of Return - from former Soviet Republics and 30 others from Latin America.

The Kazakh doctor first encountered the program four years ago, when Israeli doctors arrived in her hometown of Carengde and gave an emergency medicine course where she worked.

The idea to move to Israel was not far-fetched for Katlenikova, as her father and grandmother made Aliyah in the 1990s and settled in the city of Beit Shemesh.

 But she couldn't begin the process when it became clear that she would not be able to arrive in Israel with her daughter Anastasia, 10, whom she raises as a single parent.

Dr. Alona Katlenikova and her daughter (Photo: Masa Israel Journey)

But when the rules were changed, and it was decided that participants could come to Israel with their children, Katlenikova decided to make the move.

"I felt that our future could be in Israel," she said. "The health system here is much more advanced than in Kazakhstan where only recently a health system was established. Israel has a good health system, and you can see it in the success of cancer treatments and a high life expectancy," she said.

"I thought it was also a good opportunity for my daughter, and I think I was right. I'm happy. Her absorption was smooth. For her, the transition was a lot easier than it was for me. She just told me she didn't understand why we didn't do it before," Katlenikova added.

The two arrived at Be'er Sheva, where her daughter began to attend school, and she began to work in Soroka Hospital. Katlenikova concludes her eight months in Israel as "intense and productive".

Not only did she begin to work as a doctor, but she also studied Hebrew, traveled around the country, and did some medical tours in Israeli hospitals.

Despite the great differences between Israel and Kazakhstan, she did not experience a cultural shock, as her father told her about the country, so she knew what to expect. <https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/hj0y0pgo9>

**After deadly night, 2 more men critically injured in Israel's north**

***The two attacks, which left two men critically injured, follow three murders that happened in a span of 24 hours a day prior.***

*By* [*ROMAN MEITAV*](https://www.jpost.com/author/roman-meitav) *Published: JULY 9, 2022 17:11*



Between the villages of Dvoria and Shibli in the Lower Galilee, a 21-year-old man was seriously injured by gunfire

(photo credit: MDA)

Two serious incidents of violence occurred in the north of Israel within a span of two hours on Saturday afternoon.

Magen David Adom teams in the north were present on the scene of both incidents[.](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east-news/article-711613) Early on Saturday afternoon, a 50-year-old man was found in Tiberias with stab wounds across multiple parts of his body and was taken to Poria Hospital in critical condition.

A picture containing outdoor, ground, sky, walking

Description automatically generated Shortly after, between the villages of Dvoria and Shibli in the Lower Galilee, a 21-year-old man was seriously injured by gunfire, and a 71-year-old suspect has been arrested.

These events follow a chain of three murders that happened on Friday, despite [police attempts](https://www.jpost.com/israeli-news/article-711423) in the last year to combat criminal activity in Arab-Israeli communities

***Tiberias attack***

A 50-year-old man was seriously injured in a violent incident in Tiberias on Saturday, MDA medics found him with stab wounds and bruised all over his body and evacuated him to Poria Hospital after administering initial medical aid.

At 2:02 p.m., a report was received at MDA's 101 hotline in the Jordan area about a wounded man from a violent incident on Shimon Dahan Street in Tiberias, police are considering this incident to be a conflict between criminals.

“We were traveling with the ambulance when suddenly we saw the wounded man on the street signaling to us that he needed help. He suffered penetrating and bleeding injuries to his body," MDA paramedic Rami Butros said.

"We immediately sent a report to the center to launch an intensive care unit and began life-saving medical treatment that included stopping bleeding, bandages and providing fluids. We transferred him to an intensive care unit and he was taken to the hospital for further medical treatment," Butros added.

***Devoria attack***

Earlier on Saturday, at 12:48 p.m., a report was received at MDA's 101 hotline in the Gilboa area about a wounded man from a violent incident between Devoria and the village of Shibli. according to police, the man was shot several times in a suspected conflict between criminals.

About an hour after the shooting, police arrested a 71-year-old suspect, a resident of the village of Shibli, while in possession of a handgun.

***3 murdered a day prior***

These incidents follow [three cases of suspected murder](https://www.jpost.com/israeli-news/article-711582) in northern Arab communities that occurred on Friday night in a span of less than 24 hours, despite police efforts to combat crime in Arab-Israeli communities during the last year.

A 56-year-old man, a resident of Maalot-Tarshiha, was shot dead on Friday evening in the Galilee town of Rama. MDA medics and paramedics who were called to the scene performed resuscitation operations but were eventually forced to determine his death.

Earlier on Friday, a 30-year-old man, a resident of Arara identified as Rajab Abu Hamad, was shot in Lod.

On Friday, Fathi Shahin, a 32-year-old resident of Tamra, in Zarzir, was shot dead. The background to the incident is also most likely a conflict between criminals. According to police reports, the victim himself was also known to the police before the incident. <https://www.jpost.com/israeli-news/article-711620>

**Saudi cleric known for Auschwitz visit, interfaith dialogue, gives main hajj sermon**

***Sheikh Mohammed al-Issa speaks of Muslim obligation to bring hearts together; Israeli commentator says Saudis’ choice of ‘Zionist imam’ is ‘significant signal’***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 2:58 am*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/al-issa-mount-arafat-July-2022.jpeg)

Dr. Mohammed bin Abdul Karim al-Issa, the head of the Muslim World League, speaks at the Nimrah Mosque in Mecca during the annual Hajj pilgrimage, July 8, 2022. (SPA -- Saudi state news agency)

A cleric known for visiting Auschwitz and for his involvement in interfaith dialogue gave the main sermon at the height of the annual hajj pilgrimage at the Nimrah Mosque on Mount Arafat outside Mecca on Friday, after being chosen earlier in the week for the role by Saudi Arabia’s de factor ruler, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

The decision to give the honor to Sheikh Dr. Mohammed bin Abdul Karim al-Issa, the head of the Muslim World League, was read by veteran Channel 12 Arab affairs analyst Ehud Ya’ari as “a significant signal” from Saudi Arabia regarding its attitude towards normalization with Israel. Ya’ari said Al-Issa, who has invited rabbis to Saudi Arabia and has [visited Yeshiva University](https://blogs.yu.edu/news/yeshiva-university-welcomes-muslim-world-league-secretary-general-sheikh-dr-mohammad-al-issa-for-inaugural-presidential-forum-conversation/) in New York, is known in the country as the “Zionist imam.” [This is revolutionary. – rdb]

The speech came days ahead of US President Joe Biden’s visit to Israel and Saudi Arabia this week, and amid expectations that the trip will feature steps toward a further warming in ties between the two countries. Jerusalem and Riyadh do not have formal relations but appear to be moving closer amid shared concerns over Iran.

In his sermon on Friday, Al-Issa spoke of the five pillars of Islam, and urged acceptance, harmony, and compassion. He said Islam’s teachings were strictly humanitarian, “whose standards do not become compromised and whose foundations do not become altered,” according to the Saudi Gazette, which carried the [full speech](https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/622745/SAUDI-ARABIA/Sheikh-Al-Issa-at-Arafat-sermon-Values-of-Islam-foster-harmony-eschew-hatred-and-division).

“Among the values taught by Islam are avoiding all that leads to dissent, animosity, or division; and instead, ensuring that our interactions are dominated by harmony and compassion,” he said.

“Islam has an encompassing spirit whose goodness extends to all of humanity,” added Al-Issa, a former Saudi justice minister.

“Each individual among you should love what is good for all people, and strive to bring their hearts together,” he went on.

Prayers on Mount Arafat are the highlight of the annual pilgrimage, capped this year at one million people including 850,000 from abroad. The hajj, usually one of the world’s largest annual religious gatherings, is among the five pillars of Islam and must be undertaken by all Muslims with the means at least once in their lives.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A large group of people in front of a building  Description automatically generated with low confidence  Muslim pilgrims move on their way to perform Friday prayers at Nimrah Mosque in Arafat, on the second day of the annual hajj pilgrimage, near the holy city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia, Friday, July 8, 2022. (AP/Amr Nabil | A picture containing road, stadium, spaghetti junction, highway  Description automatically generated  An aerial view shows Muslim pilgrims gathering atop Mount Arafat, also known as Jabal al-Rahma (Mount of Mercy), southeast of the holy city of Mecca, during the height of the Hajj pilgrimage, on July 8, 2022. (AFP) |

Al-Issa has been intensely involved in interfaith activities, in particular in outreach to Jewish communities, and has been vocal against antisemitism.

Al-Issa was praised by Israel when he [led](https://www.timesofisrael.com/islamic-faith-leaders-make-groundbreaking-visit-to-auschwitz/) a Muslim delegation alongside the CEO of the American Jewish Committee, David Harris, to the Auschwitz-Birkenau memorial in Poland in January 2020.

“To be here, among the children of Holocaust survivors and members of the Jewish and Islamic communities, is both a sacred duty and a profound honor,” Al-Issa said during his visit. “The unconscionable crimes to which we bear witness today are truly crimes against humanity. That is to say, a violation of us all, an affront to all of God’s children.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/saudi-cleric-known-for-auschwitz-visit-interfaith-dialogue-gives-main-hajj-sermon/>

**Israel warns against travel to Sri Lankan capital amid turmoil; PM agrees to quit**

***Foreign Ministry calls on citizens to avoid Colombo after thousands storm president’s residence and office over economic crisis; 34 including 2 police officers hurt in scuffles***

*By* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 6:16 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/AP22190305615411.jpg)

Police use water canon and tear gas to disperse the protesters in Colombo, Sri Lanka, July 9, 2022. (AP Photo/Amitha Thennakoon)

Israel’s Foreign Ministry on Saturday warned citizens against travel to Sri Lanka’s capital, Colombo, as the South Asian nation’s prime minister agreed to resign after protesters stormed the president’s residence and office in a fury over a worsening economic crisis.

Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled his official residence shortly before tens of thousands overran the compound and stormed his nearby office.

The prime minister’s spokesman, Dinouk Colambage, said Ranil Wickremesinghe told party leaders that he will resign when all parties have agreed on a new government.

Footage showed people in a jubilant mood taking a dip in the garden pool of the residence. Some lay on beds, others made tea and drank, and made “statements” from the conference room that Rajapaksa and Wickremesinghe must immediately quit. Party leaders in Parliament also demanded that both step down.

“Since this morning, thousands of Sri Lankan citizens are protesting in the capital Colombo… and the situation is not stable at the moment,” the Israeli Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

The ministry called on Israeli citizens in Colombo to obey instructions of local security and stay away from the protest areas. Those currently outside of the capital or country were recommended to avoid traveling to the city. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-warns-against-travel-to-sri-lankan-capital-amid-turmoil-pm-agrees-to-quit/>

**The West has paralyzed the G20 by pursuing confrontation with Russia and China, but the organization remains indispensible**

***Russian experts assess role of the global forum after another summit is de-railed***

*9 Jul, 2022 10:58*

The meeting of G20 foreign ministers turned into something of a farce, as Russia's Sergey Lavrov left the meeting before the end, and his US counterpart delivered insults.

No breakthroughs were achieved on issues that are vital to the world. This meeting was another rehearsal for the G20 summit scheduled for November, which seems doomed to fail due to the conflict between Russia and the West, as well as ever-growing tensions between the US and China.

Russian experts agree that because of these problems, the organization that helped the world overcome the 2008 financial crisis will not be able to rein in the current energy and food disaster.

Will the G20 survive in the context of a major conflict between its key participants? Who suffers from the organization’s inefficiency the most, and which blocs will be in charge of handling global issues in the new reality? RT explains.

***The Moscow issue***

For the first time since the start of Russia’s military operation in Ukraine, the foreign ministers of the G7 countries met personally with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. The meeting was held on the island of Bali, Indonesia. And it didn't go well.

Firstly, for the first time in the history of meetings between G20 diplomats, the participants refused to pose together for a photo.

Secondly, the Russian minister and his Western counterparts exchanged mutual accusations: Western ministers accused Russia of blocking grain supplies, Lavrov accused the West of an dangerous approach.

“If the West doesn’t want talks to take place but wishes for Ukraine to defeat Russia on the battlefield – because both views have been expressed – then perhaps there is nothing to talk about *with the West,” L*avrov said.

*“Aggressors, invaders, occupants. We’ve heard quite a few such things today,”* he said of the meeting.

Ultimately, the Russian envoy departed the event before it ended. According to media reports, he left the hall at the moment when Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmitry Kuleba was speaking via video link.

Ukraine is not a member of the G20.

The Russian minister also missed a speech by German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock.

The previous G20 meeting, which took place in April, was not productive either. The British, American and Canadian delegations left the room when Anton Siluanov, Russia’s finance minister, gave his address remotely (he wasn’t even there in person). His message, as it happens, focused on the consequences of skyrocketing energy prices and possible solutions to a problem that concerns many countries, including the Western states.

Given all this, as well as the latest developments, we wonder if the November G20 summit can yield any results. <https://www.rt.com/russia/558684-agony-of-g20-why-paralyzed/>

**UK to train up to 10,000 Ukrainian troops for war against Russia**

***A UK training program will prepare up to 10,000 Ukrainian military personnel for front-line battles against Russian forces.***

*By* [*JERUSALEM POST STAFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/jerusalem-post-staff) *Published: JULY 9, 2022 12:32*

Some 10,000 Ukrainian soldiers will be trained in Defense Ministry sites and military bases across the United Kingdom in the upcoming months, BBC reported on Saturday morning.

The UK training program, which Defense Secretary Ben Wallace reportedly described as "the next phase in the [UK's support for Ukraine](https://www.jpost.com/international/article-711549) amid the Russian invasion," will see around 1,050 UK service members aim to train the 10,000-odd Ukrainian military personnel in 120 days.  
 The British Defense Ministry said the program will prepare the Ukrainian recruits for battles in the [Ukraine-Russia War](https://www.jpost.com/tags/ukraine-russia-war).  
 The program will be run by the UK Army's 11th Security Force Assistance Brigade, responsible for training, equipping and strategic planning and organization of foreign forces. It will cover weapons handling, first aid during battle, fieldcraft, patrol tactics and the Law of Armed Conflict (also known as the [international humanitarian law](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/the-icc-israel-and-international-humanitarian-law-616172)), according to the BBC.  
 "Using the world-class expertise of the British Army, we will help Ukraine rebuild its forces and scale up its resistance as they defend their country's sovereignty," the defPublished: JULY 9, 2022 19:02   
 Ukrainian President Volodymyr [Zelensky](https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-710447) dismissed Kyiv's ambassador to Germany on Saturday as well as several other top foreign envoys, the presidential website said.  
 In a decree that gave no reason for the move, he announced the sacking of Ukraine's ambassadors to Germany, India, Czech Republic, Norway and Hungary.  
 It was not immediately clear if the envoys would be handed new jobs.

[Zelensky](https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/article-711511) has urged his diplomats to drum up international support and military aid for Ukraine as it tries to fend off Russia’s Feb. 24 invasion.

***Ukraine-Germany relations***

Kyiv's relations with Germany, which is heavily reliant on Russian energy supplies and also Europe's biggest economy, have been a particular sensitive matter. MORE - <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-711627>

**China tells US to stop ‘smearing and attacking’**

***During a meeting of top-level diplomats, Washington once again tried to press Beijing into backing its anti-Russia position***

*9 Jul, 2022 14:59*

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi told US Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Saturday that China wants the US to respect its foreign and domestic policies, drop economic sanctions, and “abandon the Cold War mentality.” Blinken told reporters that he pressed Wang over China’s refusal to sanction Russia, apparently to no avail.

Blinken and Wang met on Saturday, one day after a gathering in Indonesia of the top diplomats of the G20 nations. The meeting came at a critical point for Washington-Beijing relations, with the FBI warning this week of *“pervasive”* industrial espionage and cybercrime emanating from China, and with US President Joe Biden recently [stating](https://www.rt.com/news/555938-us-use-force-defend-taiwan/) that American troops would fight any Chinese attempt to retake Taiwan – a statement his aides swiftly corrected.

“Since the US has promised that it has no intention of conflict with China, it should respect China’s sovereignty and territorial integrity [and] stop interfering in China’s internal affairs,” Wang told Blinken, according to a readout from the Chinese Foreign Ministry. Wang accused the US of attempting to *“hollow out and distort the One China Policy,”* referring to Washington’s official position that it recognizes, but does not endorse, China’s sovereignty over Taiwan.

Furthermore, the US should “stop smearing and attacking China’s political system and domestic and for*eign policies,”* Wang said in a statement that could refer to multiple lines of attack from the US, including allegations of human rights abuses and the FBI’s recent cybercrime warning.

While Wang acknowledged that Blinken told him the US is “open to cooperation with China,” he said Washington should “abandon the Cold War mentality, not engage in zero-sum games, and stop ganging up.” China has repeatedly condemned the AUKUS alliance – a trilateral military pact between the US, UK and Australia – and the ‘Quad’ partnership between the US, India, Australia and Japan as attempts to build an *“Asia-Pacific version of NATO.”*

Speaking to reporters after Saturday’s meeting, Blinken focused on China’s response to the conflict in Ukraine. Beijing has not joined the US and its allies in condemning Russia’s military operation in Ukraine, and has [stepped up](https://www.rt.com/business/557463-russia-china-top-oil-supplier/) trade with Russia while the Western world sanctions Moscow. However, China has called for a negotiated end to the conflict.

*“What you hear from Beijing is that it claims to be neutral. I would start with the proposition that it’s pretty hard to be neutral when it comes to this aggression,”* Blinken said. *“I tried to convey to the state councilor that this really is a moment where we all have to stand up [to Russia].”* [*https://www.rt.com/news/558697-blinken-wang-meeting-g20/*](https://www.rt.com/news/558697-blinken-wang-meeting-g20/)[The more you look at what is going on in the world today, you have to come to the conclusion that every one of the various “world leaders” are simply contemptuous criminals with a title. The governance of the USA is totally pathetic and as crooked as can be. There is nothing that comes from DC that can be believed. Pootie Poot is a dictator trying to hold his country from falling into the hands of the One world globalist mob. China is on the path to world domination not a all unlike the globalist group just with a different leadership. Every one of the NATO group nations is run by power hungry globalists who think they will be ruling when the “one world order” takes over which is total folly. There will be a tiny club with Schwab, Soros, Gates and very few others that will have any control. Just as a reminder, if the NATO Globalist group takes down Pootie poot you know that China’s leadership will be next. Rdb]

**IMF sounds global economic alarm**

***Worldwide recession cannot be ruled out, institution warns***

*9 Jul, 2022 09:59*

The head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Kristalina Georgieva, said on Wednesday that the outlook for the global economy had “darkened significantly” since April. She told Reuters that a global recession next year could not be ruled out, given the elevated risks.

“It’s going to be a tough ’22, but maybe even a tougher 2023,” the IMF boss warned.

She cited the global spread of inflation, dramatic interest rate hikes by central banks, a slowdown in China’s growth and unprecedented sanctions against Russia among the factors affecting global economies.

Georgieva indicated that in the coming weeks the IMF would downgrade its earlier projection of 3.6% global growth for this year. That would be the fund’s third downward revision of its forecast this year.

[READ MORE: Eurozone sees record spike in food prices](https://www.rt.com/business/558491-eurozone-food-prices-spike/)

*“We are in choppy waters,”* Georgieva stated, noting that longer-lasting tightening of financial conditions would complicate the global economic outlook. She stressed it was crucial to get soaring prices under control. <https://www.rt.com/business/558568-global-economy-alarm-issued/> [The world is on the brink which is exactly what the WEF Schwab group wants because this can then lead to their great reset and the establishment of a cashless society, which is certainly in the Scriptures. Things are absolutely hastening down the pit toward an end of days scenario. I have never seen so many events fall into place so fast for that to happen. – rdb]

**EU to build new top-secret bunker – media**

***Leaders’ phones, watches and hearing aids will be banned from the supposedly spy-proof dugout***

*9 Jul, 2022 19:51*

The European Union is spending €8 million ($8.1 million) to build a secure bunker in Brussels where leaders can meet in secrecy, EUobserver reported on Friday. The chamber will be insulated against electronic interference, and all gadgets will be banned from entering, with the news site claiming that such measures are necessary against *“Russian or other eavesdroppers.”* [So much for openness and transparency of governments. - rdb]

Claiming to have seen an EU memo describing the project, [EUobserver](https://euobserver.com/world/155479) reported that the chamber will be designed to host around 100 people comprising up to 34 leaders and associated staff. Due to be built by 2024, the bunker will be located somewhere within the European Council’s complex in the Belgian capital.

The meeting room will be offline, but will contain microphones wired to secure booths for interpreters. Both the room and these booths will be shrouded in a *“NATO-certified insulation cage”* to stop electromagnetic and radio waves from within being picked up outside, and anyone seeking to enter, even cleaners, will need a *“SECRET EU”* security clearance – the bloc’s second-highest level of classification.

According to the supposed EU memo, the facility will be swept “before and after the meetings to detect, locate and neutralize any eavesdropping device,” and anyone entering will be required to leave phones, laptops, smart watches, electronic key fobs and hearing aids in soundproof lockers outside.

This intense focus on security is aimed at shutting out *“Russian or other eavesdroppers,”* EUobserver wrote. However, it is unknown whether the EU is building the chamber in response to a specific security threat or out of a general sense of caution. Individually, EU members have accused Russia of espionage long before Moscow sent its troops into Ukraine, and the expulsion of diplomats over alleged spying is par for the course in international relations, with Belgium claiming to have booted out dozens of Russian spies earlier this year.

However, spying takes place between allies as often as adversaries, with the United States famously [bugging](https://www.dw.com/en/spiegel-report-nsa-spied-on-122-world-leaders-kept-300-files-on-merkel/a-17530543) a reported 122 world leaders circa 2014. Extensive surveillance was carried out by the US National Security Agency on high-level officials in both [France](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jun/30/nsa-wiretapped-two-french-finance-ministers-wikileaks-says) and [Germany](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/jul/08/nsa-tapped-german-chancellery-decades-wikileaks-claims-merkel), according to documents released by WikiLeaks.

Israel and China have also been accused of conducting surveillance operations in Brussels, and the EU has pressed Belgium for years to [tighten up](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0064_EN.pdf) its espionage laws, which allow spying to go [unpunished](https://www.politico.eu/article/belgium-trying-to-build-spy-law-because-of-espionage-in-eu/) in many cases. <https://www.rt.com/news/558710-eu-secure-bunker-spying/>

**NEA announces its priorities for teachers: abortion and LGBT agenda**

***Delegates pledge the union to 'political campaigns … and other actions'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 9, 2022 at 12:58pm*

Delegates to the National Education Association convention have pledged the allegiance of public school teachers across the nation to the extreme leftist agendas of the abortion industry and the LGBT identity campaign.

A report in [Decision Magazine](https://decisionmagazine.com/national-education-association-votes-to-support-abortion-lgbtq-agenda/) explained the NEA "continued its descent into left-wing political and social engineering during its national convention this week."

The vote was by a more than 3-to-1 margin to promotion abortion and LGBT identity choices to students.

"NEA delegates committed the union to ‘publicly stand in defense of abortion and reproductive rights and encourage members to participate in … rallies and demonstrations, lobbying and political campaigns, educational events, and other actions …" said a social media statement from Mike Antonucci on the teachers' blog called "The 74."

Explained Decision, "The convention of the nation’s largest teacher’s union reportedly drew some 6,000 delegates to Chicago, where, Antonucci wrote on his blog, many of the decisions are all but determined by NEA’s staff and board officers. Delegates can raise business items and resolutions, but the 6,000 delegates represent a tiny slice of the NEA’s 3 million members."

Said Meg Kilgannon, of the Family Research Council, "This organization has a left-leaning political agenda that they are very proud of and that they will support to the bitter end."

She said the leftist ideology is being pushed on children "at the expense of their education."

Tony Perkins, of the FRC, pointed out, "If they’re saying this in public, what are they doing in the classroom?"  
 In fact, there were numerous fights that developed during the COVID pandemic, when most schools closed down and many teachers taught remotely, with students attending via computer.  
 What happened was that parents all of a sudden were able to see the agendas being taught their children, and many objected. Thousands of families now are homeschooling, and the issue was part of the fight that developed when the National School Boards Association wrote a letter insisting that parents who objected to school policies and practices be labeled domestic terrorists.  
 That opened the door for the Biden administration to jump in with both feet, with Biden's attorney general insisting that federal investigators monitor and review the actions of those parents. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/nea-announces-priorities-teachers-abortion-lgbt-agenda/> [One should NEVER entrust their children to these vile reprobates. - rdb]

**LGBT activist booted from judicial panel deciding LGBT dispute**

***Christian challenges employment dismissal over Facebook posts***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 9, 2022 at 3:46pm*

Officials at an Employment Appeal Tribunal in the United Kingdom have booted an LGBT activist from a panel scheduled to hear a dispute over a school employee's dismissal.

It's because the case coming before the panel is from a Christian who was dismissed from a school staff over Facebook posts and transgenderism and sex education.

According to [Christian Concern,](https://christianconcern.com/ccpressreleases/high-profile-lgbt-activist-removed-from-case-for-perception-of-bias/) Edward Lord originally was to be the lay member of the panel to hear the appeal of Kristie Higgs.

But Lord had refused to recuse himself when questions about his suitability were raised.

Now Mrs. Justice Eady has ruled that she was "satisfied that if the lay member were to sit on the Employment Appeal Tribunal panel on this appeal, the fair-minded and informed observer could not exclude the possibility of bias."

The ruling said, "There was a real ground for doubt in the lay member’s ability to approach this matter with an impartial and entirely open mind. That being so, the lay member would be recused from hearing this appeal."

For future cases, she said, "A lay member should raise any potential issues of this nature with the judge with whom they are sitting on the case in question; the judge would be best able to act as the fair-minded and informed observer, with an understanding of the issues to be determined."

Higgs said, "I am relieved at the decision to recuse Edward Lord. He has made many public statements that strongly oppose the Christian beliefs at the heart of my case and I feared that his presence on the panel could lessen my chances of getting a fair hearing." MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/lgbt-activist-booted-judicial-panel-deciding-lgbt-dispute/> [Well at least one person made a reasonable decision. – rdb]

**Security alert issued for the Jewish community in San Antonio, Texas**

***According to the Jewish Federation, security personnel at local synagogues have all been notified and are on the highest alert.***

*By* [*JERUSALEM POST STAFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/jerusalem-post-staff) *Published: JULY 9, 2022 22:12 Updated: JULY 9, 2022 22:41*

A security alert has been issued for the [Jewish community in San Antonio,](https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/jewish-san-antonio-mayor-tours-israel-in-first-official-foreign-trip-508412) Texas, following a credible threat identified by the FBI.

In a Facebook post shared by the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, the organization stated that they had received information from the FBI "identifying a potential threat to an unconfirmed Jewish community facility in the San Antonio area."

"In an abundance of caution, we are taking all appropriate steps to ensure the safety of the community," the organization stated. "After communicating with all local synagogues and organizations, it was recommended that all formal Jewish gatherings be suspended until further notice."

Security personnel across all synagogues in the area have been notified and are operating at the highest alert level.

In response to the security threat, Temple Beth-El announced that it would be canceling all services, both in person and online.

"We apologize for the short notice and the change to our traditional worship program," wrote Synagogue officials in a post on Facebook. "We appreciate your understanding the abundance of caution we've taken to care for our precious community." <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-711634>

**Commentary:**

**Wanting the Iran Nuclear Deal for the Wrong Reasons**

*by* [*Majid Rafizadeh*](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Majid+Rafizadeh) *July 9, 2022 at 5:00 am* The objective of any nuclear deal with a rogue state ought to be anchored in completely and permanently halting that regime from obtaining nuclear weapons. The objective should *not* be to further empower and embolden it, or to facilitate it becoming a nuclear state.  
 It seems, nonetheless, that the Biden administration and the European Union have other motives. The EU partly wants the deal so it can [buy](https://www.ft.com/content/8d0a6389-0692-4fa6-8296-9fc745e410ca) oil and gas from the Iranian regime. The EU's foreign policy chief, Josep Borrell, surprisingly [acknowledged](https://www.ft.com/content/8d0a6389-0692-4fa6-8296-9fc745e410ca) this to the *Financial Times*:  
 "We Europeans will be very much beneficiaries from this [nuclear] deal, the situation has changed now. For us it was something... 'well, we don't need it', now it would be very much interesting for us to have another [oil and gas] supplier."  
 Borrell clearly appears to be stating that the EU's motive behind the nuclear negotiations is to buy oil from a country that, [according](https://www.rferl.org/a/u-s-state-department-iran-remains-world-s-worst-state-sponsor-of-terrorism-/30248755.html) to the US State Department, is "the world's worst state sponsor of terrorism." The Iranian regime, desperate for cash to fund its terror activities around the world as well as its militia and terror groups in the region, would undoubtedly be delighted to be the EU's supplier of energy and oil.  
 The EU also appears to want the nuclear deal in order not to lose its other economic relationships and trade with the ruling mullahs of Iran. Despite US sanctions, European countries are still [trading](https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/isdb_results/factsheets/country/details_iran_en.pdf) with Iran; the Biden administration has yet to hold them accountable. As the *Tehran Times* [reported](https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/470265/Iran-EU-trade-rises-9-in-2021):  
 "The value of trade between Iran and the European Union reached €4.863 billion in 2021, registering a nine-percent growth compared to the previous year.... According to the data released by the Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA), Iran exported €554 million worth of commodities to the union during the said nine months, while importing goods valued at €2.7 billion".  
 [According](https://financialtribune.com/articles/domestic-economy/113406/iran-eu-transactions-up-18) to the *Financial Tribune*, Germany is Iran's top trading partner, and Italy comes in second.  
 The Biden administration, meanwhile, has been investing all its political capital to resurrect the Obama's catastrophic nuclear deal that would permit Iran to have unlimited nuclear weapons and the missiles to deliver them. The Biden administration keeps [appeasing](https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/us-drops-sanctions-three-iranians-move-unrelated-nuclear-talks-2021-07-02/) the mullahs with almost any policy they want.  
 Currently, according to a Gallup poll, the majority of the American people [disapprove](https://news.gallup.com/poll/390086/biden-ratings-economy-foreign-affairs-russia-near.aspx) of President Joe Biden's handling of foreign affairs. By reaching a nuclear deal, the Biden administration may think that it can claim a foreign policy accomplishment and a political victory, as the Obama administration did, by arguing -- falsely -- that it had finally curbed Iran's nuclear program and prevented the Islamic Republic from obtaining nuclear weapons. Unfortunately, that was about as accurate as then US President Barack Obama [claim](https://www.politifact.com/article/2013/dec/12/lie-year-if-you-like-your-health-care-plan-keep-it/) -- which he repeated 37 times -- that "If you like your healthcare plan, you can keep it."  
 At the time, Obama also [pledged](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jul/14/obama-veto-republican-iran-nuclear-deal) that he was "confident" the nuclear deal would "meet the national security needs of the United States and our allies".  
 After the 2015 nuclear deal, however, the ruling mullahs of Iran were not only gifted a newfound global legitimacy. The removal of sanctions also generated billions of dollars in revenue for Iran's military institution, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, as well as for Iran's militia and terror groups. The regime used those revenues to expand its influence throughout the region, especially in Syria, Yemen, Lebanon and Iraq. Iran's aggressive expansion campaign proved immensely successful. The Iranian-armed Houthis [ratcheted](https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/yemen) up their efforts to cause death and destruction in Yemen, and Hezbollah [escalated](https://mepc.org/commentary/hezbollahs-foreign-intervention-syria) its involvement and control of large swathes of Syrian territory. The region also saw a greater propensity for Houthi rocket [launches](https://www.france24.com/en/middle-east/20210210-yemen-s-houthi-rebels-launch-attack-on-civilian-plane-in-saudi-arabia) at civilian targets in Saudi Arabia, the [deployment](https://www.csis.org/analysis/escalating-conflict-hezbollah-syria) of thousands of Hezbollah foot soldiers in Syria, and the constant [bombardment](https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/palestinian-rocket-and-mortar-attacks-against-israel) of southern Israel with Hamas rockets [funded by Iran](https://www.iranintl.com/en/202201038619).  
 Furthermore, as we now know, the Iranian regime was [violating](https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/agency-iran-violating-restrictions-nuclear-deal-71090757) the nuclear deal by having a [secret](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/benjamin-netanyahu/netanyahus-full-unveiling-of-irans-secret-nuclear-program-in-text-video-553171) nuclear weapons program during the agreement.  
 At present, the ruling mullahs of Iran will continue skillfully to play the EU and the Biden administration to obtain as many concessions and as many billions as they can before, they doubtless hope, being handed the ultimate gift they wish for: the nuclear deal.

*Dr. Majid Rafizadeh is a business strategist and advisor, Harvard-educated scholar, political scientist, board member of Harvard International Review, and president of the International American Council on the Middle East.* <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18681/iran-nuclear-deal-reasons>

**Tear Down This Icon: Replace Reagan with Trump** [***Arthur Schaper***](https://townhall.com/columnists/arthurschaper/) ***Posted: Jul 09, 2022 12:01 AM*** In 2013, after Republicans lost their winnable race against Barack Obama to deny him a second term, Washington Post columnist Jennifer Rubin sounded off with a daring opinion piece: [Tear Down This Icon](https://www.blogger.com/blog/post/edit/1379348459799634768/6540243771428494980?hl=en)  
 Normally, I would not give a fake conservative, open NeverTrump liberal the time of day. But her article arguing for removing Ronald Reagan as a rallying point for the Republican Party resonated with me in the past.  
 Reagan was a big spender, even in Washington. He had liberal positions during his governorship. He supported amnesty for illegal aliens, and he even pressed for an open border of commerce, trade, etc. with Mexico. Many national-populist types are turning on Reagan for precisely these issues, and even his major columnist supporter George Will would denounce the clash between [Reagan's rhetoric and the reality of his administration](https://www.blogger.com/blog/post/edit/1379348459799634768/6540243771428494980?hl=en) nearly thirty years after he was elected.  
 Taking a closer look at [Rubin's ruminations](https://www.blogger.com/blog/post/edit/1379348459799634768/6540243771428494980?hl=en) ten years later, this mystical hold of Reaganism still grips the Republican Party, especially the National Federation of Republican Assemblies, [and even may governors today](https://twitter.com/tatereeves/status/1542175797305286657).  
 We should give some credit where it is due, anyway. Reagan presided over eight years of unprecedented economic growth. His foreign policy hearkened back to a more isolationist approach, in which he spoke softly but carried a big stick. His aggressive efforts to sanction and stop communism, especially the Soviet Union, are admirable. The USSR collapsed in large part because of Reagan's indefatigable commitment to consign communism to the ash heap of history.  
 Rubin writes: “But that myth has become a burden for the modern GOP. It has bound Reagan’s followers on the right to policies and positions that were time-specific.”  
 This is an accurate and effective criticism. The issues which Reagan faced in 1980 and 1984--inflation, recession, communism around the globe--were not the major issues of Election 2012. In fact, they are not the main issues today. As I mentioned above, Reagan's policies counter the goals and interests of conservatives today!  
 Today, Republicans want to secure the border, limit all immigration (not just illegal immigration.) We want to expand gun ownership and assure those rights. Also, China is a looming global (and globalist) threat which cannot be tamed with free trade.  
 Reagan's former solutions and past successes will not help the GOP today.  
 And with that, Rubin gave a stern warning to the Twenty-first Century GOP: “The Republican Party can remain a Ronald Reagan historical society, or it can try to endure as a force in national politics. But it can’t do both.”  
 I could not agree more with this sentiment. It seems to me that Republicans want to live in the past. They do not want to move with the times, i.e. get busy wining new fights. They hold onto this hope of merely coasting on prior victories. However, I do not agree with Rubin today that the party should move left on key cultural or economic issues. The last thing that the United States, or any country for that matter, needs is two liberal, progressive, leftist, communist parties, etc.  
 In her article tearing down Icon Reagan, she did not despise traditional values. She focused a great deal on outreach to other demographics in the country, and even the RNC Chairman at the time, Reince Priebus, acknowledged that concern.  
 In contrast to Rubin’s tough love, [the Family Research Council rejected Rubin's suggestion](https://www.blogger.com/blog/post/edit/1379348459799634768/6540243771428494980?hl=en), focusing on his two national victories across the country. The Family Research Council writers are correct, though, in that the Republican Party has eschewed fighting for the entire country, and instead got comfortable with barely getting by. Such pacificism never works in politics for the long term. California Republicans have followed that model since 2002, and now California is a deep-blue whole of progressive despair. Controlled opposition does not win the fight.  
 Rubin's main point remains relevant, i.e. the Republican Party needs to get beyond celebrating Reagan's old victories. There are new culture war issues that need to be fought, and just basking in the glories of Reagan's past is not going to help the party--or the country--today.  
 I submit that it's time to recognize President Trump as the new standard-bearer for the Republican Party. He accomplished a number of domestic policy goals which matter today. He fought to build the wall along our Southern border, not just talk about it. He focused on illegal immigration and mass immigration, which was decimating border communities and harming working people.  
 He is the most pro-life President we have ever had in the White House. He was the first President to address the March for Life in Washington DC. He repeatedly took efforts to cut funding to Planned Parenthood and other abortuary hate groups and institutions.   
 He focused on protecting and enhancing religious liberty in a nation where respect for the divine has been unduly tarnished and neglected.   
 He kept the United States out of war for four years.   
 He fought against the encroachment of domestic communism, including Critical Racist Theory and Woke ideologies. Reagan fought international communism, and that deserves merit and support. But we need to fight this corrupt, corrosive, evil ideology at home now, and we need a real culture war commitment to fighting and winning this fight.  
 Republicans have wanted to bask in the glowing of Reagan's old victories. President Trump's victories then and now deserve our new--and renewed--focus.  
 Most importantly, though, Trump should be the new standard-bearer because [He Fights](https://www.blogger.com/blog/post/edit/1379348459799634768/6540243771428494980?hl=en). He was a relentless pugilist in the fight to put America and Americans First. That spirit of trudging through tough times, of putting up one's dukes to fight and win, we need that kind of animus in conservative politics.   
 Ronald Reagan had his place, but it's time to move on. We need a new standard, a new pattern, a new example of conservatism that fights to win, that struggles to shape the culture, that moves forward to ensure and foster a movement.  
 It's time to replace Reagan, and replace him with Trump. <https://townhall.com/columnists/arthurschaper/2022/07/09/tear-down-this-icon-replace-reagan-with-trump-n2609931>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Jordan's King Abdullah holds phone call with PM Lapid**

***PM Lapid, King Abdullah II, speak about regional issues, wish each other congratulations.***

[*Israel National News*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Israel_National_News) *Jul 10, 2022, 5:02 AM GMT+3*

Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid spoke on the phone Saturday evening with Jordan's King Abdullah II.

Lapid congratulated King Abdullah and the citizens of the Hashemite kingdom on Eid al-Adha and expressed his condolences in the name of the Israeli government for the gas leak in Aqaba.

King Abdullah congratulated Lapid on taking office and wished him success.

The two also spoke about the need to strengthen and deepen the cooperation and relations between Israel and Jordan, and about US President Joe Biden's upcoming visit, as well as regional challenges and opportunities.

Lapid met with King Abdullah in March, during [a visit to Amman](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/323698). Following the meeting, Lapid said, "We agreed that we must work together to calm tensions and promote understanding."

"Our special relationship with the Kingdom of Jordan ensures a better future for our children, and the peace between us isn’t just good neighborliness, but is also our moral responsibility to both our peoples." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356220>

**Abir Kara, Yamina MK, debating forming new party**

***MK Abir Kara weighing announcing new party if Yamina reaches political dead-end, report says.***

[*Israel National News*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Israel_National_News) *Jul 10, 2022, 6:03 AM GMT+3*

Abir Kara Arutz Sheva

Yamina's MK Abir Kara is weighing forming his own party, which would be called, "The Liberalit."

According to Ulpan Shishi, Kara will announce his party if he sees that Yamina has reached a political dead-end.

The report said that naturally, Kara leans in the direction of Yamina's MK Matan Kahana, who currently serves as Deputy Religious Affairs Minister, and that he may make decisions accordingly.

If Kara does decide to found a new party, it remains to be seen whether that party will have a strong and loyal enough voting base - something which Kara may see Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked, who currently heads Yamina, as lacking.

[Last week](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/354886), Kara told *103 FM Radio*, "One of the most important values in politics is being loyal to your friends and your group, and those who do that are also loyal to the country."

"When you are not loyal to your friends, there is a long-term cost to that. This is not a disagreement of left or right - there is a great deal of value in loyalty." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356226>

**Ahead of Biden visit: UAE will donate 25 million dollars to Arab hospital in Jerusalem**

***By donating to hospital, UAE will bypass the Palestinian Authority to assist local Arabs.***

[*Israel National News*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Israel_National_News) *Jul 10, 2022, 5:05 AM GMT+3*

UAE President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed REUTERS/Stephanie McGehee/File Photo

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) decided to donate 25 million dollars to an Arab hospital in Jerusalem, Axios and Walla! News reporter Barak Ravid reported.

The decision comes ahead of US President Joe Biden's trip to the Middle East.

Ravid noted that Biden is expected to visit an Arab hospital in Jerusalem during his [visit to Israel](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/354887), and at that location he is planned to announce US aid to Palestinian Authority hospitals.

In addition, Ravid emphasized on social media that the UAE's relations with the Palestinian Authority (PA) are very bad.

"This is a way for UAE to help Palestinians and bypass the PA," he explained.

<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356221> [Do you think the “PA” has lost its glamor with the arab world? – rdb]

**Apartment set aflame, possibly by firebomb**

**Fire breaks out in apartment in Modi'in Illit, owners say due to firebomb.**

[Israel National News](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/Israel_National_News) Jul 10, 2022, 8:13 AM GMT+3

A fire broke out Saturday night in a home in the haredi city of Modi'in Illit.

Firefighters called to the scene succeeded in gaining control of the fire, and though damage to property was caused, no one was injured.

According to the home owners, the apartment caught fire after an unknown individual threw a firebomb into it. Israel Police forces arrived at the scene along with criminal investigators, and are investigating the claim. MORE - <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356232>

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**07/09/2022 NEWS**

**Protection At The Speed Of Light: Israel's Iron Beam In Action**

# <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TG2kUanmo5U>

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| "All the public business in Congress now connects itself with intrigues, and there is great danger that the whole government will degenerate into a struggle of cabals." -- John Quincy Adams (1767-1848) 6th US President Source: Journal entry (January 1819) |

**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 CF – fell off ladder and bad fracture leg.**  **Pray for EL – Had stoke – doing better**  **Pray for KH – diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma**  **Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!**  **Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence**  **Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems**  **Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations**? |

Exodus 21:23But if any harm follow, then thou shalt give life for life, 24eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe. 26And if a man smite the eye of his bondman, or the eye of his bondwoman, and destroy it, he shall let him go free for his eye's sake. 27And if he smite out his bondman's tooth, or his bondwoman's tooth, he shall let him go free for his tooth's sake.

**Rare dialogue: Ahead of Biden visit, Lapid, Herzog hold phone calls with PA’s Abbas**

***Israeli leaders wish Palestinian Authority president a happy Eid al-Adha, stressing need for cooperation and calm; calls come day after Abbas hosts Gantz in Ramallah***

*By* [*Lazar Berman*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/lazar-berman/) *Today, 1:45 pmUpdated at 2:19 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/FotoJet111.jpg)

Photo combination: Prime Minister Yair Lapid leads his first weekly cabinet meeting, July 3, 2022 (left); Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas talks to the media during a press conference in Nicosia, Cyprus, Tuesday, June 14, 2022 (Haim Zach/GPO; Iakovos Hatzistavrou, Pool via AP)

Prime Minister Yair Lapid spoke early Friday afternoon with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, in what is believed to be the first direct call between an Israeli prime minister and the PA chief in five years.

The phone conversation was part of a round of calls Lapid is making to offer Muslim leaders his best wishes ahead of the Eid al-Adha holiday beginning on Saturday.

The calls also offer a chance for the prime minister to discuss with regional leaders US President Joe Biden’s upcoming visit to Israel next week.

Lapid and Abbas spoke about “the continuation of cooperation, and the need to ensure quiet and calm,” according to Lapid’s office.  
 On Tuesday in Paris, Lapid told reporters that while he would not rule out the possibility of a meeting with Abbas, there were currently no immediate plans for talks to take place. His predecessor, Naftali Bennett, ruled out any such meeting and did not speak to Abbas directly while in office.  
 “I do not have meetings for the sake of meetings unless they have a positive result for Israel. At the moment it is not on the agenda, but I do not rule it out,” Lapid said in a briefing at Israel’s embassy in Paris.  
 Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked criticized the recent conversations and meetings with Abbas: “I suggest that people get rid of this obsession to run and talk specifically to [Abbas] — who turned to the International Criminal Court in The Hague to prosecute IDF soldiers.”  
 Regional Cooperation Minister Esawi Frej, meanwhile, praised Lapid and Gantz for their dialogue with Abbas. “This government replaced the policy of ignoring [the Palestinians] with one of dialogue,” Frej tweeted. “Dialogue between leaders is the basis for calm and ultimately also for political progress.”  
 An Israeli source familiar with the matter [told](https://www.timesofisrael.com/coalition-collapse-could-impede-concessions-for-palestinians-ahead-of-biden-trip/) The Times of Israel on Wednesday that the Biden administration had been pushing for the call to take place and are also proposing that Lapid green-light a meeting between President Isaac Herzog and Abbas.  
 Herzog also called the PA president Friday to offer him and the Palestinian people a happy Eid al-Adha, and to discuss Biden’s visit.  
 Abbas also [met Thursday night](https://www.timesofisrael.com/gantz-meets-pas-abbas-to-discuss-security-coordination-ahead-of-biden-visit/) with Defense Minister Benny Gantz in Ramallah to discuss security coordination ahead of Biden’s trip. According to Gantz’s office, the meeting “was conducted on positive terms,” and they “agreed to continue security coordination and to avoid unilateral measures.”  
 Biden is slated to land at Ben Gurion Airport on Wednesday afternoon, where he will be greeted by Lapid in an official welcome ceremony.  
 Biden will then tour several Israeli security systems with Gantz, likely at the Palmachim air force base in central Israel, near the airport. The show-and-tell will include an Iron Dome missile defense battery, in a nod to US efforts to grant Israel an additional $500 million in replacement batteries for the system after last year’s Gaza war.  
 On Thursday morning, Biden will hold a meeting with Lapid after which the two will deliver statements to the press. Also in attendance for part of this sit-down will be Lapid’s predecessor, Naftali Bennett, who met Biden twice during his year as premier.

No major announcement from either side is expected. Biden is slated to reserve most of his remarks regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict for his Friday meeting with Abbas.  
 Biden will then travel to Bethlehem for a meeting with Abbas. The atmosphere may be clouded by the Monday announcement by the US that it did not find Israel to have intentionally killed Al Jazeera reporter Shireen Abu Akleh in clashes that broke out during an IDF raid of Jenin on May 11.  
 Still, Biden will announce alongside Abbas a package of steps aimed at strengthening the PA, a senior US official said this week. Some of these “deliverables” will be US initiatives and others will be Israeli ones that Biden will announce on behalf of Lapid, who prefers keeping some distance from the concessions.  
 Biden then will head back to Ben Gurion Airport where he will make a rare direct flight to Saudi Arabia to attend the GCC+3 summit on Saturday in Jeddah with the leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE along with Iraq, Egypt and Jordan. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/ahead-of-bidens-visit-lapid-herzog-hold-phone-calls-with-pas-abbas/>

**Departing Likud MK: Political discourse leaves me worried for democracy’s future**

***Yuval Steinitz critical of his party’s attacks on law institutions, but blames all sides for polarization and maintains Netanyahu remains most qualified to lead***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 10:45 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/sfdsfdsfsdfsd.jpg)

Likud MK Yuval Steinitz speaks to Channel 12 news in an interview that aired July 8, 2022. (Video screenshot)

In a farewell interview Friday, retiring longtime Likud official Yuval Steinitz said the state of political discourse in Israel has left him worried for the future of Israeli democracy.

Steinitz acknowledged to Channel 12 that his relations with former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu had cooled somewhat in recent years, and was critical of Likud’s repeated savaging of the police, prosecutors and courts over Netanyahu’s criminal trial.

But he also stressed that “all sides” were guilty of the deterioration in discourse, and when asked, said he still believed Netanyahu was most qualified to lead the country.

“Israeli politics is not in a good state,” Steinitz said. “It’s always been heated and tempestuous, as far back as [David] Ben-Gurion and [Menachem] Begin. There have been bad times in the past, but in the past 20 years we thought there was some moderation”

However, he argued that “in the past two years we’ve seen opposite processes that I must say are for the first time leaving me worried for the future of Israeli democracy. Everything has become violent and vulgar on all sides. There has been very harsh language.”

Steinitz said he “really disliked” the radicalization in politics, both when it came from our side and when it came from the other side. “I at least tried — beyond a few missteps, one of the things I’m proud of is that for 23 years I did not employ such a style,” he said.

On Netanyahu’s vociferous attacks against Israel’s justice system, Steinitz said: “I agree with some of Netanyahu’s criticism on how he has been treated by the police, the prosecution.

“And yet I don’t agree with the style of some of my friends and I said it in real-time. We’re not here to destroy [institutions]. There is no democratic country without police, prosecutors, courts and a supreme court.” MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/departing-likud-mk-political-discourse-leaves-me-worried-for-democracys-future/>

**Gunning to lead Meretz, Yair Golan looks to refocus the left around a single flag**

***With progressive causes spread too thin, MK and ex-IDF deputy chief aims to rally around separating from Palestinians, while rehabbing perception of left and its electoral standing***

*By* [*Carrie Keller-Lynn*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/carrie-keller-lynn/) *Today, 3:23 pm*

Yair Golan announced this week that he would [challenge](https://www.timesofisrael.com/meretz-leadership-in-play-as-golan-enters-race-against-horowitz/) Nitzan Horowitz — the man who brought him into Meretz only two years ago — for the chairmanship of the left-wing party.

A former Israel Defense Forces deputy chief of staff who fought for years in the West Bank, Golan still calls the area by the biblical “Judea and Samaria.” But he is also a strident critic of the settlement movement and lobbies regularly for the “end of the occupation.”

He does not believe in God, but wants to preserve Israel as a Jewish and democratic state, and calls Meretz the “Zionist” left.

If Golan bests Horowitz, he’ll become Meretz’s fourth leader in five years. But he’s still something of an outsider. Not all party stalwarts were happy with the decision to bring him aboard and give him a high spot on the party’s Knesset slate in 2020.

Horowitz is also facing down questions from some who are unhappy with his stewardship of the party he took over in 2019, especially since the emergence of notoriously inaccurate but politically influential polling numbers showing Meretz flirting dangerously with the electoral threshold.

Horowitz navigated Meretz through a tumultuous year, bringing the party into its first ruling coalition in two decades, but in a big tent coalition that forced all of its members to make deep ideological compromises. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/gunning-to-lead-meretz-yair-golan-looks-to-refocus-the-left-around-a-single-flag/>

**Israelis show little voter fatigue despite frequent elections**

***For the fifth time in just over three and a half years, Israelis are expected to head to the polls in droves and once again, the campaign will revolve around Benjamin Netanyahu’s ability to lead the country***

*The Media Line | Published: 07.08.22, 13:45*

Israel is heading to the polls. Again. Come November 1, Israelis vote in their fifth general election in just over three and a half years.

The most recent election, held in March 2021, followed closely after three others that only fortified the political impasse rather than solving it, with transitional governments all the while. After those back-to-back campaigns, an unlikely coalition was finally formed, composed of eight parties from all over the political spectrum. It gave the country a break.

On June 20, when [then-Prime Minister Naftali Bennett announced he would call for a vote to dissolve the parliament](https://www.ynetnews.com/article/h119ymakc), there was renewed concern that citizens were feeling let down by the system and the politicians. That this time around, they might voice their discontent by not showing up on Election Day.

Voter turnout is considered the main indicator of voter fatigue, the only one that can be accurately measured. However, with such a heterogeneous society, voter turnout in Israel is subject to many influencing factors and does not necessarily accurately reflect whether voters are fed up with the political system. The turnout also varies greatly within the different sectors of society.

When the political crisis began with the first of the five elections, in April 2019, voter turnout was almost 68%. According to data released by the Central Elections Committee, it increased in the following two rounds in September 2019 and March 2020, peaking in the latter at 71%, and then dropped in March 2021 to a little over 67%.

The concern about voter fatigue was largely unfounded throughout the crisis. Israelis will likely show up en masse again.

Voter turnout in Israel is at an average rate for democratic countries, with a decrease in the past two decades.

It is not compulsory to vote in Israel but to encourage voters to turn out, they are given an extra vacation day.

There is no possibility to vote through the mail. There is also no possibility to vote in advance, except for Israelis serving abroad in an official capacity and their families, Israeli sailors on Israeli ships at sea, and soldiers. Experts believe a change in this could increase turnout.

After a brief one-year break from political paralysis, the country finds itself once again in the midst of a campaign that will again revolve around former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his ability to lead the country.

Netanyahu, who is on trial on corruption charges, is seen by many as unfit for leadership. When members of his own right-wing camp also voiced opposition to him, an unsolvable political conundrum was born. Leading Likud, long Israel’s largest political party, Netanyahu was repeatedly unable to form a coalition. Instead, the country went to back-to-back elections until an unlikely coalition was formed by Bennett and the current interim prime minister, Yair Lapid of the Yesh Atid party.

Netanyahu denies the charges against him and with popular backing, he continues to lead the right-wing bloc. The debate regarding Netanyahu is divisive, but it also helps to ensure reasonable rates of participation in the democratic process. <https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/ryto85ej5>

**Lapid, Elkin unveil NIS 1.4 billion Arad development plan**

***The agreement will see some 5,000 new housing units and commercial and industrial centers built in the city.***

*By* [*JERUSALEM POST STAFF*](https://www.jpost.com/author/jerusalem-post-staff) *Published: JULY 8, 2022 21:33*



(L-R) Construction and Housing Minister Ze'ev Elkin and Prime Minister Yair Lapid sign development agreement with Arad Municipality(photo credit: AMOS BEN-GERSHOM/GPO)

The city of [Arad](https://www.jpost.com/tags/arad) in southern Israel will be given some NIS 1.4 billion to be invested in the construction of new residential, commercial and industrial units in the city, Prime Minister Yair Lapid and Construction and Housing Minister Ze'ev Elkin announced on Thursday.

The agreement, signed between the government and the Arad Municipality, will see the city expanded by some 5,000 new housing units.

In addition, empty lots within the boundaries of the city were designated as areas for the construction of commercial and industrial centers.

The population of Arad is expected to jump by 50%, an unprecedented rise in [Israel's southern periphery](https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-703885). As a result, a cooperative plan was formulated between the local municipality and the Housing and Constructing Ministry, which will ensure organizational development at the local level ahead of the absorption of new residents.

As part of the deal, the infrastructure work needed for the construction projects will be funded by the government. In addition, some NIS 200 million of the funding will go to upgrading the existing infrastructure in Arad.

NIS 80 million will be invested in establishing the presence of [public institutions](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/right-wing-voters-distrust-public-institutions-poll-shows-607970) in the planned new neighborhoods, as well as promoting it in existing neighborhoods across the city.

***Lapid: Arad is the future of Israel***

"When we're investing in Arad, we're actually investing in the future of the State of Israel," Prime Minister Yair Lapid said. "A strong Arad is in the national interest."

"A new neighborhood,  built from the ground up, is more than just steel and cement...it means more job opportunities, new shopping centers, schools and police stations.

"Our goal is that the next generation of Arad residents will be able to live a respectful and wealthy life in Arad...we also want young Israelis to see Arad as an option, with good employment and housing opportunities," Lapid added.

"This agreement will see Arad develop the crucial infrastructure needed to construct new neighborhoods and invest in existing ones," Housing and Construction Minister Ze'ev Elkin said. <https://www.jpost.com/business-and-innovation/real-estate/article-711580> [Lapid is trying to sound like Ben Gurion who was emphatic about the importance of developing southern Israel because the central area is very limited geographically due to the political rhubarb with the PA. Ben Gurion didn’t have the “PA” but had to deal with the UN who had close ties to the Arab league. – rdb]

**New form of proton therapy for cancer starts trial in Jerusalem**

***Advanced radiation treatment uses innovative chair that can move patient 260 degrees to precisely target tunors with its high-energy beams***

*By* [*Nathan Jeffay*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/nathan-jeffay/) *Today, 5:34 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/WhatsApp-Image-2022-06-25-at-9.25.16-PM.jpeg)

The new facility for proton therapy at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem; a patient in a chair wears a plastic mask that covers the face to protect it from radiation (Courtesy of Hadassah Medical Center)

A new form of proton therapy to treat cancer patients has started a clinical trial for the first time in Israel, providing dozens of people access without having to fly abroad at a high personal expense.

The therapy is in demand in many countries, as its high-energy beams of protons — subatomic particles found in the nucleus of every atom — are credited with targeting some tumors more precisely than X-ray radiation.

However, the massive size of proton therapy machines and high cost of treatment has held back its adoption, and only 1 in 100 hospitals worldwide offer it.

Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem has now started a clinical trial for an Israeli-made form of proton therapy. The system made by company P-Cure and developed with Hadassah’s help takes an unusual approach to proton therapy, having the patient seated in a moving chair which moves them to enable the beams to be unleashed with precision at the cancer site.

“Taking advantage of P-Cure’s new concept of a moving chair will allow pinpointed treatment from 360 degrees,” Prof. Aharon Popovitzer, chairman of oncology at Hadassah, told The Times of Israel.

He expects the method to boost patients’ chances of effective treatment and reduce toxicity that results from protons being delivered to parts of the body that aren’t cancerous. “It’s a way of delivering the best treatment while minimizing toxicity,” Popovitzer said.

Dr. Michael Marash, CEO of P-Cure, commented: “Patients will benefit from focused treatment without injury to the body’s nearby healthy organs and without side effects. The system knows how to identify and focus on the growth itself and identify changes within, even little ones, toward which treatment is focused.”

Popovitzer said that on a practical level, the fact that P-Cure’s solution is about a third of the size of average proton therapy machines has made it far easier for Hadassah to accommodate it and could help to address a key obstacle to wider adoption, which holds back hospitals that simply don’t have space for big new installations.

Advertisement

“Machines can take up entire hospital rooms, and reducing their size can help significantly,” he said. “We’re hoping that this is a way to make proton therapy more accessible.” <https://www.timesofisrael.com/new-form-of-proton-therapy-for-cancer-starts-trial-in-jerusalem/>

**Two Arab men shot dead within hours in central and northern Israel**

***Police suspect criminal dispute as motive for killing in Rameh; two suspects in Lod shooting caught trying to flee to Palestinian Authority***

*By* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 5:51 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2021/08/photo_2021-08-15_10-14-51.jpg)

Illustrative: Scene of the shooting in Rameh on August 15, 2021, in which politician Sahar Ismail, 50, was shot dead. (Israel Police)

Two men were shot dead in two separate incidents Friday, the latest fatalities in an unrelenting wave of violent crime in Israel’s Arab community.

A 56-year-old man was shot dead in the northern town of Rameh on Friday evening. The man was identified by Hebrew media as Sati Gerzozi. It was the third deadly shooting incident within 24 hours.

Police said that they suspected the shooting was related to a criminal dispute, and have opened an investigation.

Paramedics who arrived on the scene said they found Gerzozi unconscious and suffering a penetrative wound. The victim did not show any signs of life, and they were forced to declare him dead at the scene

The victim had been facing criminal proceedings after being arrested in November for withholding an income of NIS 600,000 ($173,000), which he received from customers to whom he loaned money. The courts released Gerzozi on restrictive conditions and seized hundreds of thousands of shekels from him.

Earlier on Friday, Rajab Abu Hamad, 30, was shot dead in broad daylight in front of a community police station in the central city of Lod.

A person sitting in a chair

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Rajab Abu Hamad, 30, who was shot dead in the central city of Lod on June 8, 2022. (Courtesy)

Police arrested two suspects in the case at the Hashmonaim checkpoint in the West Bank hours later, and said they were attempting to escape to Palestinian Authority-controlled territory.

Another man, Fathi Shain, a 33-year-old from Tamra, was [shot dead](https://www.timesofisrael.com/man-shot-to-death-in-northern-town-amid-unrelenting-deadly-crime-wave/) in the northern town of Zarzir on Thursday night.

Arab communities have seen a surge in violence in recent years. Many blame the police, who they say have failed to crack down on powerful criminal organizations and largely ignore the violence, which includes family feuds, mafia turf wars, and violence against women.

According to the Abraham Initiatives, a non-government group campaigning against violence in the Arab community, since the beginning of the year, over 50 Arabs and Palestinians have been killed in violence or crime-related circumstances in Israel, mostly in shooting incidents. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/man-shot-dead-near-police-station-in-lod-in-second-such-killing-in-a-day/>

**World leaders pay tribute to Japan’s assassinated ex-PM Abe; footage shows shooting**

***Outpouring of grief from Turkey to Singapore; Iran labels killing ‘act of terrorism,’ while some on Chinese social media express joy***

*By* [*Agencies*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/agencies/) *and* [*TOI staff*](https://www.timesofisrael.com/writers/times-of-israel-staff/) *Today, 7:08 pm*

[](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/AP22189195096384-e1657294137940.jpg)

In this image from a video, Japan’s former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe makes a campaign speech in Nara, western Japan shortly before he was shot, July 8, 2022. (Kyodo News via AP)

Friday’s shocking assassination of former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe in one of the world’s safest countries stunned leaders and drew condemnation, with Iran calling it an “act of terrorism” while European leaders slammed the “despicable” attack. [So is Iran considering this a “hit job” by some country who had problems with Abe? - rdb

Tributes poured in as governments expressed sorrow and solidarity with Japan over the loss of Abe, who was Japan’s longest-serving leader before stepping down in 2020 for health reasons.

US President Joe Biden said he was “stunned, outraged and deeply saddened” and offered his condolences to Abe’s family.

“This is a tragedy for Japan and for all who knew him,” Biden said. “His vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific will endure. Above all, he cared deeply about the Japanese people and dedicated his life to their service.”

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, who hastily returned to Tokyo from campaign events around the country, condemned the “unforgivable act.” He said campaigning as well as Sunday’s elections for parliament’s upper house will proceed.

“The free and fair election, which is the root of democracy, needs to be protected no matter what. We will not be defeated by violence,” Kishida said.

Abe, 67, was shot from behind in Nara in western Japan while giving a campaign speech. He was airlifted to a hospital and later pronounced dead.

A dramatic video emerged of the moment when Abe was fatally shot. The former prime minister is giving a speech outside a train station in Nara. He is standing, dressed in a navy blue suit, speaking and raising his fist when two gunshots are heard and he collapses.

The video of [#ShinzoAbe](https://twitter.com/hashtag/ShinzoAbe?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) assassination. First bullet missed him, second hit him near the neck as he turned noticing the loud noise which led to a hole in the heart. While he had personal security guards all around, overall security seems to be problematic.[pic.twitter.com/ewOExQKwBv](https://t.co/ewOExQKwBv)

— Aditya Raj Kaul (@AdityaRajKaul) [July 8, 2022](https://twitter.com/AdityaRajKaul/status/1545419029006798848?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

In an NHK video of the shooting’s aftermath, security guards are seen leaping on top of the man, in a gray shirt who lies face down on the pavement. A double-barreled device that appeared to be a handmade gun is seen on the ground.

A picture containing person, outdoor

Description automatically generated

Tetsuya Yamagami (bottom) is detained for the assassination of former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe, in Nara Prefecture, western Japan, July 8, 2022. (Katsuhiko Hirano/The Yomiuri Shimbun via AP)

Police arrested the suspect, unemployed 41-year-old Tetsuya Yamagami at the scene. Under Japanese law, possession of firearms is illegal without a special license. Importing them is also illegal.

Abe’s suspected killer admitted targeting the politician and said he held a grudge against an organization he believed Abe was connected to, police said Friday.

Police declined to give details of the “particular organization” mentioned by the suspect, saying investigations were ongoing, but several Japanese media outlets described it as a religious group.

Police said that Yamagami had fashioned a collection of weapons at his home, including several explosives which have since been confiscated.

The suspect, who addressed police in a “matter-of-fact way,” told officers he had worked for the Maritime Self-Defense Force — Japan’s navy — for three years from 2002, but these details are also under investigation.

[A picture containing road, tarmac

Description automatically generated](https://static.timesofisrael.com/www/uploads/2022/07/000_32E268E.jpg)

This aerial view taken from a helicopter chartered by Jiji Press shows police working at the scene at Kintetsu Yamato-Saidaiji Station in Nara where former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe was fatally shot on July 8, 2022. (JIJI PRESS / AFP)

Leaders from Turkey to Singapore condemned the attack. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and the French Foreign Ministry called the shooting “despicable” while Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez slammed the “cowardly attack.”

Ukraine’s President Volodymyr Zelensky tweeted his “deepest condolences to his family and the people of Japan at this difficult time.”

“This heinous act of violence has no excuse,” he added.

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol called the shooting “an intolerable criminal act,” his office said.

Iran decried the shooting as “an act of terrorism.”

A person wearing glasses

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Japan’s Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, speaks to media at the Prime Minister’s official residence in Tokyo after his predecessor died after being shot during a campaign speech in western Japan. July 8, 2022. (AP/Eugene Hoshiko)

“As a country that has been a victim of terrorism and has lost great leaders to terrorists, we are following the news closely and with concern,” Iran’s Foreign Ministry spokesperson said.

Jordan’s King Abdullah II said he was profoundly shocked and saddened by the attack. “The world lost a great leader, and Jordan and I lost a true friend,” the monarch tweeted.

New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern expressed her shock about the shooting. She said Abe was one of the first leaders she met after taking office and described him as deeply committed to his role, generous and kind. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/world-leaders-pay-tribute-to-assassinated-former-japanese-pm-shinzo-abe/>

**Court in swing state bans use of absentee ballot drop boxes**

***'This decision reveals just the tip of iceberg of Wisconsin’s election integrity problems'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 8, 2022 at 3:12pm*

The state Supreme Court in Wisconsin, a key swing state that was the scene of a variety of 2020 presidential election misbehaviors, has banned the use of absentee ballot drop boxes.

Wisconsin's vote very narrowly went for Joe Biden during the last presidential election, after there appeared a number of red flags about the integrity of the election, including the fact Mark Zuckerberg, a leftist, gave millions of dollars to election officials in five key cities to help them run the election.

Now the state's high court has ruled that absentee ballot drop boxes, widely in use during 2020 and the subject of the new documentary "2,000 Mules" about alleged fraud in the 2020 counting, can only be placed in election offices.

[A report](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2022/07/breaking-big-wisconsin-supreme-court-rules-absentee-drop-boxes-illegal/) at the Gateway Pundit said that deals "critical defeats to Democrats in the battleground state."

Election officials, including those who had taken Zuckerberg's millions, had claimed that drop boxes are a secure and convenient way for voters to return ballots.

The report noted, "The court's 4-3 ruling also has critical implications in the 2024 presidential race, in which Wisconsin will again be among a handful of battleground states."

The Thomas More Society has focused on eliminating the potential for election fraud since the 2020 results.

Now the legal team said the 4-3 decision in the case Teigen v. Wisconsin Elections Commission has confirmed those drop boxes are illegal in the state.

"The decision handed down on July 8, 2022, in a lawsuit brought by voters, brings resolution to a key issue in the accusations of election bribery that originally arose in the state’s November 2020 general election," the legal team said. "Thomas More Society attorneys will now be able to deliver wins to voters who have filed lawsuits about the drop boxes in the Circuit Courts of five counties, and who have accused the Wisconsin Election Commission Administrator Meagan Wolfe of violating her duties under Wisconsin election law."

Explained Special Counsel Erick Kaardal, "This decision reveals just the tip of iceberg of Wisconsin’s election integrity problems."  
 He noted that it was Zuckerberg money that was delivered to Wisconsin's officials through the leftist Center for Tech and Civic Life. He explained during 2020 there was an agreement between the CTCL and Wisconsin's officials "to violate the state law banning absentee ballot drop boxes."  
 "And the worst of it,” Kaardal added, “Is that it was all coordinated with the blessing of the Wisconsin Elections Commission.”"  
 Officials from Milwaukee, Madison, Green Bay, Racine and Kenosha were involved in the apparent scheme.  
 The Thomas More Society explained, "The Center for Tech and Civic Life is a non-profit Chicago-based organization, led and staffed by former Democratic activists and funded by billionaire Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg and his wife, Priscilla Chan, to influence the 2020 election. This partisan, special interest group poured more than $300 million into gaining access to election administration processes during the 2020 presidential election."  
 Zuckerberg channeled about another $100 million into 2020 election influence, bypassing federal campaign financing laws, through another organization, too.  
 "Obviously, the Center for Tech and Civic Life, the Wisconsin Elections Commission, and the Wisconsin 5 mayors were in cahoots to purchase and use the illegal drop boxes in the November 2020 election. Now, all the Wisconsin state courts need to do to clean up Wisconsin elections is to follow the money associated with the privately financed legally unauthorized drop boxes," Kaardal said.  
 The Thomas More Center noted, "Under the Center for Tech and Civic Life’s 'Wisconsin Safe Voting Plan' dated June 15, 2020, the Zuckerberg funded organization transferred $216,500 for absentee ballot drop boxes to be used in the five cities. The agreement signed by the center and the mayors of Milwaukee, Madison, Green Bay, Racine, and Kenosha, clearly states the intentions to purchase the legally unauthorized unmanned drop boxes."  
 It was the "illegal advice" from the Wisconsin Election Commission to municipal clerks in those five cities that instructed them "to use legally unauthorized unmanned absentee ballot drop boxes," the legal team said.  
 Kaardal said it all was evidence of "legally unauthorized coordination to violate Wisconsin’s election laws."  
 "And the Wisconsin Elections Commission could not actually have cited any legal authority to use those unmanned absentee ballot drop boxes because Wisconsin’s statutes read the opposite - that such boxes are ‘legally unauthorized,’ a situation which has since been validated and reinforced by the Wisconsin Supreme Court decision in Teigen v. Wisconsin Election Commission," Kaardal said.  
 He said the ruling is another building block in work that is revealing a "massive scheme" by CTCL "to usurp the administration of the election."  
 “Yes, the 2020 election is over and done with,” Kaardal observed, “But it is incumbent upon us to ensure that the corruption that infected Wisconsin’s voting process in November 2020 is rooted out and that the state’s election integrity is preserved. It is especially important that the Wisconsin Election Commission, the entity charged with safeguarding the state’s election integrity, be above reproach. Wisconsin’s voters deserve to know the truth and they need to be assured that the corruption has been eliminated, allowing for fair and honest elections from this point forward." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/court-swing-state-bans-use-absentee-ballot-drop-boxes/>

**Biden signs 'meaningless' executive order on abortion**

***'Wants and needs to satisfy his rabid, ravenous base of pro-abortion fanatics'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 8, 2022 at 1:24pm*

Joe Biden on Friday surrounded himself with abortion fans, including those representing the extreme perspective such as Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra, to sign his executive order, demanded by Democrats, that claims to protect access to abortion nationwide.

Biden claimed to be acting on behalf of a 10-year-old rape victim who "was forced to have to travel out of state to Indiana to seek to terminate the pregnancy and maybe save her life."  
 The order mostly puts in writing what his pro-abortion administration already has schemed to do, including Justice Department efforts to assure women can travel across state lines for abortions.  
 ABC reported the order also "addresses the elevated risks for patients, providers and clinics, which includes efforts to protect mobile clinics that have been deployed to state borders to offer care for out-of-state patients." MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/biden-signs-meaningless-executive-order-abortion/> [There is NO DOCUMENTATION that this case is valid or even true. The circumstances in the report of the alleged 10 year old are more that suspect. Considering the fact that the demon-rats lie cheat and steal with impunity I would consider this nothing more than a political fraud like most of what they do. – rdb]

**Hunter Biden's alleged sex trafficking payments**

***'Potentially criminal behavior must be thoroughly investigated'***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 8, 2022 at 4:27pm*

Two prominent senators who have investigated Hunter Biden's various international business schemes for months already now are demanding that the Department of Justice investigate whether he financed a "prostitution or human trafficking ring" that is tied to Russia.

"What is the Justice Department trying to hide from Congress and the American people?" asked Sens. Ron Johnson of Wisconsin and Charles Grassley of Iowa in their new letter to the DOJ.

"These findings of potentially criminal behavior must be thoroughly investigated by law enforcement entities according to the highest ethical standards. Yet, due to your agencies' continued failure to provide Congress with answers to its legitimate oversight questions, we have serious concerns about your review of this matter as well as the ongoing Hunter Biden criminal case."

The letter was sent to Attorney General Merrick Garland, FBI chief Chris Wray and U.S. Attorney for Delaware David Weiss.

It's already known that Hunter Biden is under federal investigation, likely for taxes but possibly for other issues like improperly representing a foreign government, reports have confirmed.

Now, [Just the News](https://justthenews.com/accountability/russia-and-ukraine-scandals/key-senators-demand-doj-probe-hunter-bidens-payments) explains more suspicions have come up because of Washington Examiner reports that "Joe Biden may have unwittingly financed Hunter Biden's 'participation in an escort ring tied to Russia.'"

That was at a time when Joe Biden "committed to wiring Hunter Biden approximately $100,000," the letter said.

Just the News explained the senators' concern includes questions "about ethical conflicts of interest with some of the law enforcement officials involved in investigating or supervising the Hunter Biden probe, which began in late 2018 and is focused on issues that include money laundering, unpaid taxes and influence peddling."

They point out they had written Weiss about some concerns, without getting a response. That concern was that one of the DOJ executives had possible conflicts with the Hunter Biden criminal case "in light of his prior working relationship with Hunter Biden’s criminal defense attorney."

Just the News reported, "Johnson and Grassley conducted an extensive investigation for years into Hunter Biden's overseas business dealings, concluding they posed serious conflicts of interests and national security concerns that potentially compromised his father's dealings with countries like Russia, China and Ukraine.

"They also made public Suspicious Activity Reports from banks to the government flagging certain Hunter Biden-tied transactions for possible money laundering, including to Russian and Ukrainian women tied to a suspected sex trafficking operation."

The senators want the letter recipients to start answering questions including those about whether the FBI is investigating Hunter Biden "for criminal violations," and if the U.S. "briefed" Hunter Biden over his "close financial associations with individuals linked to the communist Chinese government and other foreign governments." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/senators-demand-doj-check-hunter-bidens-alleged-sex-trafficking-payments/> [SLIME – rdb]

**Federal Reserve report: 75% of $800 billion PPP didn't reach workers**

***Study shows taxpayers billed for $4 for every $1 that reached employees***

*By* [*Bob Unruh*](https://www.wnd.com/author/runruh/) *Published July 8, 2022 at 11:18am*

A new report from two officers of the Federal Reserve has concluded that the vast majority of the billions of dollars spent for the Paycheck Protection Program, instituted to help save jobs when officials shut down America's economy over the COVID-19 pandemic, went astray.  
 The [report](https://www.stlouisfed.org/publications/regional-economist/2022/jul/was-paycheck-protection-program-effective) comes from William R. Emmons, lead economist in the Supervision Division at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, and Drew Dahl, an economist at the bank.  
 The program, involving hundreds of billions of dollars, "was poorly targeted, as almost three-quarters of its benefits went to unintended recipients, including business owners, creditors and suppliers, rather than to workers," they wrote. "Due to differences in the typical incomes of those varied constituencies, it also ended up being quite regressive compared with other major COVID-19 relief programs, as it benefited high-income households much more."  
 They advised that the program, to provide relief to small businesses, was set up fast and wound up most operations in two years.  
 But they found "only about one quarter of PPP funds supported jobs that otherwise would have disappeared." Further, "PPP's benefits flowed disproportionately to wealthier households rather than to the rank-and-file workers that its funds were intended to reach."  
 The report explained, "Established as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act—which was signed by President Donald Trump on March 27, 2020—the PPP began to distribute forgivable loans to small businesses on April 3, just three weeks after a national emergency was declared in the United States. This was a remarkably timely response to the crisis. More than 90% of the nearly $800 billion of PPP loans were forgiven by June 20, 2022, making the program largely temporary as well."  
 The recipients "included any business, nonprofit, veterans’ organization or tribal business with fewer than 500 employees (or, alternatively, the SBA’s size standard for number of employees for the industry in which they operated). Sole proprietors, independent contractors and self-employed individuals also were covered," they explained.  
 The money was for "payroll costs, costs related to the continuation of group health care benefits (sick, medical or family leave), insurance premiums, employee salaries, commissions or similar compensation, mortgage payments, rent, utilities and interest on any debt obligations."  
 Bottom of Form

The Fed officers point to a 2022 study called "The $800 Billion Paycheck Protection Program: Where Did the Money Go and Why Did It Go There?," by David Autor and others.  
 The study estimated that the program did help save jobs, 2.75 million per week in the fourth quarter of the year. "But preserving jobs was expensive. The study found that, depending on the assumptions, the cost per job saved for one year was $169,000 to $258,000, which was much higher than the average amount—$58,200—paid in wages and benefits to small-business employees in 2020," the Fed officers wrote.  
 "The PPP cost taxpayers roughly $4 for every $1 of wages and benefits received by workers in 'saved' jobs. The 'leakage'—$3 out of every $4 distributed through the program—went to small-business owners. According to the study, small-business owners shared these dollars with suppliers, whose sales to loan recipients were greater than they would have been without the PPP, and with banks and other lenders in the form of greater loan volumes and fees for PPP loan administration."  
 And the wealthier ended up with the dollars, the report said.  
 "Based on the known distributions of incomes among workers in small businesses, as well as on the incomes of bank and small-business owners (both PPP loan recipients and their suppliers), the authors estimated that 72% of PPP funds were captured by households with incomes in the top 20% of the national distribution," the report said. <https://www.wnd.com/2022/07/federal-reserve-report-75-800-billion-ppp-didnt-reach-workers/>

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| **Tucker Carlson:**  **This may have been the greatest crime in history**  [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MJrUew2Kyg**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MJrUew2Kyg)  **What actually happened with the Wuhan Virus**  **and who is responsible? RDB 15 min** |

**Commentary:**

**European Scientists Empowering China's Military***by* [*Judith Bergman*](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/author/Judith+Bergman) *July 8, 2022 at 5:00 am* New research done by [Follow the Money,](https://www.ftm.eu/) a Dutch platform for investigative journalism, and ten other European media outlets, found that European scientists have "shared militarily sensitive knowledge with the Chinese army on a large scale."  
 The project, known as the China Science Investigation, collected a staggering 353,000 scientific collaborations between Europe and China and found that, of these, 2,994 have taken place with the Chinese military, [defined as](https://www.ftm.eu/articles/china-science-investigation-launch?share=xRGvdWST8ayJM78Iuvu3YZ%2B0VXfgGL5qXLuRxxpuzdJu2yjYgArpu%2BV5ChXtVII%3D), "studies where scientists from Western European universities collaborated with Chinese colleagues directly linked to an institute that is part of the Chinese army."  
 Moreover, for the past ten years, these collaborations had also increased all throughout Europe. [According](https://www.dw.com/en/are-european-academics-helping-chinas-military/a-61834716) to *Deutsche Welle*, nearly half of the scientific 2,994 collaborations that the China Science Investigation evaluated were published by scientists affiliated with China's elite National University of Defense Technology (NUDT) at universities in the United Kingdom, followed by the Netherlands and Germany. The NUDT's [explicit purpose](https://www.dw.com/en/are-european-academics-helping-chinas-military/a-61834716) is to "strengthen the armed forces and the nation."  
 "It [NUDT] is the top institution of the People's Liberation Army, which among other things is known for its research into supercomputers and hypersonic missiles," [noted](https://politiken.dk/udland/int_kina/art8761118/) Rebecca Arcesati, a researcher at the Mercator Institute for China Studies (Merics) in Germany. "The fact that this particular university is so actively engaged in research collaborations in Europe should cause the warning lights to flash." In Germany alone, at least 230 research articles were published from 2000 through early 2022 in which Chinese military researchers had collaborated with German research institutions.  
 [According](https://www.ftm.eu/articles/china-science-investigation-launch?share=xRGvdWST8ayJM78Iuvu3YZ%2B0VXfgGL5qXLuRxxpuzdJu2yjYgArpu%2BV5ChXtVII%3D) to the China Science Investigation, "Collaboration took place in all kinds of areas: from drone studies to artificial intelligence, from space travel to shipping, and from radar to underwater communication."  
 There [were also](https://politiken.dk/udland/int_kina/art8763272/For-Kinas-h%C3%A6r-er-det-som-%C2%BBat-v%C3%A6re-barn-i-en-slikbutik%C2%AB) collaborations with the Chinese Academy of Engineering Physics, known for its research into nuclear and other weapons.  
 In the [Netherlands](https://www.ftm.eu/articles/china-sends-militairy-researchers-to-dutch-universities?share=%2BskcLiz61zaFsitMPxyTnFyZrus%2BnaZHNznlAaAcMYmKnjwkiYmFtpTzFzCFsh4%3D) alone, where the Dutch intelligence services had already warned in 2010 that China's intelligence services were showing interest in high-quality technology and science developed in the Netherlands, more than "90 military scientists from China have gathered knowledge at Dutch universities and knowledge institutions. They conducted research into militarily sensitive technologies, such as hypersonic aircraft and reinforced concrete."  
 One Ph.D. student, He Lei from NUDT, who received his degree at Delft University in the Netherlands, [told](https://www.ftm.eu/articles/china-sends-militairy-researchers-to-dutch-universities?share=%2BskcLiz61zaFsitMPxyTnFyZrus%2BnaZHNznlAaAcMYmKnjwkiYmFtpTzFzCFsh4%3D) a Chinese newspaper that:  
 "The country and the military chose us for foreign studies to learn and master groundbreaking science and technology. This way, we will be able to take on the heavy task of strengthening and modernizing the army."  
 In Denmark, as well, the China Science Investigation project [identified](https://politiken.dk/udland/int_kina/art8761118/%C2%BBDe-har-kun-%C3%A9n-kunde-og-det-er-Folkets-Befrielsesh%C3%A6r%C2%AB) 91 research articles in which Chinese military researchers had collaborated with one or more Danish research institutions. In November 2021, [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/world/exclusive-monkey-brain-study-with-link-chinas-military-roils-top-european-2021-11-18/) revealed how a Chinese professor, Guojie Zhang, working at the University of Copenhagen had conducted genetic research with the Chinese military without disclosing the connection:  
 "Zhang and a student he was supervising worked with a People's Liberation Army (PLA) laboratory on research exposing monkeys to extreme altitude to study their brains and develop new drugs to prevent brain damage – a priority the PLA has identified for Chinese troops operating on high plateau borders."  
 Such studies could, for instance, assist Chinese troops stationed on the mountainous border with India.  
 "Western universities need to understand that Chinese military scientists have only one client, and that is the People's Liberation Army," Meia Nouwens, who is a researcher at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in London, [told](https://politiken.dk/udland/int_kina/art8761118/%C2%BBDe-har-kun-%C3%A9n-kunde-og-det-er-Folkets-Befrielsesh%C3%A6r%C2%AB) Politiken.  
 "Their raison d'être is to modernize the Chinese army. Your study shows that although the EU has identified China as a 'systemic rival', Europe needs to do more to protect our research. Especially when it comes to technologies that we believe will be crucial for the future of warfare."  
 These revelations have caused consternation in NATO, where David van Weel, NATO's Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Security Challenges, says that European universities need to stop being naïve. "We have noticed that Chinese scholars linked to the People's Liberation Army, as well as Chinese investment firms, are very, very active in our research ecosystems," Weel [said](https://politiken.dk/udland/int_kina/art8773950/%C2%BBHvis-du-g%C3%A5r-ind-p%C3%A5-en-techmesse-med-en-Nato-hat-p%C3%A5-hovedet-m%C3%B8der-du-ikke-mange-venlige-blikke%C2%AB).  
 "It's about becoming less naive about the fact that there is an attempt to take as much knowledge as possible from our research communities back to China. In my home country, the Netherlands, there are researchers who have been working on artificial intelligence with Huawei instead of with NATO. It's the world turned upside down. This is because we have not invested enough and committed enough in recent years. But we are changing that now."  
 Several factors seem at play here. Naïveté combined with an almost extreme form of carelessness is one factor. In one Danish case, for instance, Chinese scientists from the NUDT collaborated for several years with Denmark's Technical University (DTU) on technologies with military potential, such as quantum physics, cryptology, optical communication equipment, battery technology and navigation systems. Several of the Danish scientists [knew](https://politiken.dk/viden/art8502684/Hvorfor-samarbejder-forskere-fra-dansk-universitet-med-den-kinesiske-h%C3%A6r-om-eksperiment-med-abehjerner) that they were dealing with Chinese military scientists, but did not consider that a problem because they "did not give the Chinese access to confidential information."  
 Deception is another factor, but, again, combined with carelessness on the part of European universities. In another Danish case, for instance, a Chinese military engineer, saying that he came from a Chinese research institute that turned out to not exist, [collaborated](https://politiken.dk/viden/art8502684/Hvorfor-samarbejder-forskere-fra-dansk-universitet-med-den-kinesiske-h%C3%A6r-om-eksperiment-med-abehjerner) with Aalborg University in Denmark on advanced radar technology. The engineer was, instead, from the People's Liberation Army Information Engineering University. The problem, however, was not only deception on the part of the engineer, but that the university did not take steps to vet the Chinese engineer's credentials.  
 There is no doubt that European scientists, through their collaboration with Chinese researchers working directly for China's military, have contributed to China's accelerating military modernization.  
 "If you cooperate with NUDT, then you cooperate directly with the Chinese military. It would be the same as the Russian army having a university, of which the Chief of Defense was the top leader," [said](https://politiken.dk/udland/int_kina/art8763272/For-Kinas-h%C3%A6r-er-det-som-%C2%BBat-v%C3%A6re-barn-i-en-slikbutik%C2%AB) Emily Weinstein, nonresident Fellow at the Global China Hub at the Atlantic Council.  
 "It is possible that you as a Danish or German researcher think the research is completely harmless. But to that I would say that civilian scientists are not trained to think in the same way. We are talking here about active military officers, and we should basically expect that no matter what they research, even if it seems harmless, they do it from a military point of view. They are trained to absorb knowledge and apply it in a military context."  
 In November 2021, General Mark Milley, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, [expressed](https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18472/china-nuclear-buildup) his concern at how fast China had accelerated its military modernization after testing a hypersonic weapon:  
 "If you look at, again, 40 years ago, they had zero satellites... They had no ICBMs... They had no nuclear weapons... They had no fourth or fifth-generation fighters or even more advanced fighters, back then... They had no navy... They had no sub-force. Look at what they have today... So if you look at the totality, this test [of a hypersonic weapon] that occurred a couple weeks ago, is only one of a much, much broader picture of a military capability with respect to the Chinese. That is very, very significant. We're witnessing one of the largest shifts in global geostrategic power that the world has witnessed."  
 The collaborative articles between European scientists and Chinese researchers working for China's People Liberation Army that the China Science Investigation has uncovered are just a small part of the knowledge that Chinese researchers have accumulated, [according](https://politiken.dk/udland/int_kina/art8763272/For-Kinas-h%C3%A6r-er-det-som-%C2%BBat-v%C3%A6re-barn-i-en-slikbutik%C2%AB) to Alex Joske, an independent researcher formerly with the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. "What is particularly worrying is that the number of published articles constitutes only one part of the relationships between the researchers," Joske [said](https://politiken.dk/udland/int_kina/art8763272/For-Kinas-h%C3%A6r-er-det-som-%C2%BBat-v%C3%A6re-barn-i-en-slikbutik%C2%AB).  
 "For every handful of articles we see here, there has probably been a Chinese military scientist who has worked and studied at a European university, where he has built relationships and knowledge. This data is just the tip of the iceberg."  
 China also has invested large sums in many European universities, not least in the UK. An investigation by *The Times* [published](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/british-research-could-help-china-build-superweapons-wzlcrngsj) in February showed that British universities have accepted £240 million from Chinese institutions, many with links to the military, including £60 million from institutions sanctioned by the US government for supplying the Chinese military with fighter jets, communications technology and missiles. In addition, in just six years, the number of research collaborations between scientists in the UK and Chinese institutes with deep connections to the country's defense forces tripled to more than 1,000.  
 Recently, investigative journalist David Rose [published](https://unherd.com/2022/05/the-british-weapons-expert-cosying-up-to-china/) a piece in Unherd, revealing that one of the UK's "foremost" high-tech weapons experts, Professor Clive Woodley at Imperial College London -- one of the British universities that has [received](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f75a6c74b43624d99382ab6/t/60c0e9d05a6872607f550a4e/1623255505900/Summary+-+University+funding+from+China.pdf) the most funding from China -- had been freely working with China for years:  
 "Most of Woodley's research has been funded by the Ministry of Defence. A former president of the International Ballistics Society, he served as Chief Scientist at the MoD-controlled company QinetiQ from its inception in 2001 — when the MoD privatised its own labs — to 2018. He has advised the MoD about many of its key lethal systems...  
 "[O]ver the past eight years, Woodley has participated at least seven times in seminars and lectures for senior figures from China's defence industry and university departments that work with its military. He is also a co-editor of two Chinese journals funded by weapons firms. Since 2014, he has had eight papers either published in Chinese journals or co-written with Chinese scientists working with Chinese arms makers — the most recent, in 2021."  
 "This case raises serious concerns about the integrity of our military secrets and the level of cooperation between a British expert and a potentially hostile state," Tom Tugendhat, chairman Britain's Foreign Affairs Select Committee [said](https://news.sky.com/story/mp-voices-military-secret-fears-after-reports-weapons-expert-gave-lectures-in-china-12622589).  
 According to the Unherd report, however, the Ministry of Defense denied that Woodley's activities had posed any risk.  
 "Its spokesperson refused to answer a single question about Woodley's involvement with China, other than to say: 'We have robust procedures in place to make sure research contracts do not contribute to overseas military programmes and that individuals or organisations with foreign-state links cannot access our sensitive research... we ensure that stringent vetting checks are carried out.'"  
 "Adapting to a world affected by the rise of China is the single greatest priority for MI6," the UK's spy chief, head of MI6 Richard Moore [said](https://news.sky.com/story/mi6-china-becomes-single-greatest-focus-for-intelligence-service-as-country-accused-of-large-scale-espionage-operations-against-uk-12483260) in November 2021.  
 "We are deepening our understanding of China across the UK intelligence community and widening the options available to the government in managing the systemic challenges that it poses."

*Judith Bergman, a columnist, lawyer and political analyst, is a Distinguished Senior Fellow at Gatestone Institute.* <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18660/europe-scientists-china-military>

**One Man’s Crusade Against Voter Fraud**

*By* [*Kate Stansell*](https://newswithviews.com/author/kate/)*|July 8th, 2022* Kris Jurski is a Florida resident and businessman, who has mounted a very successful crusade against voter fraud in his home state. Because of the time necessary to produce results, he has had to put aside his income-earning business, Vital Catalyst, LLC, and work full-time uncovering the machinery behind our stolen elections.  
 His company, Vital Catalyst, was hired by investors to help small businesses grow into corporations. To make it happen, he had to jump in and learn how a company works with little or no documentation, troubleshoot the bottlenecks, and develop systems geared to growth.  
 This is essentially what he has done with the voter fraud business in Florida. Using his expertise, he has jumped in to find out how it works (with little documentation from them, for sure!) and analyzed the operations. Only, instead of helping it to grow, Kristofer Jurski is working to put voter fraud in the Sunshine State out of business.  
 A lot of Florida residents knew that the fraud had been occurring. Some had done canvassing of precincts, and taken their findings to their county boards of election. Others had met with local leaders, and made public their issues. There was tremendous demand from various citizens groups to identify and fix the fraud, but there was no coordination or real direction. So, Kris Jurski provided it.  
 He formed The People’s Audit.  
 On this website, Kris provides the evidence of existing fraud, complete with graphs and charts, as well as education, to help citizens learn how to recognize and counter fraud in their own precincts. There is an online training academy to help people really understand the voting process and to protect the vote. As a Florida resident, you can go to this site, and check if your last votes were correctly registered and counted!  
 He has found that the Florida Fraud Machine includes state employees; special “rules” written by some to hamstring others; ERIC, the Electronic Registration Information System, of which Florida is a member; and a crafty system of voter registration that goes on 24/7/365, with fake addresses even more creative than graveyards. And, the totals manage to spike just before registration closes, to provide just enough registration to counter the anticipated “red wave”. Hmmmm…  
 Before revealing some details of what he has uncovered, I want to introduce you to the man behind this selfless mission.  
 Born in the US of Polish parents who lived under Communism, Kris remembers his aunt, on her first trip to America, standing in the bakery aisle at a Publix supermarket and weeping for the incredible bounty of baked goods on display. That image stays with him these decades later.  
 Kris’s wife, too, knows the suffering of those forced to live under totalitarianism. She is a naturalized American citizen born in Venezuela, whose mother is still trapped there. As they tried to get her out, the airport closed down, and they have not seen her since. The Jurski’s send money to her so that she may try to purchase the few things still available, to keep herself alive.  
 Kris’s mission, to expose and correct the theft of our voting rights, is born of his commitment to his own children, and to the nation that he loves. He has vowed that he WILL NOT allow his children to live under the horrors experienced by both sides of their family. Kris Jurski firmly believes that with one more stolen election, America will officially become a totalitarian state, and the only way back to freedom will entail much suffering and bloodshed, as it has worldwide.  
 Now, let us take a look at the highlights of what he has unearthed, by knowing how and where to look.  
 Statewide registrations for 2020 average 21,340 per week.  
 HOWEVER, in the last week before registration closed,  
 153,309 registered in that single week. Of that, 46,644 registered on the day registration closed; with Covid excuse applied to extend registration, another 26,895 registered the day after registration closed.  
 The spikes in registration over the last week are nearly identical in every county in the state. Of those last-minute registrants, 79% voted – mostly by mail! Kris calls BS on this.  
 Florida residents over the age of 65 need NO IDENTIFICATION! All registration for them is done by mail. In a state where people over 65 make up 20.9% of the entire population, THAT is nothing short of fraud food. In 75% of the assisted living and nursing facilities canvassed, over 50% of the names registered to that facility do not live there. Pure elder abuse.  
 Tens of thousands of people in just four counties (Pinellas, Miami-Dade, Okaloosa and Clay) are registered to courthouses as their residential address, with their mailing addresses listed as trailer parks, state parks and boat slips and empty buildings. Miami-Dade plays it more cleverly. Rather than using all the same addresses for over 11,000 people, they use the SOE building in Doral, and change the address by adding a letter at the end. For example, the street address is number 2700, so batches are marked 2700G, or 2700D, or 2700C, none of which actually exist.  
 Since 2019, over 80% of all voter registrations are accomplished at the Division of Motor Vehicles. Since 2017, when the application form was changed by the Director of Elections, there is no spot on which to declare citizenship. In addition, the new training manual for DMV admonishes employees to NEVER discourage someone from registering to vote. Essentially, every applicant at a motor vehicle center is registered or re-registered to vote.  
 The mandate to distribute voter registration forms at licensing centers came from the “Motor Voter Act”, National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) passed by Congress in 1993. Of the 40 states to which the NVRA applied, most ignored it for a number of years, declaring states’ rights. However, after ERIC (Electronic Registration Information Center) was formed in 2012, and Donald Trump entered the political scene, in 2014 – 15 suddenly, DMV’s in a number of states began assuming more of the registration process. During that period is when Maria Matthews, the Director of Elections in Florida, used $19 million in federal grants to revamp the voting procedures, adding the new forms above, and rewriting training manuals for state employees.  
 REMEMBER>>>the state drivers’ data is corrupted with massive amounts of DMV information – which includes green card holders, id card holders, and even learners’ permit applicants. All of these are, of course, ineligible to vote.  
 At this point, it is fair to mention that the County Supervisors of Elections have their hands tied to prevent them from correcting these situations. Even when citizens bring evidence to them, they can do nothing, thanks to their “training manual” rules, aka restrictions, handed down from the state Director’s office. One SOE in Flagler County, Kim Weeks, tried to disallow dishonest dealings in her meetings, and she was fired, fined and jailed for her efforts! This happened under Gov. Rick Scott, but I call for Gov. DeSantis to find out what is really occurring in his voting systems – if he plans to remain Florida’s Governor, as his state wishes him to do.  
 You have heard reference to ERIC, the 30-state membership organization of which Florida is a member.  
 The Electronic Records Information Center (ERIC) exists, ostensibly, to provide voter roll maintenance to its members. What it really is, is a massive data-gathering system that acts as a get-out-the-vote organization for the Left, and an intelligence- gathering mechanism on all state residents.  
 I have written two articles on ERIC, linked below. Rather than repeat myself, I urge you to read them to familiarize yourself with the organization and its ramifications.  
 ERIC mandates its members to register voters, legitimate or not, and brags on its website about how many new voters they have registered by the year. They would like us to believe, of course, that these were all “oppressed” people who could never have registered before – which, of course, they are not. Anyone who cares enough to vote is free to register and do their civic duty.  
 Perversely enough, all of the fraudulent registrations have shown how easy it is to get registered. Anyone (alive or dead or from another country) can get on the rolls.  
 Kris Jurski has found that the DMV input mandated by ERIC is the key to feeding millions of names of people ineligible to vote, into the voter rolls. He calls it the “Green Card Loophole”. He sees ERIC as an intelligence-gathering system that keeps personal records on everyone with a drivers license or who votes.  
 In Florida, we know that those registering at the Motor Vehicle locations do NOT have to be a US citizen. Each member state’s drivers permit applications differ, but many manage to get around or avoid the citizenship issue. ERIC itself, in its bylaws, forbids any voter application to be flagged for being a non- citizen.  
 It is important to note here that even some conservatives who say they care about voter fraud have thrown in with the ERIC system. ‘We are better with it than without it,’ they state, ‘because we need to know who moved and who died.’ The same exact words are spoken whenever the subject comes up, just like the scripted mantra from the MSM, when you hear the same words on every channel. But the voter rolls in ERIC member states are bloated, not cleaned, and its members are mandated to register, not remove. The lists ERIC provides their members, of “who moved and who died” certainly don’t help to maintain honest voter rolls in Florida. If ERIC were about cleaning the rolls, they would post THOSE stats on their website, instead of how many new voters have been registered. Lastly, ERIC would have been organized by someone with a real concern for honesty. David Becker does not qualify.  
 Recently, proof of election fraud in several other states was made into a dramatically factual film, 2000 Mules, by Dinesh DiSousa, with Catherine Engebrecht and Greg Phillips of True the Vote.  
 Another film, Rigged, by David Bossie for Citizens United, exposes the “Zuck Bucks”, from Mark Zuckerberg, which were used to aid the 2020 steal in Wisconsin and elsewhere. You must see one or both. They are powerful proof, and frightening, even nauseating, if you care about your country. Yes, it is a FACT that election fraud is occurring blatantly over much of the country, and with the help of both our government and private sources.  
 However, neither films answered the key question: WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF ALL THESE EXTRA NAMES? Kris Jurski has found the answer, and proven how these names are added to the rolls. He has answered the question of where the Mule Train gets its fuel – all of those votes that weren’t legitimately cast but were counted. He has opened the tombs of the Ghost Voters and traced their origins to street addresses of court houses and abandoned buildings. He has computer analysis, graphs and reports, that spell it out.  
 Kris feels that we need to do the following to secure our ballots:  
 Dump ERIC and all current election officials.  
Dump all current voter registration rolls  
Re-register everyone using in-person, paper records  
Issue a photo id which will be required to cast a ballot  
Eliminate all drop boxes and return to voting in person, on a single day or two, using paper ballots.  
 An odd list from a computer guy. Toss the electronics.  
 Is this a lot of work? You bet. Is our freedom worth it? Don’t even ask!  
Kris will be speaking about the People’s Audit, on Catching Fire News. Please tune in. There is so much more.  
<https://newswithviews.com/one-mans-crusade-against-voter-fraud/>

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**ARUTZ SHEVA**

**Netanyahu bloc gets majority, Yamina left out of next Knesset**

***Under Shaked, Yamina projected to be left out of next Knesset, poll finds, while Netanyahu bloc secures 61-seat majority.***

[*David Rosenberg*](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/author/David_Rosenberg) *Jul 8, 2022, 5:00 PM GMT+3*

The four right-wing opposition parties allied with Opposition Leader Benjamin Netanyahu are projected to win an outright majority in the Knesset, a new poll shows, the first time the Netanyahu bloc has received at least 61 seats in a public survey since last year’s election.

The poll, conducted by Panels Politics and published by Ma’ariv Friday morning, found that if new elections were held today, the Netanyahu bloc would win a total of 61 seats, giving it a narrow majority in the 120-member Knesset.

The left-wing – Arab bloc would win 48 seats, while the right-of-center parties in the Bennett-Lapid government are projected to win 11 seats.

The Likud would win 36 seats if new elections were held today, up two seats from the previous Panels Politics poll, released on July 1st.

Yesh Atid also gained ground, rising from 22 seats to 23, while the right-wing Religious Zionist Party held steady at 10 seats.

Shas and United Torah Judaism held steady at eight and seven seats respectively, while the center-left Blue and White party received nine seats, the same as last week’s poll.

The Joint Arab List and United Arab List received six and four seats respectively, the same each party won in 2021, and the same they received in last week’s poll.

Labor is projected to win six seats, while the far-left Meretz party received just 2.2% of likely voters, below the 3.25% electoral threshold.

Yisrael Beytenu rose to six seats in the new poll, while New Hope held steady at five seats. The third center-right party in the coalition government – Yamina – failed to cross the threshold, receiving just 2.6% of the vote. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/356182>

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