jns 2026 International Policy Summit



2026 JNS INTERNATIONAL POLICY SUMMIT FORUMS'

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS HANDBOOK

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Policy Forums Overview

As a leading global media organization, JNS has emerged as a central platform for ideas, influence and impactful innovative initiatives — bringing together top policymakers, diplomats, security and legal experts, scholars and thought leaders, alongside organizations, think tanks and institutes committed to strengthening Israel and the Jewish people. In an increasingly fragmented landscape, JNS serves a unique and vital role: enabling and uniting these voices under one framework to deliberate, challenge assumptions and forge forward-thinking policy solutions grounded in clarity, courage and strategic vision.

This JNS Forums' Policy Handbook presents the policy recommendations, reports, and resources formed in light of the distinguished speakers' deliberations and critical discussions. The twelve JNS Forums held three preliminary meetings where they deliberated on the key issues each in their respective field of expertise, followed by closed-door sessions at the Summit, and a live, on-stage presentation of their findings, conclusions, and policy recommendations at the 2026 JNS International Policy Summit.

Together, these Forums reflect a wide-ranging and deeply informed engagement with many of the key issues facing Israel and the Jewish people today, while bringing together a distinguished group of participants committed to serious and substantive dialogue.

We are deeply grateful to the expert speakers and panelists of the JNS 2026 Policy Forums for their time, dedication and thoughtful contributions. Their willingness to engage with rigor and collaboration is what gives the JNS Summit its depth and enduring impact.

We express our thanks and appreciation for their leadership and vision.

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ISRAEL'S INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ISRAEL'S CHALLENGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA

SUMMARY:

We are at a shaky time. The 2026 JNS Policy Forum is taking place in a momentous period when Israel stands to evolve from reactive crisis management to a proactive "Pax Israeliana" doctrine of hegemonic stability. While the March 26 session occurred under the desperation of a 500-missile Iranian barrage, the subsequent meetings saw Israel establishing itself as a regional security anchor capable of transforming international challenges into strategic leverage. By asserting its role as a regional architect, Israel has shifted its posture from a state under siege to the primary guarantor of regional order. This transition ensures that Israeli sovereignty is no longer a defensive claim, but the foundation for an assertive statecraft that converts every external challenge into a point of enduring strategic advantage. This Forum discussed how to most effectively use Israel's position in the international arena to bring order to the region and draw support from the Jewish community outside of Israel.

The landscape between the Feb. 28, 2026, commencement of the Iran war and the June summit was defined by the "Three Collapses": Iranian deterrence, the traditional peace process paradigm and international institutional credibility. Israeli operations are thought to have had a significant impact on Iranian nuclear infrastructure and resulted in severely diminished production capacities, yet the diplomatic environment fractured as the "Hungarian veto" was lost at the E.U. Foreign Policy meeting. This erosion of Israel's single-country firewall signals that international institutions have failed, making military reality the most valid diplomatic currency. Likewise, the Jewish response to antisemitism has become a strategic point of focus in how Israel functions in the international arena. We now require a coordinated attack against the U.N., Hollywood, universities and press houses that espouse antisemetic views.

To stabilize this environment, the Forum synthesized five policy pillars into a unified "victory doctrine." Pillar I converts military success into a permanent "deterrence-first" posture, providing the foundation for Pillar II's offensive lawfare. Israel must now initiate universal jurisdiction cases against Iranian and Hezbollah commanders, leveraging documented IRGC attacks on Saudi refineries and the Kuwait airport to build a coalition of co-plaintiffs. This security bedrock enables a Middle East "defense shield" (Pillar III), employing a "Saudi workaround" where integration into the Arrow 3 layered missile- defense architecture facilitates normalization via technological indispensability, despite public hostility. This is sustained by a "strategic communications command" (Pillar IV) that bypasses traditional media to frame the conflict as an offensive by enemies of the West against the West itself and serve as a wakeup call to the global Jewish community that support of Israel is the best way to fight antisemitism. Meanwhile, Pillar V utilizes the "Virginia Model" as a state-level legislative template to dismantle the antisemitism-delegitimization nexus.

Ultimately, this framework positions Israel as the indispensable security anchor of the post-war Middle East. As articulated by Forum leadership, Pax Israeliana creates a reality in which rational regional actors must seek partnership based on Israeli military and intelligence supremacy, regardless of prevailing institutional hostility. This doctrine moves beyond historical grievances to establish a new moral litmus test: To effectively combat antisemitism in the modern era, one must be pro-Israel. By prioritizing military effectiveness over reputational management, Israel ensures that its sovereignty remains the bedrock of regional order, establishing "victory doctrine" that serves as the definitive new baseline for international relations.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

Establishment of a Strategic Communications Command: Israel must bypass legacy media structures to launch an offensive "moral-clarity campaign" that frames its national defense as the front line of Western interest-protection. This transforms the narrative from a localized conflict into a global necessity, forcing international partners to view Israeli security as synonymous with their own civilizational stability. This framework moves beyond traditional "hasbara" toward an offensive legal and political posture. It advocates for identifying and neutralizing the specific institutional engines and organizational centers driving modern antisemitism and delegitimization. By shifting from a defensive to an offensive posture, Israel can disrupt the supply chains of anti-Israel sentiment at their source, forcing adversaries to defend their own legitimacy rather than constantly responding to their accusations. (Further analysis can be found in this report by Shimon Cohen.)

Transition to a Mutual-Defense Architecture: The U.S.-Israel relationship should shift from an aid-dependent model to a peer-level mutual-defense partnership in which Israel manages regional security interests to allow U.S. outsourcing. This shift is essential to mitigating political volatility in Congress and addressing the decreasing utility of traditional aid models in a polarized Washington.

Launch of an Offensive Lawfare and Transparency Strategy: Instead of a defensive posture, Israel must actively delegitimize the delegitimizers—specifically biased international bodies like the ICC and ICJ—by exposing their institutional prejudices. This strategy erodes the authority of these institutions, making their legal maneuvers politically and diplomatically inconsequential on the world stage.

Creation of a Task Force to Track and Expose Qatari-Bought Influence: Israel should go on the attack against Qatari influence in universities, institutions, media outlets, think tanks and charities. Negative exposure could delegitimize the anti-Israel bias coming from organizations willing to take Qatari money. Additionally, the Financial Task Force can also investigate and bring to light cases of discrimination against Israel in international banking. Currently, the flagging of Israel as a "high-risk" counterparty is causing great costs and difficulties for financial institutions working with Israeli businesses and individuals. While no such policy officially exists, experts in the sector have noticed its impact and suggest that the Financial Task Force publicly expose this hidden discrimination.

Expansion of the IMEC Trade and Defense Corridor: Priority must be given to the India-Middle East-Europe (IMEC) corridor to integrate energy, trade and defense networks with Sunni Arab states. Successful integration turns temporary security cooperation into permanent economic dependency, making Israeli stability a prerequisite for regional prosperity.

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INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ISSUES: U.N., ICC, ICJ

SUMMARY:

The International Legal Issues Forum outlined a significant shift in response to the changing reality following the October 7 attacks. The Forum represents members who are all aiming to evolve from mere reactions to anti-Semitism, Anti-Zionism, Anti-Israelism and the demonization of Israel at the UN and in the international courts, toward a proactive strategy grounded in international law. This involves not merely contesting jurisdiction and thumbing noses but rather serious strategic and active engagement with the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to ensure accountability, moving past traditional institutional inertia that has historically prioritized domestic calming measures over robust defensive and other strategies.

Key areas of focus have been identified, particularly focusing on territorial jurisdiction issues. The strategy leverages the "Trump Plan" and the "Gaza Plan," both endorsed by the UN Security Council, to argue that Palestinian statehood is nonexistent under current international legal definitions. This assertion includes an analysis, proposed by Ron Soffer, that the Palestinian Authority (which has taken executive action to be called the State of Palestine) cannot sign the Rome Statute, as it is not a member-state of the United Nations, and which the Security Council itself makes clear is an eventuality but not a realty, thereby providing a legal basis for tribunals to dismiss cases due to lack of jurisdiction. This initiative is part of a comprehensive plan aimed at restoring objective legal standards over politicized judgments.

To reshape the global legal narrative that has become prevalent in these international fora, the report advocates for a coalition involving "third-party" states to counter institutional biases. It suggests correcting misleading UN reports and rallying countries such as Argentina to lead third-party litigation against countries that sponsor terrorism, such as the Islamic Republic of Iran, the world's worst State Sponsor of Terror. Additionally, it proposes civil litigation strategies within national frameworks using mechanisms like the Material Support statutes and the Torture Victims Protection Act to hold perpetrators accountable. This multifaceted and quite assertive approach seeks to confront bureaucratic obstacles and disseminate focused legal arguments worldwide, ensuring the principles of international law are universally acknowledged and upheld.

The litigation which has been initiated in US Federal Courts against UNRWA, meanwhile, represents an offensive strategy against an organization, created under the auspices of the UN, but which has operated largely independently and with its own agenda that is based upon preserving Palestinian refugeehood, rather than resettling of peoples into countries of their current residence, such as Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and elsewhere. UNRWA is accused of not only providing material support for terror activities of Hamas, but also of teaching hate and indoctrination designed to support the elimination of Israel, notwithstanding Israel's standing as a fully accredited member-state of the United Nations, and her inherent territorial rights as a sovereign nation.

Whereas ordinary refugee policy is directed toward durable solutions - voluntary repatriation where possible, local integration, or resettlement - UNRWA preserves and politically promotes the proposition that generations born and settled elsewhere may "return" not merely to a future Palestinian state, but to sovereign Israel. That structure is being tested through a series of lawsuits filed against UNRWA on behalf of American victims of Hamas, Hezbollah, and other designated terrorist organizations. The Sha'arabany complaint, for example, alleges that UNRWA's providing material

support for Hamas and that UNRWA's personnel, facilities, payroll practices, and institutional systems materially assisted Hamas's capacity to commit heinous and barbaric acts of terror.

UNRWA contends that its asserted status as a U.N. subsidiary organ places it beyond the jurisdiction of US domestic courts regardless of the conduct alleged. Plaintiffs respond that no treaty, statute, or executive order immunizes this autonomous, operational entity. The United States has now filed a compelling Statement of Interest and has taken the same position—that UNRWA is not immune—and has urged the presiding judge to allow the case to proceed. If that categorical shield falls, UNRWA can be required to answer with evidence and face the discovery and accountability that apply to other actors. The lawsuits' strategic importance therefore reach well beyond damages: it attacks the premise that the UN General Assembly can unilaterally create entities that, like UNRWA, claimed immunity that would allow it to exercise quasi-governmental power without US consent of the Executive or Legislative branches or judicial review. If successful, the litigation could conceivably alter the immunity with impunity attitude of the United Nations in US courts, achieving accountability not previously realized.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

NGO-State Coalition Building for Amici Filings
This proposal advocates for a transition from independent, isolated NGO filings toward the construction of broad coalitions with Christian, Zionist, and varied allied groups. The objective is to produce both consolidated amici curiae submissions that carry significantly more diplomatic and legal weight and which provide important narrative fuel for op eds, speeches, writers, thinkers and activists. Current experience demonstrates that independent small group NGO briefs are frequently disregarded and often fail to even be entered into the official court record. Building state-backed coalitions ensures that these arguments are formally integrated into the permanent judicial record. By amplifying the volume and diversity of voices, the wide pro-Israel community can force the courts to acknowledge, and be more inclined to consider, arguments that are currently being sidelined as partisan, or parochial in their views.

Jurisdictional Challenge via the "Statehood" Argument
A primary legal objective is to contest the locus standi of the Palestinian Authority (PA), aka The State of Palestine, and the ICC's territorial jurisdiction. The panel identified a critical "window of opportunity" following the ICC Appellate Division's decision to remit the jurisdiction issue back to the first instance. The argument hinges on the UN Security Council's adoption of the "Trump Plan," which establishes that Palestine has not yet achieved statehood and must fulfill specific criteria before doing so. Challenging the competence of the court provides the ICC with a near-term "honorable way out." It allows judges to dismiss politically volatile cases and vacate wrong-headedly issued arrest warrants against the Prime Minister and former Defense Minister on technical procedural grounds without having to rule on the merits of the conflict. The forum identified Germany as an optimal sovereign lead for this intervention, given its preeminent influence within the ICC hierarchy. Overcoming internal Israeli Ministry inertia that traditionally precludes many initiatives is an obstacle to be considered in finding the essential path forward.

Behind-the-Scenes Technical Assistance to Sympathetic States
This strategy involves providing "voluntary drafting assistance" to sympathetic UN member states in relation to international proceedings and tribunals. Because sovereign states possess a level of standing and authority that NGOs cannot match, this "force multiplier" approach helps allies file robust submissions that challenge hostile and false narratives in the ICJ and ICC. This mechanism leverages the standing of friendly nations by assisting them to counter mendacious claims. By acting as a technical drafting house, the legal community ensures that state-level filings—which the courts are obligated to consider—reflect accurate legal and factual realities.

Enforcement of the Security Council-Adopted Gaza Disarmament Plan
This proposal seeks to pressure the UN Security Council to enforce the disarmament requirements of the previously adopted "Trump Plan." It frames the plan not merely as a political proposal, but as a formal UN mandate that remains unfulfilled by the Palestinian side, including with regard to the requirement that Hamas disarm and demilitarize. This creates a critical legal offense/defense for Israel's continued military operations for the purpose of achieving disarmament and demilitarization, not only for the benefit of Israelis on Gaza's border lines, but for the future of the Gazans themselves. By highlighting that disarmament is a mandatory prerequisite for peace endorsed by the Security Council, this strategy provides a "green light" for Israel to continue doing what is necessary as a matter of enforcing the UN's own security requirements. It effectively shifts the burden of implementation and the blame for regional instability back onto Hamas, where it belongs, as well as the PA and the UN itself.

Establish an UNRWA Accountability Litigation Coalition
The pro-Israel legal community should treat the actions against UNRWA in US federal courts as coordinated impact litigation that are worthy of support. A dedicated coalition should provide funding, pro bono research, UN and International Organizations experts, terrorism and education experts, evidence collection, and coalition amicus briefs at decisive stages. It should also work with public and private stakeholders to build and strengthen the public record with supporting policy that maps directly onto addressing the outcome of determinative legal issues. This is not a request to politicize the courts. It is a commitment to ensure that courts receive the strongest admissible facts and law, while the public understands why UNRWA's conduct and past deeds render the agency uniquely problematic that should be adjudged by a US jury for its support of heinous and barbaric terror.

Encourage the U.S. to Reinforce through Action: UNRWA Has No Immunity in United States Courts
1- The United States Government should bring its own action against UNRWA, as well as its officials and/or related entities. The Office of the Inspector General for USAID has issued several reports, which have further established UNRWA's complicity and terrorist links including in the October 7 Attacks. As the U.S. has already articulated its no-immunity position in private litigation, it should act on this position and the information it has amassed in bringing its own public civil and/or criminal action, and/or imposing sanctions against UNRWA, as well as its officials and/or related entities.

2- Congress should enact an UNRWA Accountability title expressly providing, notwithstanding any other provision of law or treaty, that UNRWA, its officials, and any successor or related entity are not entitled to immunity from U.S. legal process under the CPIUN, the IOIA, executive order,

or other federal law, and making the rule applicable to pending and future cases to the fullest constitutional extent. The proposal should preserve all existing ATA/JASTA and other causes of action rather than create a narrower substitute remedy. It should be noted that S. 4295, the Stop Support for UNRWA Act of 2026, already proposes confirming that there is no immunity for UNRWA officials. Congress should expand that language to the Agency itself.

3-DOJ and State should, in parallel, maintain the government's no-immunity position at every appellate stage and in every private U.S. case.

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Ron Soffer
Jonathan Turner
Amb. Alan Baker
Natasha Hausdorff
Joseph Tipograph
Yael Gvirsman

U.S.- ISRAEL AFFAIRS

SUMMARY:
The U.S.-Israel Affairs Forum signified a definitive transition in the U.S.-Israel bilateral relationship, moving from an archaic "Big Brother/Little Brother" dynamic toward a mature, peer-to-peer strategic partnership.This evolution was underscored by the seamless interoperability demonstrated during "Operation Epic Fury" and "Midnight Hammer," where tactical and intelligence coordination reached unprecedented levels of effectiveness. This performance has established Israel as a global benchmark for power projection, leading Indo-Pacific partners—specifically Japan—to look toward the U.S.-Israel alliance as the vital template for their own regional security models, as they seek to become the "Israel of the Pacific." Ruth J. Lieberman argues that the interests of the U.S. and Israel are aligned,, making U.S. support of Israel more of a force multiplier than a traditional obligation toward a foreign government. The recent military successes now necessitate a modernized regulatory and economic infrastructure that reflects this high-functioning strategic reality.

Central to this realignment is the strategic shift from "Aid to Trade," characterized by the proposal to phase out the $3.8 billion in Foreign Military Sales credits. While these credits served past needs, they now create economic distortions that inadvertently encourage the transfer of Israeli personnel and the domestic tax base to the United States. The Forum recommends replacing this model with an independent defense-production framework supported by increased private-sector investment. By easing International Traffic in Arms Regulations and establishing a "Five Eyes-style" defense-procurement network, both nations can streamline co-production and accelerate advanced weaponry acquisition. This evolution in physical defense provides the necessary groundwork for deeper, more resilient integration within the digital and technological sectors.

Technological integration remains a primary pillar of the alliance, as evidenced by the U.S.-Israel Tech Steering Committee and the strategic frameworks provided by the Heritage Foundation's Tidal Wave project. Policy advancements in joint AI research and R&D tax reform are essential to securing the technology supply chain against Iranian and Chinese encroachment, while serving as a professional beacon for younger demographics. Critically, the Forum identified a direct causal link between the physical degradation of Iranian military capabilities and a measurable decline in "Global Intifada" social-media activity, confirming that much of the digital conflict is a state-sponsored disinformation effort. Domestically, the Mamdani Act serves as a vital legislative safeguard, prohibiting foreign religious legal frameworks such as Sharia law to ensure the absolute preservation of U.S. constitutional supremacy.

The global landscape reveals a widening bifurcation between the stagnation of "Old Europe" and the proactive stance of "New Europe" nations like Poland and the Baltic states, which increasingly prioritize bilateral U.S.-Israel cooperation. The Forum warns of worldwide influence of Qatar and Turkey and directs attention to the latest report by FDD on Qatari Investment in the U.S. Chinese, Russian, Qatari and Iranian investments in the cognitive war has resulted in a significant rise in antisemitism, especially in the Democratic Party. The future of U.S.-Israel relations could become party-dependent if not managed urgently.

Sarah Stern contributed a paper entitled, "The Gravity Of The Problem," which reminded us that the relationship between Israel and the U.S. has historically been tense following war, with the U.S. often pressuring Israel to soften its stance to appease Arab neighbor states. Ultimately, the deliberations emphasize that the alliance's future rests upon a proactive, regional leadership that rejects reactive diplomacy. By prioritizing self-determination and mutual innovation, the United States and Israel can secure a stable, technologically superior and ideologically resilient partnership for the coming decade.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

Security and Defense Interoperability: The evolving U.S.-Israel military relationship highlights the need to emphasize total interoperability over mere cooperation. Recent military operations have validated this approach, though the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) present challenges, as they restrict Israeli export flexibility due to stringent U.S. controls. The current Foreign Military Sales (FMS) model, which provides $3.8 billion in annual credits, limits Israel's industrial autonomy and fosters dependency. A proposed Strategic Investment Model suggests shifting to co-production and private-sector investment to enhance Israeli independence, correct job-market distortions and boost joint research and development. This model aims to empower Israel militarily, while fostering a stronger collaborative environment for defense innovation.

Intelligence and Strategic Planning: Strategic planning is evolving toward a high-trust framework, with experts proposing a "Five Eyes for defense procurement," aiming for a treaty-based network of trusted nations to streamline weapons transactions and bypass bureaucratic hurdles. Key components include: Treaty-Based Procurement, advocating for Senate-approved treaties; "De-Europeanization" of regional diplomacy, suggesting Europe should exit both war and peace negotiations; and the Abraham Accords paradigm, which focuses on regional integration and economic cooperation, reducing external conflict influences. These strategies leverage advanced technology to enhance military collaboration. Furthermore, formal guarantees must be established to prevent political embargoes from interrupting essential supply chains during active military maneuvers. This policy is grounded in the tactical reality of combatants who were inside the Gaza Strip when the Biden administration's munitions embargo hit, directly altering maneuvers and emboldening regional adversaries.

Technology, R&D and Innovation: The tech sector plays a crucial role in U.S.-Israel relations, particularly in the realm of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Israel is seen not only as a consumer, but also a vital partner, with initiatives like the U.S.-Israel Tech Steering Committee and events such as the AI Expo shaping their collaborative future. Proposed reforms aim to address tax regulations that hinder Israeli R&D in the U.S., promoting deeper investment. This partnership is key for job creation and leadership in the AI field, particularly for younger generations, emphasizing their role in shaping the technological landscape. Ultimately, the bond is strengthened by shared values and resilience against ideological threats.

Culture, Resilience and the Information War: This pillar highlights the resilience of the Israeli public in confronting existential threats, particularly from Iran and its proxies, amid intense political debates; a national consensus exists with support for defense strategies. It also examines disinformation campaigns led by Qatar and Iran, aimed at undermining U.S.-Israel relations through soft dollars and a cognitive takeover of the United States. Common myths, such as claims of a "genocide" perpetrated by Israel, and portrayals of the P.A. as a peace-seeker, will be labeled as propaganda lies. Experts stress the importance of shifting from a defensive posture to proactively shaping the global narrative to combat these challenges. The alliance must address the staggering resource disparity in narrative defense, where adversaries like China invest $50 billion annually, compared to a mere $800 million from the U.S. Coordinated, increased budgets are required to synchronize global-engagement efforts and degrade the effectiveness of foreign information operations targeting Western youth.

RESOURCES:

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FORUM MEMBERS:

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Yossie Hollander
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THE CHRISTIAN-ISRAEL ALLIANCE FORUM

SUMMARY:

The Christian-Israel Alliance Forum plays a crucial role in the evolving relationship between Christian and Israeli communities, emphasizing the necessity for their mutual survival in an increasingly unstable global environment. This partnership reflects a significant ideological shift from "Replacement Theology" to "Covenant Theology," which underpins the assertion of ancestral rights and acknowledges Jews as the indigenous people of their land. At the core of this theology is the interpretation of Genesis 12:3, which establishes a dichotomy: While Israel embodies a positive global force through significant contributions in science and medicine, it also faces ramifications from international bodies like UNRWA and the ICC if they oppose the Jewish state. This theological perspective establishes a necessary moral and legal framework for addressing present geopolitical challenges.

The Forum advocates for the abandonment of the term "West Bank," promoting "Judea and Samaria" instead, as part of recognizing sovereign rights rooted in historical and ancestral claims. There exists a stark disparity in human rights across the region; while areas in Northern Africa and the Middle East face systemic violence against Christians—as highlighted by the diminishing Christian populations in Bethlehem under Arab rule—Israel stands as the only nation safeguarding and promoting Christian communities. The Forum also supports democratic reform in a post-Iranian-regime era and warns against the risks posed by the "two-state solution," especially regarding its implications for Saudi participation in the Abraham Accords, viewing it as detrimental to both biblical and historical contexts.

Additionally, in response to contemporary media narratives, the Forum stresses the importance of confronting malign influences, such as Qatari funding affecting American academia and the internal divisions it incites within the Republican Party and the MAGA movement. This influence has been linked to rising anti-Zionism, perceived as a contemporary form of antisemitism, fueled by media figures like Tucker Carlson and Candace Owens. To effectively engage with Generation Z, the Forum suggests a communication strategy that showcases Israel's substantial humanitarian and technological impact on global issues, in addition to scriptural references.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

Institutionalize Aggressive Counter-Measures Against Media-Driven Disinformation:
Policy frameworks must explicitly identify and rebut the "mind virus" narratives promoted by figures like Tucker Carlson and Candace Owens, who weaponize replacement theology to alienate the Christian base. We must prioritize high-level briefings that expose these rhetoric-driven schisms as coordinated attacks on the stability of the Western pro-Israel coalition.

Formalize Nomenclature Reflecting Indigenous Rights and Biblical Sovereignty:
Administrative and diplomatic protocols should mandate the use of "Judea and Samaria" over the term "West Bank" to correctly identify the region as Israel's ancestral heartland and the seat of indigenous Jewish rights. This shift serves as a preemptive defense against international pressure for a two-state solution in a potential post-Iran regional landscape where Saudi influence may demand territorial concessions.

Standardize the Legal Definition of Anti-Zionism as Antisemitism: Policy directors must advocate for the universal adoption of frameworks that classify the delegitimization of the State of Israel as a contemporary manifestation of ethnic and religious prejudice.This clarity is essential for protecting Jewish and Christian students on university campuses currently targeted by extremist ideological movements and hybrid threats.

Enforce Transparency and Disclosure for Qatari-Funded Academic Influence: Legislation must be advanced to investigate and expose the impact of Qatari-funded university professorships that facilitate psychological operations against Israel under the guise of academic freedom. Monitoring these financial flows is vital to reclaiming the integrity of Western educational institutions and safeguarding the democratic process from foreign influence-peddling.

Highlight the Bethlehem Demographic Crisis as a Metric for Regional Human Rights: Foreign policy should leverage data regarding the decline of Bethlehem's Christian population from around 90% to below 10%, to contrast regional Islamic repression with Israel's model of religious protection. By framing Israel as the indispensable guardian of faith-based communities, the alliance can shift the international narrative from Israeli "oppression" to Israeli "protection."

Pivot Generational Engagement Toward a Framework of Universal Utility: To resonate with Gen Z, messaging must supplement the biblical mandate of Genesis 12:3, with a focus on Israel's role as a global humanitarian and technological superpower. Highlighting Israeli genius in solving water crises and medical challenges provides a tangible value proposition for a generation that increasingly prioritizes humanitarian utility over traditional theological tenets.
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FORUM MEMBERS:

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ISRAEL'S BATTLE FOR THE TRUTH

JUSTICE & ACCOUNTABILITY: THE COURTS & THE COURT OF PUBLIC OPINION

SUMMARY:

The Justice & Accountability Forum's mission is to unify views, strategy and action in the form of litigation in the courts, public discourse in the court of public opinion and in the activating of public-policy thinkers and legislators in the battle against systemic antisemitism, acts of hatred, discrimination and acts of violence and terror targeting members and supporters of the Jewish community globally[1]. The initiative demands accountability from federal and international institutions[2], challenging the obstruction of bureaucracies, institutional indifference and those who enable hate-filled education and dissemination of information, often under the guise of freedom of speech. Hate, discrimination and acts of violence and terror violate various laws, civil and criminal, mandating powerful action and a zero-tolerance approach.

Legislation:

The United States, Canada, Israel and Europe all have national and local Laws of which an aggrieved plaintiff may avail him/herself when seeking redress from antisemitism, hate-based discrimination, religious discrimination, acts of violence, assault, defamation and terror. These include, but are not limited to, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in U.S. federally funded programs. While Title VI does not explicitly cover religion, the United States Federal Government interprets Title VI to protect Jewish and Israeli students from acts of antisemitism and religious discrimination when based on shared ancestry, ethnic characteristics or perceived nationality. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

The Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act (FSIA) and the Anti Terrorism Act (ATA/JASTA) in the U.S. has been weakened by recent Supreme Court losses that have made it nearly impossible for aggrieved victims of terror, as well as Holocaust survivors, to succeed in U.S. Federal Court, in violation of the intent of Congress, which adopted the legislation for the purpose of providing true access to the courts by American victims of terror. Recent decisions have also precluded recovery for Holocaust survivors to sue for anything other than high-value art, excluding hundreds of thousands of persons whose families were stripped of all non-art assets. The Holocaust Expropriated Art Recovery (HEAR) Act's extension, however, is a recent tactical success that exposes a glaring strategic gap: The legal system currently provides more protection for a stolen painting than for the recovery of stolen lives and non-art property. We must bridge this gap by expanding restitution frameworks beyond the "fine art" exception. We must also encourage Congress and the administration to adopt legislative fixes designed to put teeth back into statutory remedies and causes of action for victims of

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[1] The term antisemitism has become a milquetoast term. What is happening the world over is evil assaults, verbally and physically against Jewish and other people who express support for their Jewish beliefs and practices, including against those who support the State of Israel. It is blatant, open, noxious, notorious and grossly unacceptable conduct.

[2] Antisemitism and outright hatred of Jewish people and of Israel is pervasive and must be stopped. This document addresses federal laws only, although action at the state and local levels are not only possible, but must be encouraged and included in strategic actions to be taken at the local, national and international levels.

terror who have been murdered, maimed or injured as a result of acts of international terror.
It should be noted that in Canada, victims of terror are presently able to pursue actions based upon statutory remedies adopted a decade or more ago. In addition, legislation adopted in Israel presently permits victims of terror to seek redress against the P.A. for having provided material support to Hamas and other terror organizations. Israel's Ministry of Finance has been paying out funds to victims, charging those monies against P.A.-collected tax funds.
In the U.S., the P.A. and PLO continue to resist all attempts by U.S. victims seeking justice for those entities having provided material support for terror by seeking dismissal of actions filed in the U.S. if the victims have also filed (albeit under different statutes) in Israel.

Litigation:

- American Victims of Terror Actions against State Sponsors of Terror and Arising out of acts of terror committed by designated Foreign Terror Organizations.

While aggressive legal actions arising out of the Oct. 7 barbaric attacks by Hamas continue, and are pending against Iran, Syria and North Korea, the litigation is now pushing into novel frontiers, including against Binance for facilitating terror finance and high-stakes actions against UNRWA. In the D.C. District Court, Judge Royce Lamberth is overseeing a pivotal challenge to UNRWA's immunity, while in New York, a federal judge has dismissed claims against UNRWA based upon immunity, which is presently on appeal to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. Critically, the Trump administration has filed an excellent Statement of Interest, both in the Second Circuit, and also in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, asserting that UNRWA does not enjoy immunity for its alleged material support of Hamas. The acts of the Trump administration are bold and constitute a significant tactical filing that we must leverage to override conflicting, more restrictive rulings currently emerging from other courts.

In actions against non-state actors under the Anti Terrorism Act, judges are increasingly throwing out Anti-Terrorism Act and JASTA cases for aiding and abetting on jurisdictional grounds, or demanding a level of "specific knowledge" by the funder that is nearly impossible to prove without intelligence-level access. We must advocate not only for a lower evidentiary threshold for "knowledge" in cases involving known terror proxies, but also for the Israeli government, which possesses massive intelligence and evidence that has been gathered, to release the evidence to the various law firms that are advocating on behalf of aggrieved victims in the U.S, Israel and elsewhere.

- Antisemitism Cases:

The court's failure in the Ann Arbor Synagogue Case to recognize that 20 years of weekly intimidation outside a house of worship constitutes a violation of religious practice—not "protected speech"—is a systemic failure. The First Circuit Court of Appeals ruling in the MIT Case shows a pattern of judges dismissing the trauma of Jewish students. The same judge who was criticized for dismissing the impact of the Boston Marathon bombing on its victims recently wrote the MIT opinion, which also ignored the trauma-inducing conduct of those celebrating the Oct. 7 massacre. Perhaps most alarming is a Jewish judge in California who recently ruled at the motion-to-dismiss stage that symbols like the swastika and "Heil Hitler" chants are not necessarily antisemitic in a legal context. This refusal to recognize visceral acts of hatred against Jewish people and supporters of the Jewish community, and of Israel, as a matter of law effectively denies Jewish citizens equal protection.

Suggested Next Steps: The opinion of the Forum is that the debate, both in the courts and in the court of public opinion, including with regard to influencing public-policy-makers and legislators, presently revolves around the battle between free speech and acts of outright hatred, discrimination and violence. Many of the issues further expose the widening gap between those who support not only the acts of, but the very existence of, Israel as a nation-state member of the family of nations, notwithstanding its full membership in the U.N., which regularly not only criticizes, but passes resolutions and takes focused action against Israel. The issues relating to Zionism cannot be ignored.

It has become fashionable, and acceptable, to criticize Zionists as supporters of the alleged wrongful acts of Israel, which is accused of being an apartheid, racist, colonial state. In 1975, the U.N. adopted the Zionism=Racism resolution, which, although abrogated in 1991, has manifested itself more particularly throughout the 25 years since the infamous U.N. Conference against Racism held in Durban, South Africa–a hatefest against Israel and the Jewish people.

Many believe that it is acceptable to bash Zionists and Zionism under the belief that all things around Zionism are fair game, which includes those who espouse anti-Israelism, antisemitism and anti-Zionism itself. The Forum believes that is critical to address issues relating to defining Zionism as being a recognized, core element of Jewish ancestry in order to secure Title VI and other protections and to prevent misuse as pure expressions of political opinion by harassers. Indeed, beyond its application to Title VI, the use of Zionism as a means to cover for antisemitism must be addressed in the court of public opinion. Invoking the "we are not against the Jews, just against Israel" position is a false and dangerous scapegoating narrative. The truth is the Jewish people's historic ties to Israel as the one and only ancient homeland of the Jewish people is bound up tightly with and as an integral part of Jewish identity. Many in the Forum believe that the bashing of Israel/Zionism is not a "political" matter and must be clearly distinguished from legitimate discussion and critique of a governmental policy or its political leaders.

Forum member Jeffrey Ballabon dissented on the litigation strategy and prepared for the Forum an extensive submission, which is made available to all in the embedded link here. He argues that while anti-Zionism is almost always a contemporary euphemism for antisemitism, attempting to couple Zionism with Jewish identity as a legal strategy is counterproductive, because it invites courts to recharacterize ethnic and religious targeting as mere opposition to a political position, handing defendants a ready-made defense. Ballabon instead advocates a conduct-based approach—demonstrating that "anti-Zionist" harassment targets individuals as Jews based on perceived ethnic and religious identity, regardless of their actual views on Zionism—which preempts that defense and is more consistent with existing Title VI precedent. Other Forum members were not in agreement with this position, but recognized the importance of a serious debate to address not only definitions, but also strategic actions needing to be taken with regard to nomenclature, discourse, legal actions and messaging in the court of public opinion.

The Forum also calls for enforcing international extradition treaties to prevent the sheltering of terrorists, such as the unconscionable harboring by U.S. ally the Kingdom of Jordan, which treats convicted Hamas murderer Ahlam Tamimi like a celebrity, thumbing its nose at the indictment against her issued by the U.S. Department of Justice and refusing to hand her over for trial in the U.S. Such failures in seeking justice are egregious. The U.S. and other governments must prosecute, punish and incarcerate those who commit acts of terror and assault, not permit the perpetrators to

get away with murder or become heralded as martyrs for their targeting of Jewish people, Israelis, Americans and such people as those from more than 40 countries who were killed, injured or taken hostage over the past many decades.

Legislative changes to the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act and the Anti-Terrorism Act are necessary to remove judicial restrictions on those victims and their families seeking redress in the courts, as well as with regard to expropriation proceeds, allowing Holocaust survivors the right to seek justice for property loss. Ultimately, the goal is to bypass bureaucratic obstacles and solidify a compelling narrative for global justice.

The Forum believes in a zero-tolerance approach, which requires resources to bring cases and work with investigators and experts handling matters in the courts and the court of public opinion on behalf of aggrieved victims who deserve justice and accountability.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

Legislative Reform of the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA): There is an urgent need for statutory harmonization to clarify the "knowledge" and jurisdictional requirements of the ATA, preventing the dismissal of valid claims on narrow technical grounds. Advocacy must target and fix the wrong-headed judicial creation of a "near-certainty" standard for intention, perhaps mirroring the definitions found in the Israel Counter-Terrorism Law.

Establishment of a Unified Legal Convening Authority: The Forum believes that a group should be established to enable the bringing of litigation and provide support for the battle in the court of public opinion. This entity will serve as the primary remedy to the current leadership vacuum, acting as a catalyst for experts, investigative researchers, law firms and NGOs to share evidence and common legal strategies. By centralizing the "common tools" of litigation, and providing assistance to the various firms willing to make their services available on behalf of aggrieved victims and other plaintiffs, this authority should be committed to preventing, exposing and providing legislative remedies in the battle against unfavorable judicial precedents.

Formal Recognition of Shared Ancestry and Ethnicity in Hate Crime Law: This proposal advocates for a legal framework that recognizes Jews as an ethnic and national group. This is essential for addressing "Zionist" targeting, where law enforcement often fails to classify harassment as a hate crime because it is framed as a political rather than a religious bias. By enshrining "shared ancestry and ethnicity" as the legal basis for Title VI protections, the landscape shifts for Jewish students and other citizens. It prevents perpetrators from using "anti-Zionism" as a shield to mask ethnic discrimination, ensuring that Jews who identify with their ancestral homeland receive the same civil-rights protections as other ethnic and national minorities.

Legislative Reform of the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act (FSIA) and the Anti-Terrorism Act: This initiative seeks a legislative fix to the FSIA and the ATA to overcome restrictive Supreme Court precedents regarding "traceability" and the judicially created knowledge doctrine. The goal is to restore the ability of victims to sue for justice and compensation and of Holocaust survivors to sue foreign sovereigns and others for the expropriation of property beyond high-value art restitution.

Current interpretations by the Supreme Court have effectively limited access to justice to a small fraction of victims. This reform would reinstate on behalf of Holocaust survivors previous Court interpretations, expand the scope of sovereign accountability and allow hundreds of thousands of survivors to finally have their day in court for the full range of historical atrocities.

Assertive Diplomatic Pressure for Terrorist Extradition: This proposal demands that the U.S. government exert meaningful pressure on Jordan to honor its 1995 extradition treaty. It specifically targets the "perverse argument" of the Jordanian Court of Cassation's 2017 ruling, which claimed a failure of process to avoid surrendering Tamimi.

Breaking the institutional silence surrounding Tamimi would signal an end to the era in which diplomatic convenience supersedes the legal rights of American victims. It mandates justice by utilizing the U.S.Justice Department's various means, in conjunction with much-needed pressure from the U.S. Department of State, to require Jordan to extradite Tamimi for trial in the United States, as has been done in other cases, making it certain that major allies cannot harbor confessed terrorists with impunity.

The Court of Public Opinion: All of the above legal approaches, and many others in the arsenal of strategic options, must be overlaid simultaneously with a comprehensive, defined and unified communications approach to educate the public about antisemitism, anti-Israelism, anti-Zionism and outright hatred for Israel and the Jewish people.This includes combating the false narrative that anti-zionism is not antisemitism, because it is.

It also includes standing against the pervasive and defamatory message that has taken hold on campuses and in communities that Israel is the perpetrator of all things bad, including apartheid, racism and even sexual assault. The lies must be addressed directly, understanding that the conspiracy of the liars has gathered support across all lines, mandating a rejection of old approaches and the creation of strategic initiatives that include reaching the younger generation, which is turning on Israel, Jews and Zionists in record numbers not seen since the Holocaust.

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Co-Chair: Yifa Segal (available only on the 21st)
Alyza Lewin
Lori Lowenthal-Marcus
Steven R. Perles
Arnold Roth
Marc Zell
Jeff Ballabon
Prof. Avi Bell
Julie Strauss Levin
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COMBATING ANTISEMITISM, ANTI-ZIONISM AND HOLOCAUST DENIAL

SUMMARY:

The events of October 7th should have prompted a necessary strategic shift from reactive measures to a proactive "CENTCOM" model focused on global engagement. This new approach must consider the ideological assault on Western civilization as an "eighth front," rather than merely a series of isolated incidents. Traditional responses are inadequate due to organizational inertia and the underestimation of information warfare compared to physical threats. A unified command structure is essential to address the systemic weaponization of international law and the "moral inversion" affecting institutions like the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg, which has compromised its mission by hosting biased "Nakba" exhibits.

The Forum proposed key pillars to ensure institutional accountability and reclaim the global narrative, starting with the universal adoption of the IHRA working definition as a legal baseline. This will enable organizations like StopAntisemitism to hold perpetrators of hate accountable professionally and reputationally. Curricular reform is necessitated through the IMPACT-se methodology, which aims to mitigate state-sponsored incitement of violence in global textbooks. A standardized lexicon must be established to label October 7th revisionism similarly to Holocaust denial, while May 14th should be recognized as "Declaration Day" to legitimize Israel's status as an indigenous right.

The framework aims to protect Zionist identity and holds international bodies like UNRWA and the ICC accountable for disseminating false narratives. Ultimately, safeguarding the Judeo-Christian values underpinning Western civilization requires a shift from mere conflict management to proactive disruption, with a unified command structure as the only method of countering this existential threat and maintaining global democratic stability.

Strengthening Democratic Resilience Through Police-Community Partnerships: Jewish communities throughout the Diaspora must continue to deepen and mature their relationships with their policing services, recognizing that security is a shared responsibility. Lawmakers must likewise provide stronger support (laws) to these communities, understanding that Jewish institutions often serve as the "canary in the coal mine" for broader threats to democratic society. When Jews no longer feel safe attending synagogue, sending their children to Jewish schools, or openly participating in communal life, the threat extends far beyond a single community—it signals a direct challenge to democratic values, religious freedom, and civil society itself.

Law enforcement leaders across Diaspora nations must recognize that Jewish communities are not outsiders, but an integral part of their national heritage, civic fabric, and collective identity. A threat against Jewish institutions is a threat against the broader community and the democratic institutions that bind society together.

Governments, police agencies, and Jewish organizations should therefore invest in formalized partnerships, intelligence-sharing, and community security awareness programs. Training community members in situational awareness, threat recognition, emergency response, and security best practices creates critical force multipliers, strengthens vigilance, and enhances the collective capacity to prevent and respond to emerging threats. These partnerships must move beyond symbolic engagement and become enduring pillars of democratic resilience and public safety.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

Mandatory IHRA Working Definition Adoption. Adoption of the full IHRA working definition, including its specific examples regarding the state of Israel, must be the non-negotiable standard for all government training and police unions. Without this standard, institutions remain strategically blind to the mutation of antisemitism into modern anti-Zionism, rendering their "zero tolerance" policies effectively useless.

Integration of Zionism into Holocaust Pedagogy. Educational frameworks must be overhauled, using the proven methodology of the Institute for Monitoring Peace and Cultural Tolerance in School Education (IMPACT-se), to define the Jewish state as the realization of indigenous Jewish rights rather than a "reparation prize" granted after 1945. This reform is the only way to counter the "moral inversion" where Holocaust memory is hijacked to demonize the Jewish state as the perpetrator of the very crimes it was established to prevent.

Professionalization of Police-Community Partnerships. Law enforcement agencies must move beyond symbolic outreach to create formalized "Engagement Officers" and sign binding Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with federal police unions. These partnerships must treat antisemitism as a primary "canary in the coal mine" indicator for broader societal extremism and direct threats to democratic stability.

Pre-emptive Extremist Monitoring. The Forum proposed adopting a security strategy that involves infiltrating extremist groups and monitoring online accounts to identify and neutralize threats before they reach Jewish doorsteps. This approach moves security beyond reactive physical presence at synagogues. It establishes a proactive intelligence-gathering operation that identifies violent actors in the planning phase, preventing attacks before they manifest.

Global Adoption of "Declaration Day" (May 14). Promoting a global initiative to institutionalize May 14 as "Declaration Day." Currently, this initiative has reached a milestone level of viability, with planned announcements from the Knesset floor. Institutionalizing an official day of recognition creates a recurring global platform. It utilizes sovereign weight to validate Jewish history and identity, challenging hostile narratives through high-level international endorsement.

Oct. 7 Massacre Remembrance Day. Promote a global campaign to establish Oct. 7 as a day to commemorate the victims of Hamas' massacre, rape, torture and hostage taking in 2023, and to combat revisionist narratives of that fateful day in Jewish and Israeli history: including the genocide libel (genocide inversion), Oct. 7 minimization, and the broader campaign to frame the Oct. 7 war as a story about Israel's putative "disproportionate response" to Hamas' invasion, rather than on the antisemitic-inspired terrorist atrocities themselves.

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NARRATIVE WARFARE

SUMMARY:

Modern conflict is fundamentally hybrid; narrative and kinetic operations have converged into a singular, existential battlefront. The Narrative Warfare Forum mandates a total institutional overhaul to counter the systematic "poisoning of the public mind" that is identified as the unavoidable precursor to physical destruction. This is a critical national-security imperative. To prevail, we must pivot from a reactive, defensive posture to a proactive offensive. This architectural shift replaces disjointed, amateur advocacy with a synchronized defense, reclaiming the narrative arena as the primary theater of modern warfare and shifting from defensive hasbara toward absolute strategic dominance.

Central to this victory is the Narrative Nerve Center, a "Joint Chiefs of Staff for Narrative Warfare" modeled after the Innovation Authority. As a professional, depoliticized and government-funded body, it serves as the only functioning model for high-stakes execution in a fractured political landscape. Institutional depoliticization is the essential factor; it eliminates the provincialism and vanity projects of politicians who currently fracture global messaging. By centralizing authority under experts rather than political appointees, the Nerve Center ensures that hubs in Jerusalem, Washington and London operate in synchronicity. This professionalization terminates the cycle of uncoordinated responses, providing the institutional backbone required to project a disciplined, global strategic vision.

This strategic architecture integrates diverse actions into a unified mosaic to fill the identity vacuum exploited by adversaries. "Identity inoculation" builds Zionistic conviction over legacy complexity, flipping the algorithm against the 80,000 bots of our enemies. Publicizing jihadism victims flips the narrative by pointing the finger at the accusers, while a legal and financial assault to name and shame the funder-enablers of terror-linked NGOs rounds out the broad media strategy. Finally, we break the adversary's frame through satire, recognizing laughter as the strongest media tool available. Combined, these pillars of strategy create a quick reaction force against toxic narratives.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

Formalization of the U.S.-Israel Bilateral Defense Pact: Secure a formal treaty leveraging our "model ally" status to institutionalize long-term technological cooperation and military aid under the "peace through strength" doctrine. This material shield ensures that American support remains a foundational strategic constant, regardless of shifting political tides in Washington.

Establishment of a Unified Narrative Command: The National Information Directorate must be institutionalized as a professional, non-partisan body to synchronize military, diplomatic and civil communications.This command will neutralize strategic vacuums by addressing the 26,000+ annual cyberattacks—95% of which are Iran-linked—that currently target our national truth-base.

The Weaponization of Comedy and Satire: Comedy is a definitive tactical tool in narrative conflict. By making an adversary's narrative absurd, we ensure the movement can never recover its former gravity or influence. This strategy focuses on transitioning opposing movements into a "comedic nature," rendering them the "butt of the joke." Once adversaries are viewed through a lens of ridicule, their credibility becomes irrecoverable.

Professionalization of Advertising Standards: Current narrative efforts often fail, due to amateurish execution. This pillar calls for recruiting “million-dollar” advertising professionals to match the sophistication of high-level political campaigns. Professionalizing the medium ensures that the message is viewed as a legitimate communication rather than dismissed as propaganda. It allows us to compete in mediums we do not currently master, moving from reactive defense to proactive market competition.

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Jerusalem News Syndicate
2nd International Policy Summit

SECURITY

REGIONAL SECURITY & BORDER CHALLENGES

SUMMARY:

The October 7 catastrophe unveiled the inefficacy of containment strategies and highlighted vulnerabilities in intelligence-driven defense systems. In response, the Forum has introduced "Prevention" as a crucial pillar in a revamped national security doctrine, moving beyond the traditional four-pillar structure. This shift underscores the necessity for a society that relies on mobilization rather than permanent militarization to prepare for unexpected threats. The security approach is shifting from reactive measures to a proactive stance aimed at neutralizing enemy capabilities and ideological movements before they evolve into kinetic threats, establishing a foundation for reasserting the Geographic Imperative.

In a complex security environment, physical territory is essential for securing safety. Traditional strategic depth is lacking over Israel's northern border, with Lebanon and Syria, and Israel's southern border with Gaza; thus, the Forum proposes topographical dominance through enhanced buffer and demilitarization zones in regions like Lebanon and Gaza, where Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) can maintain control and protect civilian life from surprise attacks. This proposal represents a tangible application of the Prevention pillar, enhancing the security of border communities by transforming them into resilient front lines.

However, enhanced buffer zones are proposed only in situations where the territory across the border is controlled by a hostile actor rather than by a functioning state authority, with which Israel has a peace agreement, as is the case with Egypt or Jordan. In such environments, the buffer zone serves as a necessary security mechanism that creates separation between civilian border communities and hostile terrorist infrastructure. However, it is important to emphasize that the buffer zone is a means rather than an end in itself; its purpose is to provide security and operational flexibility until a more stable and sustainable security reality can be established.

Additionally, the Forum advocates for the formal recognition of "Narrative Warfare" as an eighth front in national security, aiming at the systematic dismantling of radical ideological frameworks. This reclassification treats such ideologies as hostile forces and national security threats rather than mere public relations issues. The focus is on challenging the Iranian regime's religious institutions and fostering alliances with local groups, such as the Maronites and Druze, alongside international partners like India and Azerbaijan, to counter an evolving threat landscape marked by the convergence of radical Sunni and Shiite movements.

In conclusion, the Forum aims to pivot from a reactive stance to a proactive strategy, seeking to develop a comprehensive post-Oslo regional framework that emphasizes the restoration of indigenous sovereignty instead of the historically failed policies of the previous century.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

The Forum broke down their Policy Proposals into sections pertaining to 5 categories: Prevention, Defensible Borders, Psychological Warfare, Public Diplomacy, and Regional Alliances. Implementation of the "Prevention" Doctrine The traditional four-legged security model (Deterrence, Warning, Decision, and Defense) has proven inadequate against sophisticated irregular

warfare. A fifth leg—Prevention—must be formalized. This doctrine moves beyond reacting to intelligence warnings and instead utilizes permanent buffer zones and preemptive strikes to eliminate emerging threats before they materialize. This is a shift from a reactive mentality to a proactive shaping of the battlespace, ensuring that the security zone is a permanent operational reality.

Expert Lt. Col. Sarit Zehavi argues that operational preparedness must be built around the reference threat scenario, encompassing both defensive and offensive capabilities, based on the assumption that early warning will not always be available. The principle of deterrence has not proven effective against radical ideological movements and should therefore be approached with caution rather than treated as a sufficient security concept in its own right. As long as the threat remains in place, adequate protection measures for border communities must be maintained and adapted to the nature and scope of the threat. The objective of the Prevention doctrine is not merely tactical disruption, but the strategic degradation of the enemy's capabilities to the point where it can no longer pose a strategic threat to Israel or any part of its territory.

Formalization of Community Defense (First Responders) To create an immediate response capability rooted in the local population of the border communities themselves, and ensure immediate survival during the initial moments of an incursion, the military-civilian divide must be bridged. The proposed "Tel Hai" model would formally integrate border-community civilians into the IDF hierarchy as equipped, trained, and drafted First Responders. Local residents possess the greatest familiarity with the terrain, infrastructure, and daily patterns of life within their communities, and they are the most readily available force in the critical initial moments of an attack. This total-defense posture ensures that every border community is a formalized, resilient component of the national security apparatus, capable of immediate response while waiting for a larger IDF mobilization. Institutionalizing these well-trained and properly equipped local defence forces can reduce the burden on the IDF, allowing it to allocate greater resources and operational focus to Prevention missions and other proactive security tasks. Community defence constitutes the last line of defence and provides an essential layer during the critical time before larger military forces can be deployed, preserving the national economy while maintaining a high-readiness posture. Local residents possess the greatest familiarity with the terrain, infrastructure, and daily patterns of life within their communities, and they are the most readily available force in the critical initial moments of an attack.

Integration of Cognitive Warfare into National Security Israel must catch up to the sophisticated influence operations of the Qatari, Iran, and to a lesser extent - Turkey. To counter, Israel must embrace an Indigenous Middle Eastern identity. By asserting its presence as a native power rather than a Western outpost, Israel can more effectively challenge the ideological and religious structures of its enemies. Cognitive warfare must be centralized as a primary security front, funded and prioritized on par with kinetic operations. Israel must treat the enemy's ideological and financial networks as high-value military targets to be turned, destroyed, or conquered.

Regional and Minority Alliances The current situation necessitates a return to more organic regional structures. Proponents advocate for a strategy of supporting decentralized, federalized entities in Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq. This includes reviving the "Al-Mutasar Rafiyah" (Mount Lebanon) model by fostering a natural alliance with Maronites and other indigenous minorities. By supporting these decentralized blocks, Israel can help create a buffer of Western-oriented "Emirates" or confederations that disrupt the territorial contiguity of radical axes. In Lebanon, the security establishment must formalize strategic partnerships with the Maronite and Aramaic communities to challenge Hezbollah's dominance and reclaim Lebanese sovereignty. Establishing a federalist buffer through these allies could provide a long-term alternative to permanent IDF ground presence while securing the northern frontier. Sarit Zehavi cautioned that this framework is unlikely to be able to replace an IDF presence in the region based on historical evidence, as the approach had been unsuccessfully attempted in the 1990s and the Christian communities in southern Lebanon were smaller and weaker now.

Broader Strategic Objectives: Expansion of the Red Sea Footprint via Somaliland: Israel must leverage its December 2025 recognition of Somaliland to secure a logistical foothold near Berbera. This presence provides a critical vantage point for naval interdiction and intelligence gathering, effectively countering the convergence of Houthi and Al-Shabaab threats in the Red Sea corridor. Prioritization of Iranian Regime Change Strategic stability is unattainable as long as the Islamic Republic remains the regional hegemon. Policy must shift away from the delusion of limited nuclear deals that trade temporary uranium concessions for permanent economic lifelines. The argument that we can see and strike physical enrichment facilities but cannot easily undo the strength of a rehabilitated economy dictates that Israel must prioritize permanent economic isolation and the fostering of internal dissension. Regime dismantling, rather than containment, must be the primary objective to neutralize the "head of the snake."
Attack of Enemy's Ideological and Financial Networks Israel must treat the enemy's ideological and financial networks as high-value military targets to be turned, destroyed, or conquered.

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THE RESERVISTS

SUMMARY:

The Reservists Forum highlights a change in Israel following the mobilization initiated on Oct. 7, as the conflict shifts to a "continuous task" phase. The traditional model of citizen-soldiers is under unprecedented strain, prompting a call for a re-evaluation toward a substantive "national priority" framework that secures societal resilience. This transition emphasizes the need for economic stabilization for individual reservists as vital to maintaining the reserves system.

A modernized social contract is necessary, whereby the current restrictive voucher-based benefits are replaced with direct, flexible financial compensation. The existing salary structure, based on a standard 40-hour civilian workweek, fails to account for the operational demands on reservists, who may be on call for 168 hours a week. Introducing differential pay contingent on service intensity is critical for long-term retention of reservists and their morale. A 5% loss in national work hours has been observed, particularly impacting high-productivity sectors like construction (11% loss) and communications (8% loss), which adversely affects national GDP. To counter this vulnerability, it is essential for the government to prioritize procurement from small businesses owned by reservists, ensuring that they are not financially disadvantaged while serving the nation. Furthermore, bureaucratic hurdles undermining economic support must be addressed.

Forum members advocated a two-pronged approach to improving life for reservists in Israel. First, there are efforts to increase the size of benefits due to reservists, including more education, which should be paid for at the expense of entitlement programs benefiting portions of the population that do not serve in the IDF. Additionally, better supplies and equipment should come from standard government spending. However, Forum members also argued that volunteer organizations currently play an important role for field-equipment supply, and yet encounter significant regulatory challenges in the process. Recent import reforms by the Economy Ministry have hindered the entry of essential life-saving equipment for non-profits, forcing them into commercial import frameworks that are financially unfeasible. This situation threatens the donor pipeline identified as crucial for troop safety. There is an urgent need to reinstate tax exemptions and abolish the 17% Value-Added Tax on tactical gear to restore these critical supply chains.

Additionally, the Forum criticizes the "over-legalization" of military operations, labeling it a key barrier to national security. The proposal includes removing legal advisers from operational decision-making to enhance military effectiveness and fiscal responsibility. Achieving a decisive victory, characterized by the complete defeat of opposing forces and territorial losses, is argued to be more cost-effective than engaging in cycles of temporary ceasefires. A doctrine advocating for heightened lethality is proposed, suggesting that a robust army, capable of swift, overwhelming victory, is ultimately more sustainable than a smaller force requiring continuous mobilization. The shift away from a "small army" mentality to one focused on deterrent strength is deemed essential for enduring national security.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

Economic Parity and Tiered Compensation: Reservists frequently operate on a 20-hour daily combat cycle compared to a standard nine-hour civilian day, creating a severe hourly discrepancy that standard salary equalization fails to address.This policy implements a tiered compensation model that reflects the physical intensity and existential risk of active service, ensuring that combat pay scales significantly exceed civilian benchmarks.

Veteran-Owned Small Business Procurement Preference: The State must establish a centralized database for reservist-owned enterprises to facilitate a national mandate for government and municipal procurement prioritization. Modeled on successful U.S. federal standards, this policy protects the professional livelihoods of entrepreneurs who are frequently absent from the market due to long-term deployment.

Legal Reform and "Victory-Oriented" Rules of Engagement: This policy streamlines judicial oversight to prioritize mission success and soldier safety. The objective is to remove the legalistic handcuffs that currently hinder the destruction of enemy capabilities in favor of ineffective containment strategies.

National Priority Status for Higher Education and Housing: Currently, reservists frequently receive a negligible 5% Arnona (city tax) discount, while non-serving demographics benefit from 95% exemptions, a discrepancy that must be inverted to reflect true national priorities. This policy further guarantees top-tier admission priority for medical schools and subsidized childcare to ensure defenders are not professionally penalized for their service.

Formalized Spousal and Family Support Infrastructure: Recognizing the spouse as "the engine" of the reserves system, the State will issue a digital "Reservist Family Card" to provide immediate civilian-sector benefits and recognition. This solution facilitates automatic discounts and priority services, acknowledging the immense strain placed on the home front during extended deployments. Recognizing the burdens of transportation to bases on a single-vehicle family, the government should cancel the purchase tax on one vehicle every five years for those performing active reserve duty.

Regulatory Framework for International Military Support: The State must establish a legal pipeline that distinguishes between "combat equipment" and "charitable support" to protect Diaspora donors from the regulatory risks recently observed in Canada and the United States. This streamlined framework resolves tax complications and charity-law hurdles, ensuring that global Jewish support can be harnessed effectively and legally to bolster IDF capabilities. Additionally, IDF spending on equipment should take precedence over other financial obligations, including general pensions.

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ISRAEL'S DOMESTIC ISSUES

ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN REALITIES

SUMMARY:

The Israeli-Palestinian Realities Forum highlights urgent Palestinian matters and international and regional dynamics pertaining to Israeli Palestinian relations including those influenced by Iran and Lebanon. The Forum emphasizes the need to reevaluate strategies given recent volatility, especially with internal Palestinian political shifts taking precedence.

Local governance emerges as a crucial indicator of both the stability of Palestinian leadership and the overarching security of the region. Recent municipal elections reveal a significant divide, where Fatah's electoral success appears largely superficial, evidenced by systematic suppression of opposition in 26 communities, ensuring uncontested victories. Notably, in Jenin, the official leadership has weakened in the face of coalitions led by the radicalized Jenin Brigade, reflecting the ascent of local power structures. In Hebron, tribal affiliations overshadow central political ideologies, with the leadership manipulating voting laws to engage tribal heads, resulting in fierce clan rivalries, notably between the Jaabari and Kawasmeh families. These political shifts underscore a marked decline in President Abbas's popularity and the enduring influence of tribalism amidst fiscal and security pressures, while it also reflects the strong adherence to the narrative of the struggle against Israel and the widening rifts among the Fatah supporters and in the Palestinian society in general as Abbas's long term as the leader of the Palestinians is nearing its end.

Furthermore, Palestinian ability to promote reform is threatened by issues of financial transparency and disarmament. The Forum expresses skepticism about the Palestinian Authority's (PA) statements on ending "Pay for Slay" policies, suggesting attempts to evade the Taylor Force Act through a shift to flat-rate social payments. Additionally, claims of Hamas' partial disarmament are viewed as tactical maneuvers to safeguard military capabilities while managing civil liability. Amidst this instability, the Forum outlines critical policy recommendations aimed at tackling fiscal and security challenges.

To transform international policy and address the root causes of conflict, the Forum advocates for a narrative shift acknowledging Jewish historical ties to the land, essential for achieving long-term coexistence. It asserts the necessity of strict enforcement of the Taylor Force Act and of adopting this policy by other Western countries to prevent international aid from inadvertently supporting violence and corruption. Moreover, in view of failures in centralized governance, the "Palestinian Emirates" plan that proposes a decentralized approach informed by tribal sociology, diverging from traditional nationalist or Islamist frameworks was presented as a potential avenue to overcome the persisting problems of the Palestinians. These strategies aim to prepare for a post-Abbas landscape and recalibrate the dynamics of Middle Eastern diplomacy.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

Narrative Change and Political Reform through Electoral Integrity and Candidate Vetting: The Palestinian Authority must be compelled to adopt legislation that explicitly bars any candidate or party advocating for racism or utilizing unlawful means to achieve its aims. This standard should lead to a narrative change towards Israel and would eliminate the "ambiguous pledges" currently used by Mahmoud Abbas, which allow genocidal groups like the PFLP to participate in the political process while maintaining violent agendas.

Financial Accountability and Oversight: To preserve the integrity of the Taylor Force Act (TFA), international partners must close legal loopholes and strengthen oversight to ensure the PA annules the law of paying salaries to terrorists and that no donor funds facilitate "Pay-for-Slay" rewards. These measures must account for at least 3.7 billion shekels in terror payments documented since 2018 and prevent the PA from using financial crises as a pretext to prioritize terror salaries over public services. Disarming Hamas and Activation of Gaza Transitional Governance: The international community should insist on disarming Hamas and immediately thereafter activate the "Board of Peace" and the technocratic government for Gaza to manage Gaza's redevelopment as a deradicalized zone, explicitly chaired by Donald J. Trump and including international figures. This transitional oversight body must bypass the Palestinian Authority for all municipal and public service functions in Gaza until the PA has satisfactorily completed its verified reform program.

Local Leadership Transition: Diplomatic efforts should consider transition toward engaging with "biological" or clan-based leadership structures under the "Emirate" model as a pragmatic alternative to the failed ideological nationalism of the PLO. Empowering traditional local leadership in cities like Hebron and Nablus may provide a stable governance structure that is fundamentally more resistant to extremist capture than current theological or nationalist models.

Regulation of Dual-Use Goods and Monetary Transfers: Pressure must be applied to the European Union and the Palestinian Monetary Authority to implement strict regulatory practices on dual-use commodities, particularly in the agriculture and construction sectors. Enhanced oversight is required to ensure that materials intended for civilian development are not diverted by the "relaxed" policies of international donors toward military infrastructure.

Conditioning Statehood on Narrative and Educational Reform: Any pathway toward self-determination must be strictly conditioned upon a verified, long-term transformation of the Palestinian educational system and the total cessation of institutional incitement. This enforcement is justified by the finding that 60% of the population supports the October 7 massacre, demonstrating that a total shift in the national narrative is a non-negotiable prerequisite for security.

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Stuart Force Statement – JNS Summit 6.2026

My Friends-

I was eagerly looking forward to this important JNS Summit and appreciated the opportunity to be part of the forum which included discussion of the Taylor Force Act. I was hopeful that regional tensions would not affect my being with you in Jerusalem. However, I was just not able to join at this time.

At this stage in my life, I have two responsibilities – my daughter Kristen and her family, and continuing the work my late, wonderful wife Robbi and I began when we were asked to be part of the legislative effort to end US financial aid to the Palestinian Authority unless it ends its horrific Pay for Slay policy.

As many of you know, Robbi, Kristen, and I were introduced to this deadly policy after our precious Taylor – Tay - a U.S. Army veteran was in Israel in March 2016. He was part of a graduate school program when he was brutally murdered.

Months after, a man I did not know at the time - someone who some of you know - a man who would become a close friend - Sander Gerber, contacted me. He introduced me to the term Pay to Slay and what it meant. He also shared that he had videos he thought I should see if I was willing to receive them. I agreed and watched videos of Palestinians passing out candy and rejoicing because of my son's death.

Our family's nightmare that began in 2016 would become our life's work.
After that, Robbi and I found ourselves in Washington, DC that Fall, along with Senator Lindsay Graham, Sander, and others. They held a press conference about Pay to Slay, and for the next year and half, Robbi and I walked the halls of Congress, talking to members about the hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars intended for humanitarian purposes that the PA used for Pay to Slay. These payments only encouraged the cycle of terror. The PA paid monthly stipends to terrorists who injured and murdered innocent Israelis and Americans. If the terrorist got killed, his family got paid for life through the PA's martyr fund.
It just had to stop.

House and Senate members introduced a bill named after our Taylor. In it, Congress made clear its position - paying terrorists in Israeli prisons, or paying the families of deceased terrorists, is "an incentive to commit acts of terror."

The Taylor Force Act also made clear the United States would not be part of Pay to Slay, and the bill set up an enforcement means that no economic support funds – taxpayer dollars - would go to Gaza or Judea and Samaria that benefited the PA until Pay to Slay stopped.

Congress passed the Taylor Force Act in March 2018, and President Trump signed the bill into law that same month. All economic support funds to the PA stopped.

When Biden became president, he ignored the law and resumed huge payments in violation of the Taylor Force Act.

This was very upsetting and frustrating to Robbi and me.
In 2022, I received a call from someone else I didn't know at the time of the call - Julie Strauss, an attorney with America First Legal Foundation. America First Legal wanted to sue the Biden Administration for violating the Taylor Force Act, and she asked if Robbi and I would be willing to be plaintiffs in the case. We knew of the good work that AFL does and were humbled by the organization's offer to manage our efforts to force compliance with the law as written. We accepted immediately.

That began another journey as we and fellow plaintiffs Congressman and doctor Ronny Jackson of Texas and Sarri Singer, another victim of Palestinian terror during the intifada, sued President Biden and SOS Blinken for violating the Taylor Force Act. Sarri had survived a bus bombing at the hands of a Palestinian terrorist only because on that horrific day, Sarri did not sit on the bus as she usually had, or she stood when she typically sat.

AFL was clear that it would be a long battle.The lawsuit continued through the Biden Administration. First Biden and Blinken tried to get the case dismissed for lack of standing but the defendants failed.

When Biden left office, and President Trump was elected, Trump and Rubio were substituted as defendants. This is standard.

President Trump followed the law when he took office and stopped the economic support funds going to the PA.

Thereafter, America First Legal represented Congressman Jackson, Sarri, and me in settlement negotiations with the Trump Administration, and we recently entered into a settlement agreement. The agreement not only reaffirms the rule of law but reinvigorates the hard work Robbi and I and so many others engaged in for justice and in my son's name. You can read the settlement on AFL's website.

I am elated to know that once again the Taylor Force Act will be followed but I am still disappointed that the prior administration had ignored the law and made legal action necessary.
I will continue to share our – the Force Family -story and fight to end Pay to Slay. I am grateful my words are being shared here today. Aside from the knowledge to be gained from the speakers and forums at this JNS summit, I was looking forward to being part of a great occasion to renew friendships made during our ten-year journey.

Robbi and I were deeply touched by the love and support we received everywhere we travelled, including from many people here today. You literally gave us the strength and guidance we so desperately needed in that dark time. The support by America First Legal and its commitment to fight to uphold the law that bears our son's name only enhanced our strength.

I wish that Robbi was here to share in the renewed focus on the Taylor Force Act. The families of the victims are also casualties of these acts of terror.

I know that in the near future we will meet again. We have a common bond in our love of life and our love of family.

Until then, you have my love, respect, and deepest appreciation.

Stuart

JUDEA & SAMARIA: HISTORICAL RIGHTS VS. CURRENT CHALLENGES

SUMMARY:

The Judea & Samaria: Historical Rights Vs. Current Challenges Forum marks a historical move toward implementing high-level operational policy-making in the Judea & Samaria region. The Forum advocates for the de jure termination of the Oslo Accords, citing more than 30 years of systemic P.A. violations and the murder of thousands of Israelis by the P.A. and other terrorist organizations in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

Current clinical assessments reveal a P.A. military buildup that quadruples the permitted strength, utilizing expressly prohibited weapons and conducting training exercises specifically designed to seize Israeli communities. This represents a clear and present danger to Judea, Samaria and the entire State of Israel.

A unified policy voice within community leadership is no longer a preference; it is a strategic imperative to ensure stability as the formerly grassroots movement transitions into state-level political initiatives. This evolution successfully bridges the conceptual debate on sovereignty with the specific legislative and administrative actions required to bring order to the heartland.

The current discourse has matured into an institutionalized framework for permanent infrastructure and governance based on relevant day-to-day issues, including security, land claims, the environment, etc.

The Forum recognizes the game-changing public opening of the land registry and the positive impact it will have on civil normalization and property rights. This domestic progress is bolstered by the Regavim lawsuit settlement, in which the U.S. government provided a written commitment that it will not interfere in the sovereignty of the State of Israel regarding activities in Judea and Samaria.

To counter international pressure, the Forum recommends the urgent creation of a regional banking system that insulates domestic transactions from the IBAN system, therefore making it sanction-proof. Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich is identified as the vital actor to finalize these economic safeguards before the 2026 Knesset elections, ensuring the movement is resilient against future diplomatic shifts. This strategy signals a new direction that prioritizes domestic rule of law over the international consensus previously sought on the issue.
In addition, the Forum proposes an “environmental sovereignty” framework for aquifer protection—a common denominator for bipartisan engagement—and the “Derech HaTanakh” (Route 60) initiative. These measures institutionalize security, protect sovereignty, expand access to banking and regulate the environment, while reclaiming the modern and Biblical narrative of Israel’s right to the land through physical infrastructure. This paradigm shift underscores the necessity of moving beyond failed diplomatic models toward a singular, cohesive policy voice.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

De Jure Termination of the Oslo Framework: Security data indicate that the P.A. military has exceeded size and strength limits set by agreements, utilizing prohibited weapons. This presents a legal basis for Israel to declare the Oslo framework null and void, thereby ending cooperation

with the P.A., which has failed to adhere to its treaty obligations and instead prepared for conflict. By independently defining the successor governance model, Israel reclaims the strategic initiative and counters the 2004 ICJ Advisory Opinion by asserting a new legal reality that rejects the P.A.'s "judenrein" narrative.

Formal Application of Israeli Sovereignty: Immediate sovereignty is essential to prevent the reversibility of settlement gains. A lack of a formal legal ownership claim implies that Israeli presence is temporary. By declaring sovereignty, the State transfers the legal burden of proof to the international community, changing the status from "belligerent occupation" to domestic administration, thereby neutralizing the risk of future political reversals and external "solutions." This move also provides the legal finality required to prevent the establishment of an Iranian-backed state in the heartland, functioning as a definitive security barrier against regional destabilization.

Administrative Land Registry and Normalization: The recent allocation of 80 million shekels by the government for land surveys marks a significant change in property-rights normalization. Previously classified records created a "legal fog" obstructing civil development. By making the land registry public and completing surveys, the government ends the "classification" regime, aligning Judea and Samaria administratively with the rest of Israel, which is essential for permanent civil integration. Normalizing these sectors transitions the region from a frontier to a stable economic engine, creating physical facts that make the regional administrative presence irreversible.

Integration of "Derech HaTanakh" into the National Narrative: This initiative adopts Yishai Fleisher's proposal to rename Route 60 as "Derech HaTanakh" (The Biblical Highway) and leverages Gideon's focus on American state-level recognition of ancestral names. This plan elevates biblical consciousness and serves as a potent diplomatic tool, grounding Israeli claims in historical continuity that directly challenges the "occupation" lexicon in international discourse.

Financial Sanction-Proofing and Economic Sovereignty: The movement aims to protect the regional economy from foreign interference and political purges by proposing an independent banking system in Judea and Samaria. This initiative seeks to shield financial institutions from the international IBAN system and global political pressure, establishing economic sovereignty for Israel. Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich is tasked with creating sovereign safeguards to ensure the protection of citizens and organizations from external economic warfare.

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ISRAEL'S VIBRANT DEMOCRACY: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMARY:

The Israel's Vibrant Democracy Forum highlights a growing gap between institutional norms and democratic accountability. It identifies the "Deep State" and expanding judicial power as critical vulnerabilities, examining the ideological tensions challenging the state's democratic foundations.

One key concern was judicial encroachment undermining Western democratic norms. The forum cites how The Israeli Court's involvement in national security—intervening in the appointment of the head of Shin Bet and curtailing targeted assassinations—illustrates this risk. The dismissal of the controversial "Force 100" case, seen as unjust, exemplifies this critique and reflects the power shift towards unelected elites, exacerbating societal alienation, especially among groups feeling unrepresented by a judiciary acting outside traditional democratic bounds.

Additionally, the Forum addresses the challenges posed by the integration of the Haredi community and the representation of women in politics. With Haredim constituting 40% of first graders, their perception of democracy as foreign highlights significant "Democratic Challenges." The exclusion of women in certain political contexts further complicates the interplay between religious self-governance and democratic ideals. This void in democratic education endangers Israel's long-term stability—economic and political—by risking national cohesion.

Participants argued that Israel's governance challenges are not solely institutional but cultural. Democratic resilience depends not only on checks and balances, but on the successful transmission of Jewish identity from one generation to the next. Several participants expressed concern that progressive ideological frameworks imported from abroad have gained significant influence within parts of Israel's educational system and public discourse, with the effect of marginalizing Jewish identity, Zionist values, and national purpose. They argued that a democracy cannot remain strong if it loses confidence in the cultural and historical foundations upon which it was built.

Despite these challenges, the Forum maintains an optimistic perspective, drawing on Israel's historical resilience. Citing Theodor Herzl, the discussions emphasized that Zionism inherently embodied democratic principles prior to statehood, fostering a representative structure. This "Jewish and Democratic" state, having endured continuous conflict, has remained resilient. Ultimately, the Forum concludes that the prevailing democratic spirit among the majority serves as a safeguard against institutional decline.

POLICY PROPOSALS:

Reform Judicial Standing and Standards: The Knesset should legislate strict criteria for "standing" and "reasonableness" to ensure the Supreme Court adjudicates cases involving direct injury rather than abstract policy preferences. This would restore the boundary between judicial oversight and executive prerogative, returning policy sovereignty to elected representatives. Participants also stressed the need to clarify the role of legal advisers as advisers rather than veto holders and to ensure that elected governments can appoint and replace ministry legal advisers.

Mandate Equitable Representation in Publicly Funded Parties: Legislative frameworks must be established to ensure that any political party receiving state funding includes women on their electoral lists, specifically targeting sectors that currently exclude them. Enhancing gender representation is essential for the substantive legitimacy of a democracy that must reflect its entire constituency.

Institutionalize Civic Education within the Haredi Sector: The Ministry of Education should implement a curriculum focused on the "mother's milk" of democratic values to transition the Haredi community from a "Pale of Settlement" mindset to full national integration. By instilling a "Pledge of Allegiance" level of civic commitment, the state can bridge the gap between sectarian isolation and active democratic participation.

Establish Independent Oversight for Investigative Cyber-Surveillance: The government must create a transparent, non-partisan body to regulate the use of "roglot" (spyware) and ensure that investigative abuses are subject to public accountability rather than internal burial. This mechanism is vital to protect civil liberties from the perceived encroachment of a "Deep State" investigative apparatus.

Protect National Security Operations from Judicial Encroachment: New legal protocols should be enacted to shield rules of engagement and high-level security appointments from judicial interference, preserving the military's operational effectiveness. This ensures that the executive retains the primary responsibility for defending the state without the constraints of a non-representative judiciary. Participants further emphasized that security agencies must remain accountable to elected civilian leadership within the framework of the law and that unelected security officials should not be permitted to effectively override lawful decisions of elected governments.

Restore Jewish and Zionist Education within the General School System: Participants argued that democratic resilience requires not only procedural knowledge of democracy but also a strong understanding of Jewish identity, Zionist history, and the historical foundations of the Jewish state. They called for greater transparency regarding external organizations and educational programs operating in schools and for periodic review of educational curriculum and materials to ensure they reflect Israel's identity as a Jewish State.

Leverage Historical Traditions of Self-Governanc: State-sponsored programs should emphasize the First Zionist Congress as a model of elected assembly that preceded territory and statehood. Institutionalizing these historical precedents reinforces the concept that democratic participation is an indigenous component of Jewish national identity rather than a foreign imposition.

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Avi Abelow is the founder and CEO of the 12Tribe Films Foundation, the organization behind the Pulse of Israel media platform and the Yes to a Strong Israel project, which works with Israeli and American political leaders to strengthen the strategic U.S.-Israel alliance, along with conferences, missions to Israel and international speaking tours. A former IDF infantry soldier who is still serving as a reserve soldier in this war, he lives in the Judean hills with his family and serves as the voice of Pulse of Israel, reporting and commenting from the front lines of Israel's security and ideological battles while fighting the lies about Israel with inspiring, biblical and identity-based truth. Through media, activism and global outreach, he works to strengthen Israel and empower Jews around the world to confront rising Jew-hatred by reinforcing Jewish identity with the truth about Israel and the Jewish people.



Khaled Abu Toameh

Khaled Abu Toameh is an award-winning journalist and TV producer who has been covering Palestinian affairs for the past four decades. He previously worked as Palestinian-affairs correspondent and analyst for The Jerusalem Post.
He is currently a senior fellow with the Gatestone Institute and the Jerusalem Center for Security and Foreign Affairs.



Douglas Altabef

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Douglas Altabef is the longtime chairman of the board of Im Tirtzu, Israel's largest grassroots Zionist organization. He is a native New Yorker, having made aliyah with his wife and youngest child to the Upper Galilee in 2009. A retired money manager, Doug now is involved in a number of NGOs and writes extensively in English media in Israel, including for JNS.



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Benjamin Anthony is CEO and co-founder of the MirYam Institute, which provides policy-focused briefings on Israel-U.S. relations, with an emphasis on military and strategic cooperation. He hosts "OPINIONATED" on i24NEWS and is a combat veteran of the Israel Defense Forces, having served in multiple operations, including Swords of Iron, Protective Edge, Pillar of Defense and the Second Lebanon War. He is a frequent international media commentator on Israel's security and has briefed U.S. government officials, including members of Congress and the administration. Anthony also lectures widely at universities and policy forums, including AIPAC and Ivy League campuses, and holds degrees from the University of Manchester and the University of Cambridge.



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Sagiv Asulin, a former senior officer and operations commander in the Mossad, is an Iran and strategic-influence expert at the Jerusalem Center for Security and Foreign Affairs (JCFA).



Eliram Azulay

Eliram Azulay is the governor of the Har Hevron Regional Council and lives in the community of Sansana with his wife, Tamar, their five children and a granddaughter.
A former combat soldier in the elite Egoz unit and longtime reservist in the IAF 669 Rescue Unit, he previously served as a paramedic and Council CEO and worked closely with several Israeli prime ministers and President Shimon Peres.
Today he is dedicated to strengthening the communities of Har Hevron and building meaningful connections between Jews in Israel and around the world.



Jeff Ballabon

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Jeff Ballabon is senior counsel for government and international affairs at the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ), where he focuses on combating antisemitism through legal and legislative strategy and directs ACLJ'S Israel operation. He is also CEO of B2 Strategic. A Constitutional lawyer, veteran presidential campaign adviser, presidential appointee, former SVP of CBS News and Counsel to the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee, he is widely credited with forging a political identity for America's Orthodox Jews and political alliances between Jewish and Christian conservative communities—a coalition rooted in shared Judeo-Christian civic values and a common commitment to the safety and security of Israel. He originated the landmark 2016 and 2020 GOP platform language on Israel, hailed as the most pro-Israel of all time, embraced by President Trump and adapted by his administration as policy.



Ran Baratz

Ran Baratz teaches military history and strategy in the IDF's War Colleges. In 2016-2017 he served as the prime minister's public diplomacy director. He is also the founding editor of the Hebrew-language public-policy website Mida, and the managing director of the Israeli NGO El Haprat. He also writes a weekly column in the Israeli publication Makor Rishon, and is a research fellow at the Israeli Herut Center.



Avi Bell

Prof. Avi Bell is an Israeli legal scholar and professor of law at the University of San Diego School of Law and Bar-Ilan University's Faculty of Law. He specializes in property law, intellectual property and public international law. Bell earned degrees from the University of Chicago and Harvard University, and previously clerked for Israeli Supreme Court Justice Mishael Cheshin. A frequent commentator on the Arab-Israeli conflict and international law, he has written extensively on legal and human-rights issues related to Israel. Bell also serves as a senior fellow at the Kohelet Policy Forum and has taught at Fordham and the University of Connecticut.



Edwin Black

Edwin Black is the award-winning, New York Times bestselling international investigative author of 325 award-winning editions in 20 languages in 190 countries, as well as scores of newspaper and magazine articles in the leading publications of the United States, Europe and Israel. Among his bestsellers is IBM and the Holocaust. Since 2020, he has hosted the issues-oriented and history-based podcast "The Edwin Black Show," along with its companion YouTube channel, which broadcasts the edited and visually documented episodes plus trailers, bonus features and topic-based playlists.



Gabriel Boxer

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Gabriel is an Israel and Jewish influencer/advocate who is a board member of the One Israel Fund and American Friends of Judea & Samaria. Gabriel also serves as an international spokesperson for the Har Hevron Regional Council. He recently became a managing partner at Merchant Marketplace, a fintech startup company with an online investment platform.



Mario Bramnick

Pastor Mario Bramnick serves as White House Faith Liaison and Special Adviser to the Office of National Drug Control Policy. He is co-chair of the Conference of Christian Presidents for Israel, president of the Latino Coalition for Israel and president of the International Faith Council. A leading advocate for faith diplomacy, U.S.-Israel relations and combating antisemitism, he has led more than 25 international delegations involving heads of state and senior leaders to strengthen support for Israel and promote bilateral cooperation. Bramnick also co-chairs the National Task Force Combating Antisemitism. He was named among JNS's Top 40 Latin American Pro-Israel Leaders and was selected to author the dedication to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Spanish-language memoir, Bibi: My Story.



Victoria Coates

Victoria Coates is the vice president of the Davis Institute for National Security at the Heritage Foundation. She is the author of The Battle for the Jewish State: How Israel—and America—can Win (2024) and David's Sling: A History of Democracy in Ten Works of Art (2016), both from Encounter Press. Coates previously served as a deputy national security adviser at the U.S. National Security Council, senior policy adviser to the secretary of energy and as Senator Ted Cruz's national security adviser. Coates holds a B.A. from Trinity College, a M.A. from Williams College and a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, all in art history.



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Michal Cotler-Wunsh, LL.B, LL.M, is CEO of the International Legal Forum (ILF). She served as Israel's Special Envoy for Combating Antisemitism from 2023-2025. Previously serving as a member of Israel's 23rd Knesset, she chaired and served on several key committees; was the first Knesset liaison to the issue of the ICC; and co-founded the Inter-Parliamentary Task Force to Combat Online Antisemitism. Michal's work focuses on international law, human rights, Zionism, antisemitism and the extremism it signals. Michal serves on several boards, including as a trustee for The Rabbi Sacks Legacy.



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Israeli activist attorney who has been leading the legal fight against Israel's enemies in the courts worldwide. As the president of Shurat HaDin-Israel Law Center, she pioneered the strategy of combating terror-financing, the BDS campaigns and the multitude of lawfare threats against the Jewish state by its enemies using civil lawsuits. She is the co-author of the national bestseller HARPOON, which recounts Israel's secret war against terror-financing. Ms. Darshan-Leitner was chosen as one of the 50 most influential Jews in the world by The Jerusalem Post, and named by Israel Hayom and the Israeli financial magazine, The Marker, as one of the 50 most influential Israeli women.



Michael Dickson

Michael Dickson is the executive director of StandWithUs Israel, leading innovative educational initiatives and a global digital operation reaching more than 2 billion people annually. A senior fellow at Bar-Ilan University, he is a recipient of the Bonei Zion Prize and has been recognized among the most influential Jewish voices online. Michael has appeared on major media platforms worldwide, written extensively on Israel and public diplomacy, and authored the bestselling book ISRESILIENCE. He lives in Israel with his wife and five children.



Dr. Dan Diker

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Dr. Dan Diker, is the president of the Jerusalem Center for Security and Foreign Affairs (JCFA), senior fellow and director of the Counter-Political Warfare Project, former secretary-general of the World Jewish Congress and research fellow of the International Institute for Counter Terrorism at Reichman University. He has written six books exposing the "apartheid antisemitism" phenomenon in North America and has authored studies on Iran's race for regional supremacy and Israel's need for defensible borders.



Yigal Dilmoni

Yigal Dilmoni served as CEO of the Yesha Council (2018-2022), representing 25 municipal authorities in Judea, Samaria and the Jordan Valley, where he led strategy and advocacy before the Israeli government and Knesset. Previously, as deputy CEO (2010-2018), he oversaw public relations, media, research and public diplomacy. He has held senior roles in Kedumim and the Samaria Regional Council and serves on multiple boards advancing regional development. He holds degrees from Bar-Ilan University. An IDF reserves major, he commands a paratrooper mobility unit and has served extensively in recent multi-front operations.



Elior Dor Dubchek

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Dubcheck is an attorney, entrepreneur and co-owner of several defense-technology companies. A decorated Armor Corps officer, he is the founder of the "2141 Club," a network dedicated to channeling the elite leadership skills of over 2,000 combat company commanders into the civilian sector. He holds degrees in law and political science and is a dedicated man of faith.



Mike Driquez

Mike Driquez is director of strategic fundraising and community relations at American Friends of Magen David Adom, where he leads donor engagement and national fundraising initiatives. He recently returned from IDF reserve duty during Operation "Roaring Lion" against Iran. Driquez previously served seven years with Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including as deputy consul general in Miami and deputy ambassador in Costa Rica, where he advanced diplomatic, economic and cybersecurity partnerships. Before diplomacy, he held engineering roles at Elbit Systems, Oracle and other Israeli tech firms. He holds degrees in engineering, computer science and business, and speaks six languages.



Sogand Fakheri

Sogand Sara Fakheri is an Israeli-Iranian actress and Iran affairs analyst. Combining artistic storytelling with geopolitical insight, she offers a nuanced perspective on Iran, identity and regional dynamics.



Tila Falic-Levi

Tila Falic Levi is a political educational and community advocate, known for her involvement and leadership in the U.S. and Israel.



Dan Feferman

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Dan Feferman is a speaker, writer, researcher and media entrepreneur who specializes in all things Israel, the Middle East and the Jewish world. A recognized expert on military, intelligence and diplomatic affairs, Dan is widely known as a speaker who can break down complex issues to all audiences, in an approachable and engaging manner. Dan is a major (reserves) in the IDF, where he worked on key national-security issues, and a former fellow at the prestigious Jewish People Policy Institute, he has published widely, appears regularly in international media and speaks globally on these matters. Dan is the co-founder and co-editor of MiddleEast24 (ME24), a new media platform seeking to revolutionize international media about the region, and is a co-chair of Sharaka.



Gerard Filitti

Gerard Filitti is senior counsel at The Lawfare Project, an international legal think tank and litigation fund based in New York City. A lawyer and political strategist (two presidential campaigns), he specializes in public policy, national security, counterterrorism, international law (including the ICC), civil rights and economics. With two decades of litigation experience, he has handled cases in state and federal courts, including counter-terrorism, sanctions and hate-crime matters. He leads strategic litigation combating antisemitism and directs #EndJewHatred activism. Gerard holds degrees from NYU, the University of London and Michigan Law, and is a frequent media contributor and author of the novel Frozen Tide.



Yishai Fleisher

Yishai Fleisher is the International Spokesman for the Jewish Community of Hebron, an elected Councilman in the town Efrat, and a YouTuber with over 300,000 followers. Yishai is a Rabbi, a graduate of Cardozo Law School in NYC, and an advisor to Israeli government ministers.



Stuart Force

With a B.S. in psychology from Denison University in 1973, Stuart Force joined the U.S. Air Force upon graduation, attaining the rank of captain. After pilot training, he flew B-737s until completing his military commitment. He flew commercially with Southwest Airlines for 29 years. Since March 8, 2016, his main focus has been on family and the passage and implementation of the Taylor Force Act.



Asher Fredman (Misgav)

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Asher Fredman is executive director of the Misgav Institute for National Security and a visiting fellow at the Heritage Foundation. He previously served as director for Israel at the Abraham Accords Peace Institute, founded the Israeli-Emirati Forum and was a founding member of the UAE-Israel Business Council. Earlier in his career, he held senior positions in Israel's Ministry of Strategic Affairs, Ministry of Public Security and the Prime Minister's Office, including as chief of staff to the minister of strategic affairs.



Yisrael Ganz

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Yisrael Ganz is governor of Israel's Binyamin Region and chairman of the Yesha Council, representing 500,000 residents in Judea and Samaria. Elected in 2018 and 2024, he is a leader and visionary who advocates for security, infrastructure and the historic connection to Israel's heartland.



Paul Goldenberg

Paul Goldenberg is a nationally recognized authority on policing strategy and countering antisemitism and other forms of targeted violence against faith-based communities. A former member of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Advisory Council, he chaired national initiatives addressing attacks on Jewish institutions and previously co-founded the Secure Community Network, a pioneering model for protecting synagogues and Jewish organizations across North America. Today he leads international policing initiatives at the Rutgers University Center on Policing, while advising governments and law-enforcement agencies on combating antisemitism, extremism and threats to democratic societies.



Rabbi Dr. Mark Goldfeder

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Rabbi Dr. Mark Goldfeder is CEO of the National Jewish Advocacy Center and a law professor at Touro Law School, where he directs the first-ever Antisemitism Law Clinic. Previously, he served as the founding Editor of the Cambridge University Press Series on Law and Judaism, on Law and Judaism, a Trustee of the Center for Israel Education, and, by Presidential appointment, on the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Council. Since October 7th, he has filed a series of major federal lawsuits against those who have provided material support for Hamas including the Associated Press, Binance, National SJP, and UNRWA USA.



Rabbi Karmi Gross

Rabbi Karmi Gross has worked in the field of Jewish education for the past 45 years, both as a classroom teacher and as a school principal, in Jerusalem, Detroit and Los Angeles.
Upon Rabbi Gross's aliya 15 years ago, he founded and led Israel's first Chareidi Hesder Yeshiva, Beit Midrash Derech Chaim. The Yeshiva has grown to more than 300 students, 200 currently learning in branches in Gan Yavneh, Jerusalem and Ashkelon, with an additional 100 in active IDF service. The Chareidi Hesder movement, spawned by the Yeshiva's opening, has grown to include more than 1,000 students and soldiers. In addition, Rabbi Gross founded Yeshivat Netivey Hatorah in Beit Shemesh, Israel's most prestigious Chareidi-Zionist high school.



Fleur Hassan Nahoum

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Fleur Hassan Nahoum is the co-founder and chief executive officer of Campus Israel. She is Israel's Special Envoy for Trade and Innovation, host of "The Quad" podcast on JNS-TV and is former deputy mayor of Jerusalem. Fleur continues to be a leading voice in international diplomacy, Jewish leadership,and Israel advocacy, focused on building bridges through education, economic cooperation and global engagement.



Josh Hasten

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Josh Hasten is a Middle East correspondent for JNS. He is co-host of the JNS-TV podcast "Jerusalem Minute," as well as the host of the JNS-TV podcast "Judeacation."



Elana Heideman

Dr. Elana Heideman is a historian, educator, writer, public speaker and consultant on Jewish and Israeli affairs. A thought leader and online educator, she is one of the world's foremost experts on the Holocaust and antisemitism, Jewish history and identity and a visionary for proactive Zionist engagement. As CEO of the Israel Forever Foundation, Elana develops and supports experiential learning resources that inspire "pro-semitism" and an empowered Jewish life.



Richard D. Heidemans

Richard D. Heideman is senior counsel at Heideman Nudelman & Kalik, P.C., where he represents victims of terrorism and human-rights abuses in landmark actions against state sponsors of terror and institutions accused of financing terrorism. An internationally recognized attorney and advocate, he has received numerous honors, including George Washington University's Distinguished Alumnus Award and Public Justice's Trial Lawyer of the Year Award. Heideman serves as chairman of The Israel Forever Foundation and has held leadership roles with the American Zionist Movement, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Lawyers Committee and the Hebrew University Faculty of Law. He is the author of two books on terrorism, justice and Israel.



Malcolm Hoenlein

Malcolm Hoenlein is former CEO of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and currently serves as its vice chairman emeritus. He was the founding CEO of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York and the Conference on Soviet Jewry of Greater New York. He is co-founder of the Council for Secure America and the Secure Community Network, and serves as president of the Great Synagogue of Jerusalem.



Yossie Hollander

Yossie Hollander is a successful serial entrepreneur and one of the pioneers of the Israeli software industry. In the last 25 years, he has spent a large portion of his time and money on philanthropy, with a focus on fighting Antisemitism.



Pastor Larry Huch

Larry and Tiz Huch are the founding pastors of New Beginnings Church in Texas and leaders of Larry Huch Ministries, a global outreach impacting millions through daily international broadcasts, humanitarian aid and biblical teaching. With nearly five decades in ministry, Pastor Larry Huch has emerged as one of the world's foremost Christian Zionist voices, recognized for his leadership in combating antisemitism and strengthening Christian-Jewish relations. A bestselling author, international speaker and advocate for Israel, he has worked alongside world leaders, including President Donald Trump, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Isaac Herzog. Through close partnerships with major Israeli charitable organizations, he has helped support aliyah flights, Holocaust survivors, bomb shelters and emergency medical aid across Israel.



Gideon Israel

Gideon Israel is the president of the Jerusalem-Washington Center, an organization dedicated to strengthening and modernizing the U.S.-Israel alliance. A leading voice on reforming U.S. aid to Israel, he is the author of Broken Values, which examines the ideological shifts within the Democratic Party and their impact on bilateral relations. His analysis has appeared in the Wall Street Journal, and he is a frequent commentator on Israel's Channel 14 and other major news outlets.



Charles Jacobs

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Charles Jacobs Named by The Forward as one of America's top 50 Jewish leaders, has founded human rights and pro-Israel organizations that address the most acute challenges faced by global Jewry. These include Boston's CAMERA, The American Anti-Slavery Group, The David Project, the Jewish Leadership Project, the African Jewish Alliance and currently The International Freedom Coalition with Dr. Walid Phares. He is most well-known for traveling to Sudan's war zones to free



Jeff Kahn

Jeff is a strategic communications and public diplomacy expert with more than three decades of experience advising governments, international organizations, corporations and nonprofit institutions. He has served as a strategic adviser to the United Nations, the White House, the Israeli Prime Minister's Office, the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and Israel's Ministry of Homeland Security. His expertise spans psychological warfare, crisis management, branding, media strategy and international affairs. Jeff has also held senior leadership positions in the technology and communications sectors, including roles with Cisco, BroadSoft, AudioCodes and Ruder Finn, where he advised leading global corporations and institutions.



Naomi Kahn

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Naomi Linder Kahn is the director of the international division at Regavim, a research-based think tank and lobbying group dedicated to the protection and preservation of Israel's land resources and sovereignty.
Her background includes degrees in political science and Near Eastern languages and literatures; decades of experience in academic instruction and administration; translation and editing; and Zionist activism in Israel and abroad.



Gol Kalev

Gol Kalev is a columnist at The Jerusalem Post. He is the author of From Survival to Peace (2026); The Assault on Judaism: The Existential Threat Is Coming from the West (2024); and Judaism 3.0: Judaism's Transformation to Zionism (2022). He is the chairman of the Judaism 3.0 think tank and a researcher of Theodor Herzl, applying Herzl's frameworks to today's strategic issues. Growing up in Tel Aviv and serving in the Israeli army, he then lived in New York where he was an investment banker, specializing in mergers and acquisitions and capital raising for financial institutions globally. He now lives in Jerusalem.



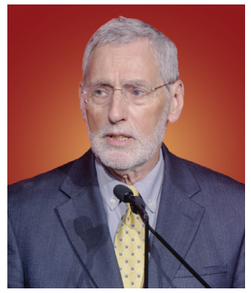
Ari Kalker

Sergeant Major (Res.) Ari Kalker is an IDF combat veteran, educator and builder. Born in New York, he made aliyah in 2001 and served his mandatory service in a special forces infantry unit, concluding with the Second Lebanon War. Now in his 40s, he continues to serve in an active combat role in the 6551 Reconnaissance Battalion of the 98th Division, Israel's commando division. Since Oct. 7, he has completed more than 380 days of reserve duty across multiple deployments on the southern, northern and eastern fronts. Out of uniform, Ari is a general contractor living in Jerusalem with his wife and four children. A longtime advocate for lone soldiers, he helped establish Jerusalem's first group housing for them through the Lone Soldier Center in Memory of Michael Levin. He hosts the "Boots on the Ground"podcast, where he discusses Israel's war, politics and national identity.



Shay Kallach

Shay Kallach is the founder and chairman of Netsach Israel and a former Israeli Air Force pilot. He leads efforts to strengthen Jewish identity and national resilience while advancing a vision of renewed civic responsibility and grassroots leadership in Israel. An author and public speaker, he is also currently running for the Likud Party.



Josh Katzen

Joshua Katzen is the publisher and a founder of JNS. He is also the executive chairman of CAMERA and on the boards of JINSA, the Republican Jewish Coalition and the Jewish Policy Center. He works in real estate development and investment and lives in Newton, MA.



Eldan Kaye

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Eldan joined Ogen in August 2022 to lead strategic partnerships and oversee global donor and investor relations. With 15 years of experience across Israel, the U.K. and the U.S., he has built and led development and partnership teams throughout the Jewish nonprofit sector. Prior to Ogen, Eldan held senior roles at Darca, UJIA and the Abraham Fund Initiatives, consistently expanding both funding and impact.



Shoshana Keats Jaskoll

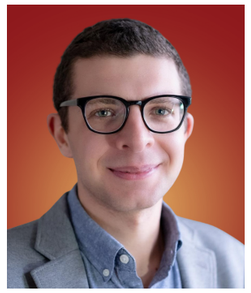
Shoshanna Keats Jaskoll is an author, speaker, activist and media personality focused on issues affecting women, Jewish communal life and Israel advocacy. She is the co-founder of Chochmat Nashim, an Israeli nonprofit advancing dignity, accountability and healthier religious communities, and the creator of initiatives including the Jewish Life Photo Bank and Rate My Beit Din. A passionate defender of Israel online and in international media, she frequently addresses antisemitism, misinformation and the challenges facing Israeli society. She is also co-host of "The Quad" on JNS-TV, where she discusses current events, culture, religion and politics from an informed Israeli perspective.



Mordechai Kedar

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Dr. Mordechai Kedar is vice president of NEWSRAEL. A lieutenant colonel (res.) in the IDF Military Intelligence Corps, he is a researcher and lecturer (emeritus) in the department of Arabic and the department of Middle Eastern Studies, as well as a senior research associate at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University. He is also the founder of the Palestinian Emirates Plan.



Andrew Keene

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Andrew Keene is the founder of ESEK, an Israel-based social enterprise that supports small businesses from Israel's geographic and social periphery by connecting their products and stories to individuals and communities around the world. With a background in technology and digital transformation, in both the private and public sectors, he made aliyah to Israel in December 2023. He has since held numerous lay leadership roles with the American Zionist Movement, the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency for Israel. He currently serves as vice chair of the Memorial Scrolls Trust in London and is a recipient of the Z3 Bridge Builder Award.



Col. Richard Kemp

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Colonel Richard Kemp was an infantryman in the British Army for 30 years, serving in Northern Ireland, Afghanistan, Iraq and the Balkans. After 9/11, he headed the international terrorism team at the U.K. Joint Intelligence Committee and chaired the COBRA Intelligence Group. He was wounded in a terrorist attack in Northern Ireland; his name was discovered on an Al Qaida kill list in Syria; and a warrant was issued in Moscow for his arrest over activities associated with the Ukraine war. He has been present in Israel during each of the Gaza conflicts since 2008.



Shabbos Kestenbaum

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Shabbos Kestenbaum is a political commentator at PragerU and former lead plaintiff in a landmark civil-rights lawsuit against Harvard University. He is a regular contributor on national media, has testified multiple times in front of the United States Congress, White House and Israeli Knesset.



Shadi Khalloul

Shadi Khalloul is an Aramean Christian Israeli leader, founder and chairman of the Israeli Christian Aramaic Association, and a prominent advocate for Christian integration and minority rights in Israel. A former paratrooper officer in the Israel Defense Forces and currently a major in the reserves, he has worked to preserve Aramean Christian heritage, while strengthening ties between Christians, Jews and other communities. Khalloul played a leading role in advancing official recognition of the Aramean community in Israel and has been a vocal supporter of Christian participation in military and public service. His work promotes shared citizenship, coexistence and greater understanding across Israeli society.



Morton Klein

Morton A. Klein is national president of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), the oldest pro-Israel group in the U.S., founded in 1897. Mr. Klein is widely regarded as one of the leading Jewish activists in the United States. The Forward newspaper and others named him one of the top five most influential American-Jewish leaders. He led a six-year campaign to successfully reinterpret Title VI of the Civil Rights Act to include Jewish students and filed the first law-suit protecting Jewish students. He has published over 500 articles and lectured around the world. Klein is a child of Holocaust survivors, born in a displaced persons camp in Gunzberg, Germany. He worked in three administrations as an economist in Washington, D.C. He has served as a biostatistician at the Linus Pauling Institute of Science and Medicine in Palo Alto, California, having worked closely with two-time Nobel laureate Linus Pauling.



Eugene Kontorovich

Eugene Kontorovich is a professor at George Mason's Antonin Scalia School of Law, specializing in constitutional and international law. Before coming to George Mason, he had been a professor at Northwestern University School of Law for 11 years. He is also a senior legal scholar at Vice President Mike Pence's Advancing American Freedom and a senior fellow at the Kohelet Policy Forum in Jerusalem. He testifies regularly before Congress, as well as in parliaments of nations around the world. He is regularly called on to advise legislators and cabinet members in the U.S., Israel and Europe on questions pertaining to international law and diplomacy. He has also been acknowledged as a thought leader behind numerous policy initiatives and legislation in the U.S. and Israel.



Ami Kozak

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Ami Kozak is a comedian, impressionist, musician and political commentator known for blending sharp satire with cultural insight. He has built a strong online presence through his viral comedic sketches, his podcast "Ami' House" and many media appearances engaging audiences across platforms. A vocal advocate for Israel, the Jewish people and Western values, he has participated in public debates and uses humor and commentary to address complex social and political issues.



Yossi Kuperwasser

Brig. Gen. (Res.) Yosef Kuperwasser is the head of the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security (JISS). He was formerly the director-general of Israel's Ministry of International Affairs and Strategy. In his long career at the IDF, he served as assistant defense attaché for intelligence at the Israeli embassy in Washington D.C., chief intelligence officer of the IDF Central Command and head of the analysis and production division of the IDF Directorate of Military Intelligence. He had a significant role in determining Israel's coping methods with terror as well as regional developments, and sharing such analysis with the U.S. and other foreign entities. Kuperwasser authored a wide variety of publications on the Middle East, terrorism and intelligence and he is an opinion contributor to various Israeli and international papers and other media outlets. In June 2023, he wrote a policy paper calling on Israel to disarm Hamas.



Yaakov Lappin

@YaakovLappin

Yaakov Lappin is an Israeli military and strategic affairs analyst, and the JNS military correspondent. He is a security analyst at I24 News, the Alma Center, the Miryam Institute and the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security. He is also the host of the Lappin Assessment podcast on Patreon.



Efrat Last

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Efrat Last is the director of international relations and operations at Netsach Israel, where she leads global partnerships to strengthen Jewish identity and Israel's national resilience. She holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in communication disorders and is active in public leadership and civic initiatives.



Bryan Leib

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Bryan E. Leib resides in Boca Raton, FL. He is the CEO of Henry Public Relations, co-founder of Red Presswire. In addition, he serves in an official capacity as the foreign policy adviser to Congressman Abe J. Hamadeh and he's a contributor for Newsmax TV.



Adam Levick

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Adam Levick is the U.K. Media Research Manager at CAMERA, where he's worked for over 13 years. In addition to promoting accuracy in media coverage of Israel, Adam has given presentations on the connection between media bias and antisemitism, including one at the inaugural conference of the London Centre for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism.



Julie Strauss Levin

Julie Strauss Levin is an attorney and general counsel at the America First Legal Foundation, where she focuses on transactional matters, litigation and government accountability to challenge government overreach and defend civil liberties. She previously served as general counsel at Freedom Partners and deputy general counsel at Feld Entertainment, advising on corporate, regulatory, intellectual property, employment and litigation matters. She has been appointed to presidential and state commissions addressing Holocaust-era heritage preservation and antisemitism. Strauss Levin serves on multiple advisory and nonprofit boards advancing Jewish civil rights, Israel advocacy and public-policy education. She also speaks publicly, writes and moderates discussions on antisemitism and current affairs.



Alyza Lewin

Alyza D. Lewin is the president of U.S. affairs at the Combat Antisemitism Movement, where she leads the organization's American operations, strategic engagement and partnerships with governmental, educational and civic institutions. Prior to this role, she served as president of the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, where she advanced landmark legal and advocacy initiatives protecting the civil rights of Jewish students and employees across the United States. Lewin is also a co-founder of Lewin & Lewin LLP. Throughout her career as an attorney, she has focused on combating antisemitism, defending civil rights and strengthening public understanding of discrimination in contemporary society.



Ruthie Lieberman

@RuthSarahIsrael

Ruth Jaffe Lieberman is a political strategist specializing in U.S.-Israel relations. She co-founded the Yes Israel Project, working in Washington and organizing congressional fact-finding missions to Israel to strengthen deeper understanding of the region. With experience in the Israeli government and Knesset, she has worked on policy communications and outreach to Israeli and American audiences. Through her consulting firm, Jaffe Strategies Ltd, she advises campaigns and organizations on messaging, donor engagement and coalition-building focused on supporting the U.S.-Israel alliance. She has also worked on U.S. congressional campaigns and community outreach. Originally from Cleveland, she is also a licensed tour guide and graduate archaeology student living in Israel with her husband and five children.



Lori Lowenthal-Marcus

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Lori has been the legal director of the Deborah Project since 2020, and before that was a journalist, lecturer and a media lawyer. The Deborah Project is a public-interest law firm that represents Jews facing antisemitism discrimination on college and K-12 campuses, with lawsuits currently pending across the U.S.



Harold Luks

Harold Paul Luks is an international trade consultant and partner at Luks Cormaney LLP with more than 40 years of experience in export controls, customs and international trade regulation. He previously worked at Arnold & Porter and has focused on compliance involving U.S. Departments of State, Commerce and Treasury. Luks played a role in developing the U.S.-Israel Free Trade Agreement and advised Israeli economic ministers on bilateral trade. He has served in senior roles in both the executive and legislative branches and on key advisory bodies. A former chairman of NCSJ, he is a graduate of Penn State and pursued advanced studies in the United States and Israel.



Itamar Marcus

Itamar Marcus, founder and director of Palestinian Media Watch, is a leading expert on the Palestinian Authority. Marcus represented Israel in negotiations with the P.A. on incitement in 1999. He speaks to governments, U.S. Congress and parliaments about P.A. ideology, education, culture and terror. His exposure of P.A. schoolbooks, glorifying terror, promoting child martyrdom, "Pay-for-Slay" and many other P.A. activities, remain primary international complaints against the P.A. Marcus has received awards from ZOA, Israel Media Watch and EMET. The Algemeiner recognized him as one of the world's "top 100 people positively influencing Jewish life for the State of Israel."



Daniel S. Mariaschin

Daniel S. Mariaschin is CEO of B'nai B'rith International. He directs and supervises its programs, activities and staff around the world. He also serves as director of B'nai B'rith's International Center for Human Rights and Public Policy, coordinating its programs and policies on issues of concern to the Jewish community. He has been involved in seeking restitution for Holocaust survivors and their families for almost three decades. Mr. Mariaschin meets with world leaders, seeking to advance huan rights, protect the rights of Jewish communities worldwide and promote better relations with the tSate of Israel.



Nadia Matar

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Nadia Matar, born in Belgium, made aliyah at age 19 and has lived in Efrat since 1989. An activist, speaker and co-founder of Women in Green—established in 1993 to oppose the Oslo Accords—she works to strengthen Israel's hold on the Land of Israel and, together with her co-chair, Yehudit Katsover, a longtime resident of Kiryat Arba-Hevron and a pioneer in the renewal of Jewish life in Hebron, leads the Sovereignty Movement advocating the application of Israeli sovereignty over Judea, Samaria and Gaza. The two also founded the Oz VeGaon Nature Preserve in Gush Etzion as a Zionist response to the murder of the three kidnapped teenagers, Gil-Ad Sha'ar, Eyal Yifrach and Naftali Fraenkel, transforming the site into a thriving Zionist educational center visited by tens of thousands each year.



Aylana Meisel

Aylana Meisel is the founding chair and executive director of the Israel Law & Liberty Forum. She has held a variety of senior positions at the Herut Center, developing the mission, strategy and projects for both the Tikvah Fund and the Herut Center. Aylana obtained her J.D. from Georgetown University and her B.A. in Jewish studies from Queens College. She is the host of the JNS-TV podcast "Basic Law" and the co-founder of the Jewish Coalition for Religious Liberty.



Masha Merkulova

ClubZ.org

Masha Merkulova is the founder and CEO of Club Z and a writer and speaker known for challenging the assumptions of the Jewish nonprofit and education worlds. Often described as raising "Zionist lions," she has spent the past decade building a movement of teens who are intellectually grounded, unapologetically Jewish and prepared to lead.



Troy Miller

Troy A. Miller is president and CEO of the National Religious Broadcasters (NRB) and NRBTV. A senior executive with more than 30 years of leadership experience, he has guided NRB's financial turnaround, expanded its membership, and enhanced its flagship international convention. Miller previously held leadership roles in technology, media and nonprofit organizations, including Gateway, Inc. and D. James Kennedy Ministries. A U.S. Navy veteran, he served on the commissioning crew of USS Bunker Hill (CG-52). He is a frequent speaker on organizational leadership, technology and Christian apologetics, and a regular media commentator and contributor to major conservative news outlets.



Col. (ret.) Dr. Jacques Neriah

Col. (ret.) Dr. Jacques Neriah, special analyst for the Middle East, is a regular contributor to the Jerusalem Center's blog on the upheavals in the Arab world. He formerly served as foreign policy adviser to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and as deputy head for assessment of Israeli Military Intelligence.



Hillel Neuer

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An international lawyer, writer and activist, Hillel Neuer is the executive director of UN Watch, a human-rights organization in Geneva, Switzerland. Neuer's speeches at the United Nations have been seen by millions around the world. He has appeared in debates on CNN, BBC and Al Jazeera. McGill University awarded Neuer an honorary doctorate for his work to advance human rights, and for being "a voice for those without one." In 2016, the city of Chicago declared "Hillel Neuer Day," citing his role "as one of the world's foremost human-rights advocates." The Tribune de Genève described Neuer as a human-rights activist who is "feared and dreaded" by the world's dictatorships. The Journal de Montréal wrote that Neuer "makes the U.N. tremble." The Jerusalem Post, Ynet, and Maariv listed Neuer as one the most influential Jewish people in the world.



Fiamma Nirenstein (Italy)

Fiamma Nirenstein is a political analyst specializing in Europe, the Middle East and antisemitism. She served in the Italian Parliament as deputy president of the Foreign Affairs Commission. Nirenstein is the author of more than 20 award-winning books and essays and has served on the boards of major international Jewish organizations around the world.
Currently, she writes for JNS and Il Giornale. She also serves as senior fellow and director of the Program on Antisemitism and Israel-Europe Relations at the Jerusalem Center for Security and Foreign Affairs (JCFA).



David Parsons

icej.org

David R. Parsons is an author, attorney, journalist, ordained minister and Middle East specialist who serves as senior vice president & spokesman with the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem. He is considered one of the leading Christian advocates for Israel of our day. Based in Jerusalem for nearly 30 years now, Parsons has conducted interviews with hundreds of media outlets, written for a variety of publications and traveled to dozens of nations to speak on an array of historic, strategic, political and religious subjects.



Eliana Passentin

Eliana Passentin is the international desk director of the Binyamin Regional Council, an expert in the region with degrees in Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology from Bar-Ilan University and a lecturer on and tour guide of Judea and Samaria. Born in San Francisco and raised in Israel, she lives in Eli with her husband and eight children and is recognized for her social entrepreneurship and as the 2025 Emunah Woman of the Year.

Steven R. Perles

Steve Perles is founder of the Perles Law Firm, a pioneering practice specializing in litigation against state sponsors of terrorism and financial institutions that facilitate terrorist financing. Over a legal career spanning more than four decades, he has secured compensation for thousands of American victims of terrorism and their families. Perles represented Hugo Princz, an American citizen enslaved in Nazi concentration camps, helping secure compensation for U.S. survivors and advancing efforts to hold sovereign states accountable for gross human rights violations. He later brought the first case under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act's terrorism exception and remains a leading figure in terrorism-related litigation.



Dr. Walid Phares

Dr. Walid Phares is an international-relations scholar, author, geopolitical analyst and foreign policy advisor specializing in Middle Eastern affairs, international security, terrorism and strategic studies. For more than three decades, he has advised policymakers, government agencies, international organizations and civil-society groups on foreign policy and security issues. A frequent media commentator, lecturer and public speaker, he has published numerous books and articles on international affairs and has engaged extensively with diplomatic and multilateral institutions, including the United Nations. Dr. Phares is also an expert witness in U.S. courts, a community adviser and a specialist in legal, political and historical translation.



Amb. Mark Regev

A former senior diplomat with more than 30 years of experience in foreign policy, including serving as Israel's ambassador to the United Kingdom. A leading strategic communications specialist, with extensive experience representing Israel at the highest levels of government, including as a senior adviser to the prime minister and international spokesperson. He is recognized internationally as one of Israel's foremost public voices.



Josh Reinstein

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Josh Reinstein is president of the Israel Allies Foundation and director of the Knesset Christian Allies Caucus, where he has led faith-based diplomatic efforts for Israel since 2004. He coordinates a global network of over 1,600 pro-Israel legislators and is the founder and producer of the internationally broadcast program "Israel Now News." A bestselling author and the father of faith-based diplomacy, he was named one of the "50 Most Influential Jews in the World" by The Jerusalem Post.



Harold Rhode

Harold Rhode served as a specialist on Islamic culture and the Middle East in the Office of the Secretary of Defense from 1982 to 2010. He studied at a university in Iran during the early and mid-stages of the Islamic Revolution. He is currently a Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Gatestone Institute in New York, as well as a Senior Fellow at the Jerusalem Center for Security and Foreign Affairs.



Gregg Roman

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Arnold Roth is now retired after a career as a lawyer and manager in Israel's emerging technology industries. He and his wife, Frimet, established Keren Malki, the Malki Foundation, in 2001 to memorialize the life of their daughter who was murdered in the Sbarro Jerusalem bombing attack. Roth has devoted years to advocating for the atrocity's Jordanian mastermind to be brought to justice in Washington, a mission that continues until today.



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Eli is a commercial jet-rated pilot, highly experienced paramedic and the founder and president of Hatzolah Air. His passion for emergency medicine and helping those in need are apparent and infectious, and have facilitated his building of Hatzolah Air from an idea to a full-fledged air-rescue organization in just a few years. On a daily basis, Eli is busy organizing, staffing and flying Hatzolah Air missions. Eli built Israel's Medevac system that works in partnership with MDA. In his spare time, he volunteers to fundraise for Hatzolah Air while running his Health IT company, WOMBA.



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A Palestinian political activist and voice of opposition to P.A. Chairman Mahmoud Abbas who calls for Palestinian reforms and democracy. He also believes in Israeli-Palestinian dialogue and coexistence.
He is the only high-profile Palestinian politician who visited the Gaza envelope after Oct. 7 and condemned Hamas on camera. He also visited the shiva of the Bibas family and apologized to Yarden Bibas. He is the Palestinian with the most appearances in Israeli media, including on Channels 11, 12, 13, 14 and I24 News, as well as on the radio and in newspapers. His opinion pieces have appeared in The New York Times, Newsweek, Le Figaro, The Atlantic, Israel Hayom, N12, The Jerusalem Post and Haaretz.



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Natalie Sopinsky, a Delaware native, was raised in an all-American Conservative Jewish family. Today she is a pistol-wearing, hitch-hiking settler living in the Hebron Hills. A lawyer, Lifeguard and the mother of five children, Natalie represents the 150 communities in Judea and Samaria as director of development for Hatzalah Yehuda and Shomron, the main U.S. charity for emergency medical needs in the Jewish heartland. www.hatzalah.org.il; Natalie also hosts the weekly radio program “Returning Home” on Israel NewsTalk Radio.



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Erick Stakelbeck is a sought-after geopolitical commentator, author, podcaster, YouTuber and host of “Stakelbeck Tonight,” seen every weeknight in primetime on TBN, the world’s largest Christian television network. Erick also hosts “The Watchman Newscast”—a breaking news and commentary program focusing on Israel and the Middle East—on YouTube, where his channel has over 1.1 million subscribers and more than 215 million overall views. In addition, Erick hosts a weekly podcast called “The Stakscast,” where he interviews top newsmakers and influencers from the political and entertainment worlds. He is the author of three bestselling books, including The Terrorist Next Door, The Brotherhood and ISIS Exposed. Erick is a regular commentator on leading national television and radio programs, appearing frequently on Fox News, BlazeTV, Real America’s Voice, Newsmax and others.



Sarah Stern

Sarah Stern is the founder and president of the Endowment for Middle East Truth (EMET), a pro-American and pro-Israel policy institute in Washington, D.C., established in 2005. She has over four decades of experience working with policymakers on Capitol Hill and in the Israeli Knesset. Stern is a writer and commentator whose work has appeared in outlets such as Newsweek, The Hill, and The Jerusalem Post, anAd she has authored two books on Middle East policy and security. She has been involved in numerous U.S. legislative initiatives related to Israel, Iran sanctions and antisemitism policy, and previously held senior roles at the American Jewish Congress and the Zionist Organization of America.



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Jonathan S. Tobin is editor-in-chief of the Jewish News Syndicate (JNS), a leading global news outlet covering Israel, the Jewish world and American politics. He is a senior contributor to The Federalist and a columnist for Newsweek, with wide-ranging coverage of U.S. politics, foreign policy, the U.S.-Israel relationship and Middle East affairs. Tobin hosts the JNS "Think Twice" podcast and the "Jonathan Tobin Daily" podcast. He previously served as executive editor of Commentary and editor-in-chief of the Jewish Exponent. A recipient of more than 60 journalism awards, he is a frequent television commentator on politics and foreign policy.



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Joshua Waller

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Joshua Waller first came to Israel at the age of 14, when his family founded HaYovel, the first Christian Zionist volunteer organization serving Jewish pioneers in Judea and Samaria. More than 13 years as operations director, he led thousands of volunteers from 30+ nations planting, harvesting and building across Israel's biblical heartland. Now CEO of HaYovel/The Israel Guys reaching 500K subscribers and 49M views, he mobilizes Christians worldwide to stand with Israel.



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Tommy Waller is the founder of HaYovel, also known through its media platform, The Israel Guys. Since 2004, he has mobilized thousands of Christian volunteers from around the world to serve Jewish farmers in Judea and Samaria. His work focuses on strengthening Christian support for Israel and the restoration of the biblical heartland.



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Zac Waller is the founder of Israel Lighthouse for the Nations, a visionary initiative dedicated to educating Christian Zionists through authentic, biblically grounded teaching rooted in the land and people of Israel. With a passion for bridging the gap between the global Church and the covenant story of Israel, he equips believers, families and ministries through creative media, immersive learning and strategic discipleship. Zac's leadership blends theological depth, entrepreneurial vision and a deep commitment to seeing lives transformed by truth, relationship and redemptive purpose.



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Co-Chair: Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi

Lt. Col (Res.) Sarit Zehavi served for 15 years in the Israel Defense Forces Intelligence Corps, initially in research and analysis and later with the Northern Command. Zehavi holds an M.A. in Middle East Studies from Ben-Gurion University in Israel. She held informative in-depth briefings in Washington, D.C. with United States senators and representatives to advise them on security developments in Lebanon and Syria and is recognized world-wide as an expert authority and impactful speaker on the security issues facing Israel today. Sarit Zehavi was selected by The Jerusalem Post as one of the Top 50 Most Influential Jews of 2021. Sarit is a member of Forum Dvorah - "empowering women in national security and foreign policy."

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Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA)
Anti-Terrorism Clarification Act (ATCA)
Arms Export Control Act
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Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA)
Foreign Assistance Act
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Camp David Accords
Abraham Accords
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Hebron Protocol

Israeli Legislation
Basic Laws
Basic Law: Human Dignity and Liberty
Basic Law: Israel as the Nation-State of the Jewish People
Counter-Terrorism Law (2016)
Entry into Israel Law
Citizenship Law
Prevention of Infiltration Law
Emergency Regulations
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RELEVANT REPORTS & INITIATIVES

Defensible Borders for Israel (JCFA)
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Regavim 2025 Annual Movement Report
B'nai B'rith Impact Report - Summer 2026
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