

Yom HaAtzmaut Greatest Hits Compliation 2018

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zWGOyuw25D4>

Genesis 18:¹⁸ seeing that Abraham shall become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by him?^{ld}

"[Individuals] have a right to defend themselves and recover by force what by unlawful force is taken from them."

-- John Locke (1632-1704) English philosopher and political theorist. Considered the ideological progenitor of the American Revolution and who, by far, was the most often non-biblical writer quoted by the Founding Fathers of the USA.

Read the Prophets & PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!

That is the only hope of this nation!

Plead for Grace and Mercy

Please remember these folks in prayer- Check often – they change

Prayer Requests

That the world would - WAKE UP.

Time for a worldwide repentance!

ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world, Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.

Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence

Pray for SH and family – sister with major Stroke

Pray for JA – Complex Cardiac problem facing surgery –surgery delayed for illness

Pray for MP – Very complex problems

Pray for Yonatan Ben Gladys – injured in a tank accident in Israel

Pray for Hillel ben Raizel Lea Rena – very ill and weak

Pray for DO – Hip replacement April 13

Pray for family of JH – JH passed away 3/18

Pray for JEP – medical problem

Pray for DN – life situation problems

Pray for MD – Has chronic progressive lung problem.

Pray for MS – family problems – doing better

Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations?

1Kings 3:¹And Solomon made an alliance by marriage with Pharaoh the king of Egypt. And *he* took Pharaoh's daughter and brought her into the city of David, until he finished building his own house, and the house of Jehovah, and the wall of Jerusalem all around. ²Only, the people were sacrificing in high places, for a house for the name of Jehovah had not been built until those days. ³And Solomon loved Jehovah, to walk in the statutes of his father David. Only, he was sacrificing in high places and burning incense. ⁴And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for it was the great high place. Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

Army said to find slain Gaza teen was trying to damage border fence when shot

EU joins US, UN in urging Israel to investigate Friday's killing of Mohammed Ayoub, 15; IDF says he apparently crossed barbed wire barrier and was heading to main border fence

By [TOI staff](#) and [Agencies](#) 21 April 2018, 5:06 pm

An initial IDF investigation into the killing of a 15-year-old Palestinian boy during protests along the Gaza fence indicated that he was trying to damage the barrier, Channel 10 TV reported Saturday.

The Israeli army said Friday it was looking into the death of the teen, identified as Mohammed Ibrahim Ayoub. Videos circulated on social media appeared to show Ayoub having been shot in the head. **The killing drew harsh international condemnation, with the EU adding its voice on Saturday.**

The army said that Ayoub had apparently crossed over an initial barbed wire barrier and was heading toward the main border fence when he was shot, Channel 10 reported.

The army later released photographs showing young boys taking part in attempts to breach the barrier.

A squad of terrorist that includes young boys (1) burning the security infrastructure (2) as another squad waits and pulls (3) the security infrastructure that was ignited with a rope (4)

— IDF (@IDFSpokesperson) [April 21, 2018](#)



A photo released by the IDF on April 21, 2018 claims to show young boys taking part in attempts to damage the Gaza border fence during protests. (IDF spokesperson)

Earlier, Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman blamed Hamas for the death of the teenager.

“The leaders of Hamas are the only culprits in the death of the boy, the cowardly leaders who hide behind children and women and send them forward as human shields so that they can continue digging attack tunnels and carrying out terror attacks against the State of Israel,” Liberman said.

The defense minister urged the citizens of Gaza not to approach the security fence dividing Israel and the Gaza Strip.

A Palestinian photographer who took the picture of Ayoub after he was killed said the incident happened a fair distance from the fence.

Abd Alhakeem Abu Rish on Saturday told The Associated Press he saw the teen standing about 150 meters (164 yards) from the fence. He says Ayyoub was about to take cover behind a low sand berm when he was shot and fell to the ground.



Ibrahim and Raeda Ayoub, 42, parents of teenager Mohammed, who was killed April 20, 2018, during a protest along Gaza's border with Israel, east of Jebaliya, at his family house in Jebaliya refugee camp, Gaza Strip, Saturday, April 21, 2018. (AP Photo/Adel Hana)

Abu Rish's photographs show Ayoub as he collapses head first and then lies motionless in the same spot.

His mother said she had urged him not to go to the fence, but he had not listened. “He told his cousin to tell me he would be back in an hour,” Hebrew media quoted her as saying at the mourning tent. **[Raising a terrorist is a hazardous occupation and one filled with unfortunate events. – rdb]**

The European Union on Saturday urged the Israeli military to “refrain from using lethal force against unarmed protesters,” after four Palestinians, including Ayoub, were killed by army fire in the protests.

In Saturday's statement, the European Union's diplomatic service called for a full investigation of Friday's shootings. Public Security Minister Gilad Erdan accused the EU of encouraging Hamas by making hasty statements before all the

facts were known. The EU were “firing on automatic,” he said.

Friday marked the fourth round of weekly mass border protests, led by the Hamas terror group that rules Gaza.

MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/army-said-to-find-teen-was-trying-to-damage-gaza-fence-when-shot/>

Liberman says Hamas to blame for death of 15-year-old in Gaza

Four Palestinians were reported killed by the IDF during Friday's violence along the border, including a teen identified as Mohammed Ibrahim Ayoub

By [TOI staff](#) and [Agencies](#) 21 April 2018, 10:56 am

Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman on Saturday blamed Hamas for the reported death of a 15-year-old Palestinian during clashes in the Gaza Strip.

“The leaders of Hamas are the only culprits in the death of the boy, the cowardly leaders who hide behind children and women and send them forward as human shields so that they can continue digging attack tunnels and carrying out terror attacks against the State of Israel,” Liberman said.

The defense minister urged the citizens of Gaza not to approach the security fence dividing Israel and the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army said Friday it was looking into the reported death of the teen, identified as Mohammed Ibrahim Ayoub. Videos circulated on social media appeared to show Ayoub having been shot in the head.

The military told Channel 10 news it was investigating the video and the incident as a whole. Four Palestinians were reported killed during Friday’s violence.

US President Donald Trump’s Mideast envoy Jason Greenblatt also said on Twitter that “A full investigation by Israel of Mohammed Ayoub’s death is underway so that we will be able to understand what happened.”

Some 3,000 Palestinians protested along the Gaza border with Israel on Friday, burning tires and flying



Palestinians pull barbed wire from the border fence with Israel during weekly Friday clashes, in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip, on April 20, 2018. (AFP Photo/Said Khatib)

flaming kites across the frontier to set Israeli fields ablaze, witnesses and the army said. Soldiers responded with tear gas and live fire, killing four Palestinians, including the 15-year-old, according to the Hamas run-health ministry.

The kites are part of a new tactic aimed at setting fields on the Israeli side on fire. Most kites were stitched together in the colors of the Palestinian flag. One white kite bore the swastika.

In all, the Gaza ministry said that some 445 people were injured, including 96 from live fire. **MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/liberman-says-hamas-to-blame-for-death-of-15-year-old-in-gaza/> [When you send your children to do your dirty work this is the type of problem you can expect. The vile Hamas and Fatah could care less. – rdb]**

Hamas threatens revenge against Israel for killing of drone and rocket expert

Fadi al-Batsh was shot by two gunmen Saturday morning in Malaysia on way to prayers; family in Gaza blames Mossad; Israel silent

By [Agencies](#) and [TOI staff](#) 21 April 2018, 8:55



Gunmen from the Hamas terror group's Izzedine al-Qassam Brigades stand in front of the Jabaliya home of electrical engineer and Hamas commander Fadi al-Batsh, who was shot dead in Malaysia in a killing blamed on Israel, April 21, 2018. Gaza's ruling Hamas said Batsh was an important member of the organization. (AP Photo/Adel Hana)

The Hamas terrorist organization on Saturday threatened retaliation against Israel for the killing in Malaysia of an electrical engineer it said was a commander of its military wing. Israeli reports said the dead man was an expert on attack drone and rocket systems.

Hamas’s leader Ismail Haniyeh accused Israel’s Mossad spy agency of killing Fadi Mohammad al-Batsh in Kuala Lumpur earlier in the day and vowed revenge: “Mossad is not away from this disgraceful, terrible crime. There will be an unsettled account between us and it,” Haniyeh said at a Gaza mourning tent for Batsh. “We cannot give up on the blood of our sons, youths, and scholars.”

Batsh’s family in Gaza also accused Mossad of killing him: “We accuse the Mossad of being behind the assassination.” Israel had no official comment.

Hebrew media reports said Gaza-born scientist

Batsh had published material recently on drone development, and on transmitters for controlling drones.



Footage circulated on social media allegedly showing the body of 15-year-old Muhammad Ibrahim Ayoub, who Palestinians say was shot dead by IDF soldiers during clashes in the Gaza Strip on April 20, 2018 (screenshot)

If Israel was behind the hit, Israel's Channel 10 reported, then the Mossad was evidently focusing on preventing advanced technologies from reaching Hamas.

Malaysian police said Batsh, 35, was killed in a drive-by motorcycle shooting as he headed on foot to take part in dawn Muslim prayers on Saturday.

The Hamas terror group said Batsh was a "loyal" member and a "scientist of Palestine's youth scholars." It said he had made "important contributions" and participated in international forums in the field of energy.

Later Saturday the armed wing of Hamas opened a mourning house in Gaza for Batsh. A main banner at the entrance of the tent described al-Batsh as a member of the terror group's military wing and "a commander."

Ten masked fighters in camouflage uniforms stood in a line outside the tent in Jabaliya, the slain man's hometown, to greet mourners. The ceremony is typical for senior Hamas commanders.

Hebrew media reports said he was deeply involved in Hamas's efforts to improve the accuracy of its rockets and to develop drones.



A picture taken on April 21, 2018 shows men holding up a poster portrait of 35-year-old Palestinian professor and Hamas member Fadi Mohammad al-Batsh who was killed in Malaysia, outside his family's house in Jabaliya in the northern Gaza strip. (AFP PHOTO / MAHMUD HAMS)

Hadashot TV news said Hamas has sent numerous young Gazans for technical training in Malaysia.

The country has proved a "paradise" for Hamas in recent years, Channel 10 said.

Hamas said earlier in the day that Batsh was "assassinated by the hand of treachery," and called him a "martyr" — a word it usually uses for people killed by Israeli forces.

Kuala Lumpur police chief Datuk Seri Mazlan Lazim said one of two suspects on a high-powered motorcycle "fired 10 shots, four of which hit the lecturer in the head and body. He died on the spot."

"The police also found two empty bullet shells there," the police chief said, according to Malaysia's state-run Bernama news agency. The police chief said footage from closed-circuit television cameras near the scene of the shooting showed two assailants waited for around 20 minutes in the area before attacking.

"We believe the lecturer was their target because two other individuals walked by the place earlier unharmed. We will view the recordings of all the CCTV in the area to identify the suspects and get the registration number of the motorcycle," he said.

Malaysia's deputy prime minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said the government was looking into the possibility of the involvement of "foreign agents" in his killing. He told local media that initial investigations showed the assailants were "white men" driving a powerful BMW 1100cc motorbike.

He said the suspects were believed to be Europeans with links to a foreign intelligence agency, [Reuters reported](#), and that Batsh had "links with foreign intelligence and was active in pro-Palestinian non-governmental organizations, describing him as an expert in electrical engineering and rocket-building."

Batsh may have been regarded as "a liability for a country that is an enemy of Palestine," Zahid was quoted as saying.

Besides his Hamas affiliation, Batsh was a cousin of Khaled al-Batsh, a senior official in the Islamic Jihad terror group, who also accused the Mossad of the assassination, without providing evidence.

Batsh specialized in electrical and electronic engineering and worked at a Malaysian university. He had lived there with his family for the past eight years and was an imam at a local mosque. He received his Ph.D degree from the University of Malaya in 2015 and was a senior lecturer at the British Malaysian Institute. His official biography said his research interests included power converters, power quality, and renewable energy. [MORE - https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-threatens-revenge-against-israel-for-killing-of-drone-and-rocket-expert/](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-threatens-revenge-against-israel-for-killing-of-drone-and-rocket-expert/)

Bennett: No Gaza burial for slain Hamas engineer until soldiers' bodies returned

Fadi al-Batsh was shot by two gunmen Saturday morning in Malaysia on way to prayers; family in Gaza blames Mossad; Israel silent

By [Agencies](#) and [TOI staff](#) 21 April 2018, 11:41 pm

Education Minister Naftali Bennett on Saturday vowed to prevent Hamas from bringing the body of a rocket engineer killed in Malaysia back to Gaza for burial until the terror group returns the bodies of two IDF soldiers.

"We can't allow Fadi al-Batsh, a member of the Hamas military wing killed in Malaysia, to be brought to Gaza for burial before the release of the bodies of Hadar Goldin and Oron Shaul so that they can be buried in Israel," tweeted Bennett.

The bodies of two IDF soldiers — Goldin and Shaul — are currently being held by the Hamas terrorist organization, along with two live, apparently mentally ill Israeli civilians — Abera Mengistu and Hisham al-Sayed — who entered Gaza of the own volition in 2014 and 2015, respectively.

“I will raise the issue tomorrow with the prime minister,” said Bennett who is also head of the right-wing Jewish Home party.

Batsh was shot dead early Saturday while on the way to prayers in Kuala Lumpur. Hamas, which claimed him as a member of its military wing blamed the Mossad spy agency and threatened revenge. **MORE -** <https://www.timesofisrael.com/bennett-no-gaza-burial-for-slain-hamas-engineer-until-soldiers-bodies-returned/>

Security forces arrest 15 alleged Hamas men in West Bank

IDF says the Ramallah-area operatives received funding and instructions from Gaza to carry out 'activities' related to terror group

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 9:34 am

Israeli security forces arrested 15 operatives of the Hamas terror organization in raids in the West Bank late Saturday and early Sunday, the military said.

According to a statement from the IDF, a joint operation by the army, Shin Bet and Israel Police targeted individuals who had been in contact with senior Hamas official Khaled al-Din Hamed and were receiving instructions from the Gaza-based group on “various activities” they were to carry out in the West Bank.

All 15 hailed from the Ramallah area north of Jerusalem.

The suspects also allegedly received funds from Hamas for the activities, which authorities say were linked to terrorist actions. At least one car was confiscated in the raid.

The forces also shuttered a printing press that was producing materials the IDF said were “inciting to terrorism.”

“The exposure of this activity reveals yet again the ceaseless efforts of the Hamas terror organization in Gaza to generate terror actions in the West Bank through funding, instructions and dissemination of its message, without any concern for the ramifications this will have on the Palestinian residents of the West Bank,” the army said. Hamas, the IDF said, will be held responsible for any attacks carried out due to its efforts.

Four other Palestinians, who are not part of the Hamas-linked network, were arrested in the overnight raids.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/security-forces-arrest-15-alleged-hamas-men-in-west-bank/>

Iran threatens to ‘annihilate’ Israel, as Hezbollah boasts of reach of rockets

Head of Iranian army says his forces working to ensure collapse of Israel within 25 years; Hassan Nasrallah says his missiles can hit any target in Israel

By [TOI staff](#) 21 April 2018, 7:15 pm

The head of the Iranian army on Saturday said Iranian forces were working to “annihilate” Israel and predicted they would achieve success within 25 years.

The threats from the Commander of Iran’s Army Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi come amid almost daily warnings of conflict from Tehran and Jerusalem, heightened by an alleged Israeli strike on an Iranian base in Syria earlier in the month.

“When the arrogant powers create a sanctuary for the Zionist regime to continue survival, we shouldn’t allow one day to be added to the ominous and illegitimate life of this regime,” Mousavi told a ceremony in Tehran on Saturday, according to the Fars news agency.

“The Army will move hand in hand with the IRGC so that the arrogant system will collapse and the Zionist regime will be annihilated,” General Mousavi said, referring to the Revolutionary Guards.

He predicted this would take place within 25 years, a number frequently used by the Iranian leadership.

Speaking hours later Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah warned that the Lebanese terror group’s rockets could hit all of Israel.

“The forces of the resistance today have the ability, the power and the missiles to hit any target in Israel,” said Nasrallah.

Hezbollah is one of Iran’s main proxies in its fight with Israel. **[It is always interesting to follow the situation when Nasrallah speaks because you never see anything but a**



Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah delivers a televised speech during a ceremony held by the terror group in Beirut commemorating its killed leaders on February 16, 2018. (AFP Photo/Joseph Eid)

video image of him. He has been in hiding for years and only rarely is seen publicly because he knows that he could be a target and be neutralized, which would be a great blessing to the world. – rdb]

On Friday, the vice commander of Iran's Revolutionary Guards warned Israel that its airbases are "within reach," in remarks apparently reacting to Israel's publication on Tuesday of a map [showing five Tehran-controlled bases in Syria](#).

"Israel: Don't trust in your airbases; they're within reach," Hossein Salami wrote on Twitter, also making similar comments in a fiery speech.

Israel, said Salami, was living "in the dragon's mouth." Both northern and western Israel were "in the range of our missiles," he threatened, in a speech given in Tehran. "Wherever you are in the occupied land, you'll be under fire from us, from east and west. You became arrogant. If there's a war, the result will be your complete elimination," he said. "Your soldiers and civilians will flee, and you won't survive. And you'll have nowhere to run, except to fall into the sea."

Earlier on Twitter he warned Israel should not rely on outside help.

"Don't have hope in US and UK; when they arrive, you're not there... Smallest goal will be your existence. You can't bear. When you escape, you'll have no way but to the sea."

[#Iran's #IRGC](#) vice-commander warns [#Israel](#): Don't trust in your airbases; they're within reach. Don't have hope in [#US](#) & [#UK](#); when they arrive, you're not there... Smallest goal will be your <https://t.co/azci9gxyTB> can't bear. When you escape, you'll have no way but to the sea. pic.twitter.com/XyqaOqLmiC

— Abas Aslani (@AbasAslani) [April 20, 2018](#)

[#Iran's #IRGC](#) vice-commander Salami warns enemies: Hands are on the trigger & missiles are ready & will be launched at any moment that enemy has a sinister plot... North & west of [#Israel](#) are at the intersection of fire; you will not escape. You live in the dragon's mouth. pic.twitter.com/wwKdXfZMrk

— Abas Aslani (@AbasAslani) [April 20, 2018](#)

As Iran stepped up its threats against Israel, Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman warned Tehran on Friday not to even consider an attack on the Jewish state, which he said has never been better prepared to counter Iran.

"I would suggest to all those on our northern border to think again about what they are doing," Liberman said. "It's seriously not worth it for you to test the IDF, nor the state of Israel," said Liberman who was touring the Gaza border. "We are ready for every scenario. We are ready for a multi-front scenario and I don't remember a time when we were so prepared and so ready, both the army and the people of Israel."

Iranian officials have been making increasingly bellicose remarks following an April 9 strike on the T-4 air base, near Palmyra in central Syria, which killed at least seven members of the IRGC, including the head of its drone program, Col. Mehdi Dehghan. **MORE** - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/as-iran-threatens-to-annihilate-israel-hezbollah-boast-of-reach-of-rockets/>

Jewish Home head calls vote on bid to hobble Supreme Court

Despite Netanyahu's bid to delay, Bennett says ministers will next week debate a clause allowing Knesset to re-approve laws nixed by justices

By [Sue Surkes](#) Today, 2:01 pm

The leader of the right-wing Jewish Home Party announced on Sunday that he would bring a bill to limit the powers of the Supreme Court to ministers for a vote next week. Naftali Bennett said the draft he was to submit would allow a vote by 61 of the 120 Knesset members to re-approve a law that had been struck down by the court.

He wants the legislation to take the form of a passage added to the Basic Law: Human Dignity and Liberty. Israel's basic laws are the closest thing to a constitution that the country has.

Bennett's move is seen as a challenge to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who last week pushed for the Ministerial Committee for Legislation vote to be delayed until the Knesset's summer session.

Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit is expected to oppose the motion. Last week, he proposed allowing the High Court to overrule Knesset laws by a majority of six out of nine judges and Knesset members to then pass replacement legislation by a majority of 70 out of 120.

Bennett said in a statement that Israel had a "historic opportunity" to implement reform "in the fight against terrorists and the deportation of illegal migrants and, **no less important, to limit the excessive power of the court in Israel.**

"It is for this reason that I informed the prime minister a few weeks ago that the law had to be advanced," he continued. "However, to my regret, not only has the law that we proposed not been discussed — no alternative has been raised. After years of procrastination, discussions and committees, the time has come to act."

The Jewish Home party, which holds the justice portfolio, has long campaigned for clipping the wings of what it regards as an overly liberal High Court, and Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked, a member of the party, has succeeded in having several conservative candidates appointed to the top bench.

The idea of legislating to alter the balance between the judicial and executive arms of government has gathered steam lately, particularly after a recent ruling by the court blocking deportations of African migrants.

On Saturday night, hundreds of [protesters formed a human chain around the Supreme Court](#) in Jerusalem in a demonstration against the proposed government legislation to hobble the judiciary.

Separately, several thousand demonstrators gathered in Tel Aviv to rally against the bid.

In seeking to delay a vote on the measure, Netanyahu said the issue was weighty and that the right balance between the legislative and judicial arms of government had to be struck. He reportedly still wants to meet with the court's president, Esther Hayut, to discuss the issue.

On Saturday a week ago, [Netanyahu met with former Supreme Court president Aharon Barak](#) in an apparent bid to assuage fears that he intends to hobble the court with new legislation, Hadashot news reported.

According to the report, the meeting with Barak, a symbol of the power of the court, was meant to underline Netanyahu's commitment to the justice system in general and the High Court in particular.

The move came as the prime minister's coalition partners remain deeply divided over whether, and how, to limit the High Court's power to override Knesset legislation that it sees as unconstitutional.

Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon said last week that while he would agree to limit the High Court's powers on the specific subject of deportations, he would not support a Knesset supercession clause of a more general nature. Channel 10 news reported Sunday that the heads of the coalition parties were expected to meet with Kahlon for an update on his position. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/jewish-home-head-calls-vote-on-bid-to-hobble-supreme-court/>

Saudi forces shoot down 'toy drone' near royal palaces

Social media users report heavy gunfire in Riyadh neighborhood; authorities deny major security breach

By [AFP Today](#), 12:21 am

Saudi forces on Saturday shot down an unidentified toy drone that hovered over a Riyadh neighborhood home to royal palaces, state media said, prompting a security alarm in the capital.

"At 1950 (1650 GMT) a security checkpoint in Khuzama neighborhood of Riyadh spotted a small remote-controlled drone," the Saudi Press Agency reported.

SPA added that security forces shot down the drone and authorities were investigating the incident.

"Police shot it down. Authorities are investigating the incident."

The statement follows unconfirmed reports on social media of heavy gunfire around royal palaces.

But authorities firmly denied any major security breach.

Security around the royal palaces appears to have tightened in recent months as powerful Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman oversees landmark social and economic reforms to prepare for a post-oil era, despite the risk of riling religious hardliners.

Saudi Arabia is also embroiled in a long running conflict in its southern neighbor Yemen, dubbed by the United Nations as the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

Last October a gunman shot dead two Saudi guards and wounded three others at the gate of the royal palace in the Red Sea city of Jeddah, according to the interior ministry.

Royal guards killed the gunman, identified by the ministry as a 28-year-old Saudi national armed with a Kalashnikov and three grenades. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/saudi-forces-shoot-down-toy-drone-near-royal-palaces/>

Czech PM says country will open honorary consulate, not embassy in Jerusalem

Israel had hoped the Czech Republic would follow the US and move its mission from Tel Aviv; acting PM Babis does not want to break with EU policy

By [TOI staff](#) 21 April 2018, 6:24 pm

Acting Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babis said that his country is unlikely to follow the US and move its embassy to Jerusalem, but is still interested in boosting its presence in the city.

The Czech Republic will open a new honorary consulate in Jerusalem in the next few months, Babis said Friday, according to Radio Prague. Babis also said that the government was considering opening a Czech center in the city during a planned visit to Israel by its president, Milos Zeman, at the end of 2018.

[According to the Radio Prague report](#), **Babis does not want to break with the EU position**, which holds that the issue of Jerusalem needs to first be resolved in peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians.

Babis believed that opening a Czech consulate would not violate those principles, the radio report said.

Israel had been hopeful that the Czechs would follow US President Donald Trump and several other nations who have promised to move their missions.

In March an Israeli Foreign Ministry cable reportedly said that they had begun examining the practical implications of moving the embassy to Jerusalem.

In a classified cable written to the Foreign Ministry, Israel's Ambassador to Prague Daniel Meron credited Jerusalem's diplomatic efforts for developments on the issue in the Czech Republic, which "has begun a quiet internal staff evaluation to examine the possibilities and risks regarding the transfer of its embassy."

Meron wrote that Israeli pressure following decisions from the US and Guatemala to move their respective embassies to Jerusalem have made the Czech Republic more open to following suit.

However, **the decision will ultimately be made by Babis, who is seen as particularly risk averse.**

"At the same time, the prime minister is very influenced by public opinion, which is well-known to be pro-Israel," Meron wrote, adding that it was crucial for Jerusalem to continue its public outreach in Prague to cement that support.

The ambassador argued that Israel ought to utilize Zeman, who has been a vocal supporter of the Jewish state and has recently advocated for the embassy move.

While acknowledging that he plays a largely ceremonial role, Meron wrote that Zeman still has sway in Prague. Meron said Zeman had very much appreciated a letter that the American Israel Public Affairs Committee sent him earlier this month thanking him for his position in favor of the embassy move. The Czech president has also announced his plans to host an Israeli Independence Day celebration at his residence on April 25, the Israeli diplomat noted.

"The discussions [on this issue] continue and we have learned that a ministerial team was also set up, including the president's adviser, the deputy foreign minister, and the prime minister's adviser for internal coordination on the possibility of transferring the embassy to Jerusalem," Meron wrote.

The cable came less than two weeks after the [Lidové noviny](#) newspaper reported that Zeman, who [in December announced his intention](#) to relocate the embassy from Tel Aviv, now wants to [speed up the process](#).

However, the report also said that after consultation with its partners in the European Union, the country's foreign ministry objected to moving the embassy. The report also said the Czech government does not currently own property in Jerusalem that would be suitable for its embassy.

In December, Zeman said he supported Trump's decision to move the US embassy but was disappointed that Washington had done it first. **MORE -** <https://www.timesofisrael.com/czech-pm-says-country-will-open-honorary-consulate-not-embassy-in-jerusalem/>

Assad returns Légion d'honneur to France

In the wake of French participation in strikes against Syrian regime targets in response to alleged chemical attacks on civilians, Assad returns prestigious award to France via Romanian embassy in Damascus, says no desire to hold award from 'slave country that supports terrorists.'

AFP|Published: 04.21.18, 22:49

Syrian President Bashar Assad returned to France the prestigious Légion d'honneur—or Legion of Honor award—he received from then French president Jacques Chirac in 2001 after succeeding his father as Syria's strongman. Assad said he did not want the award from a state that is a "slave" to America.

France grants the Légion d'honneur to around 3,000 people a year, including 400 foreigners recognized for their "services rendered to France" or for defending human rights, press freedom or other causes.

Recently, many in France have called on the government to revoke the award due to the mass slaughter Assad was perpetrating on Syrian civilians in the protracted Syrian civil war.

The office of French President Emmanuel Macron said on Monday that "a disciplinary procedure for withdrawing the Légion d'honneur is underway."

A source close to the presidency, quoted in the statement, said the decision comes after the "[participation of France](#) in the tripartite [aggression](#) alongside the United States and the United Kingdom against Syria on April 14." Assad has been accused of a series of chemical attacks on his own people during the brutal civil war which has torn Syria apart since 2011.

"The ministry of foreign affairs... has returned to the French republic... the decoration of the Grand Croix of the Légion d'honneur awarded to President Assad by Jacques Chirac," said the Syrian foreign ministry.

"It is no honor for President Assad to wear a decoration of a country subservient to the United States that supports terrorists," the statement said.

The award was returned to France via the Romanian Embassy in Damascus, which currently represents French interests in Syria.

Assad has become a pariah for Western powers while maintaining the support of Russian President Vladimir Putin, whose military intervention in the conflict gave Assad the upper hand against rebel opposition groups.

Putin himself is also a recipient of the Légion's Grand Croix—decorated by Chirac as well in 2006.

It is not the first time Macron has stripped a foreigner of France's highest honor. Recently he moved to withdraw the award from Hollywood producer [Harvey Weinstein](https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5236967,00.html) who is facing a series of accusations of sexual harassment and rape. <https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5236967,00.html>

Rouhani tells Assad: Iran ready to aid in Syria's reconstruction

In a letter, Iran's president looks forward to a speedy victory over "terrorism."

By [Samuel Thrope](#) April 21, 2018 17:31

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani expressed in a letter to Syrian President Bashar Assad on Saturday his country's willingness to aid in the post-civil war reconstruction of Syria, Iran's Tasnim news agency reported. [Iran has a horrible economy mainly because it spends most of its money on arms and supporting terrorists and now it wants to spend more to help rebuild a terrorist regime. Had the Obamination not been so generous there would be no money for Assad who like most will rebuild army facilities and ignore his people. – rdb]

"The Islamic Republic of Iran... stands beside the country and people of Syria and will continue to aid it in defending against the forces of evil and returning security and stability throughout the Syrian Arab Republic," the letter states.

"We hope to swiftly witness the achievement of a final victory," Rouhani continued. "Just as the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has stood beside the Syrian nation in its struggles and opposition to terrorism, we are also prepared to stand with you in every way possible as regards to Syria's reconstruction."

This is not the first time Iran has promised to assist in Syria's reconstruction after the end of its seven-year-long civil war. In December 2017, Iran's Revolution Guards Corps were tasked with spearheading reconstruction efforts, including rebuilding the country's electric grid and constructing an oil refinery, according to Iranian media reports.

The United States is determined to prevent Iranian entrenchment in Syria. "We want to make sure that the influence of Iran doesn't take over the area," Nikki Haley, US Ambassador to the United Nations, told CBS's Face the Nation on Sunday.

Rouhani's letter was sent on the occasion of Syria's Evacuation Day, April 17, which marks the country's independence from French Mandate rule on that date in 1946.

His comments come just one week after a U.S.-led coalition conducted air strikes on research and development centers and storage facilities near Damascus connected to Syria's chemical weapons program. Syria, along with its allies Russia and Iran, have forcefully condemned the strikes.

Rouhani's comments may strike as a threat to the West's attempt to ensure that the country does not remain an influential force in Syria or in the rest of the region. <http://www.jpost.com/Middle-East/Iran-News/Rouhani-tells-Assad-Iran-ready-to-aid-in-Syrias-reconstruction-551363>

Islamic State suicide bomber kills 31 in Afghan capital

At least 54 wounded in attack on voter registration center that police say targeted civilians trying to obtain identification cards ahead of October elections

By [Rahim Faiez](#) Today, 2:01 pm

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — **A suicide bomber struck a voter registration center in the Afghan capital on Sunday, killing at least 31 people in an attack claimed by the Islamic State group.**

Public Health Ministry spokesman Wahid Majro said another 54 people were wounded in Sunday's attack, updating an earlier toll. Gen. Daud Amin, the Kabul police chief, said the suicide bomber targeted civilians who had gathered to receive national identification cards.

The large explosion echoed across the city, shattering windows miles away from the attack site and damaging several nearby vehicles. Police blocked all roads to the blast site, with only ambulances allowed in. Local TV stations broadcast live footage of hundreds of distraught people gathered at nearby hospitals seeking word about loved ones.

The Islamic State group has claimed responsibility in a statement carried by its Amaq news agency, saying it had targeted Shiite "apostates."

Afghanistan will hold parliamentary elections in October.

Last week, three police officers responsible for guarding voter registration centers in two Afghan provinces were killed, according to authorities.

Afghan security forces have struggled to prevent attacks by the Islamic State affiliate as well as the more firmly established Taliban since the US and NATO concluded their combat mission at the end of 2014. Both groups regularly launch attacks, with the Taliban usually targeting the government and security forces, and IS targeting the country's Shiite minority.

Both groups are opposed to democratic elections.

Elsewhere in Afghanistan, at least five people were killed when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in the northern Baghlan province. Zabihullah Shuja, spokesman for the provincial police chief, said four other people were wounded in Sunday's blast in Puli Khomri, the capital of the province **MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/islamic-state-suicide-bomber-kills-31-in-afghan-capital/> [IF anyone thinks that the international threat from terror is stopped they are sadly mistaken So long as there are Islamic fundamentalists there will be terror. – rdb]**

11 Killed in Tijuana in 24 hours — 650 Murdered in 2018

by [Robert Arce](#) 21 Apr 2018 264

Cartel violence in Tijuana continues with no end in sight as 11 killings were registered in a 24-hour period earlier this week. The deaths brought the number of homicides to 650 in 2018, according to government statistics as reported by local media. Authorities reported more than 100 homicides during the month of April.

Breitbart Texas previously reported that according to the attorney general's office of Baja California, most homicides are going unsolved. This has contributed substantially to the current drug cartel violence. Of 132 registered homicides to start 2018, only five resulted in arrests with a total of 11 suspects detained.

This week's violence began during the early morning hours of Monday, April 16 in the colonia Reforma neighborhood, local news outlets [reported](#). Officials discovered the decapitated corpse of an unknown male, 30-35 years of age.

Later that day, at 11 am, police located the body of a 40-45-year male with gunshot wounds in the Hacienda Las Delicias Tercera Sección. At around 2 pm, in colonia El Lago neighborhood, officials located the body of a 41-year-old female who sustained numerous knife-type stab wounds.

Several hours later, a 25-30-year-old male died after being shot in a vacant lot in colonia Los Venados neighborhood. Shortly thereafter, officials discovered the decomposing corpse of an unidentified female in the colonia San Ángel neighborhood. Several minutes later, police found the body of a 35-year-old male in the colonia García neighborhood with gunshot wounds.

While investigators were at the earlier colonia García location, officers located the bullet-ridden body of a 40-year-old male inside a residence in the colonia Planicie neighborhood.

At approximately 10 pm in the colonia Cumbres de Juárez neighborhood, officials found the body of a 57-year-old male who also died from gunshot wounds.

At 1 a.m. on the morning of April 17, police found the body of a 35-40-year-old male who had been killed by gunfire near la Zona Centro.

And finally, at 7 am, law enforcement officials located the bodies of an unidentified male and female in the la colonia División del Norte — both died from multiple gunshot wounds.

The city of Tijuana sits on the U.S. border with California, approximately 17 miles south of San Diego. The cartel violence in the city has been attributed to a resurgence of remnants from the *Cártel de Los Arellano Félix*, which is now operating under the name of *Cártel Tijuana Nueva Generación (CTNG)*. The group aligns itself with *El Cártel de Jalisco Nueva Generación*.

These two criminal groups are engaged in a turf dispute with the Sinaloa Cartel. In some areas, rival factions within the Sinaloa Cartel are fighting for control of the lucrative street-level markets and valuable routes leading into the United States. Those involved in the killings are primarily low-level street dealers, lookouts, customers and enforcers for these individual criminal gangs. Many of these street-level dealers are targets of rip-crews looking for cash and drugs. <http://www.breitbart.com/texas/2018/04/21/11-killed-tijuana-24-hours-650-murdered-2018/> **[You read this and then you have to realize that the 'inflammatory comments' that The Donald made which drove the media and leftists crazy were absolutely true. A huge segment of Mexico is plagued with a dreadful group of critters. – rdb]**

Leaked Docs: Soros Aims to Enlarge Electorate by 10 Million Voters by 2018

Soros has bankrolled efforts to challenge voter ID laws, register minority voters

BY: [Joe Schoffstall](#) August 23, 2016 5:00 am

A top priority of liberal billionaire George Soros is to enlarge the U.S. electorate by 10 million voters by 2018, according to leaked documents.

The plan to grow the electorate by millions of voters was discussed during a May 2014 board meeting of the Open Society Foundations, a liberal grant-making group founded by Soros. A 220-page guide detailing the plan was among more than 2,500 hacked Soros documents released by DC Leaks, which publishes documents from influential officials around the world.

The guide covers strategies and tactics the group will employ in the United States from 2015 to 2018. The top goals listed by the guide are to "advance electoral reform" and "combat suppression."

"The following four goals form the scaffolding of U.S. Programs' work," the guide states. "1. An American democracy strengthened through **increased meaningful participation**, inclusive practice, and accountability." **The third strategic goal expands upon this, calling for "Full political, economic, and civic participation of immigrants and communities of color by dismantling the barriers and strengthening the conduits to opportunity."** **[If this is not insurrection, sedition, and a total disruption of constitutional governance then what is? – rdb]**

Later, the guide discusses expanding the electorate by "at least 10 million voters" in the United States. This would be accomplished "by lowering barriers to voter registration through the various forms of modernization and increased ballot access while sustaining and expanding the franchise by establishing strong protections against vote suppression, denial and dilution."

An Open Society Foundations spokesperson affirmed the group's interest in voter turnout.

"The Open Society Foundations supports efforts to encourage wider participation in U.S. elections, and opposes measures used to try to suppress voter participation," the spokesperson said via email.

The leaked documents help explain why Soros has quietly funded efforts to battle voter identification laws and target Democratic-trending voters for registration.

Soros began supporting challenges to voter ID laws in 2014.

"We hope to see these unfair laws, which often disproportionately affect the most vulnerable in our society, repealed," Soros [said](#) about the campaign in 2015. He [vowed](#) to spend at least \$5 million on the effort. The campaign's [leader](#) is Marc Elias, a partner at the D.C.-based law firm Perkins Coie and Hillary Clinton's top campaign lawyer. Elias' work on the legal project is separate from his work on the campaign, although Clinton [supports](#) the effort.

The first [in a series](#) of lawsuits claiming that voter ID laws disproportionately hurt minority voters was filed in Ohio just days before the Open Society documents were transmitted to the board of directors in May 2014. Elias filed the Ohio lawsuit on behalf of a group called the Ohio Organizing Collaborative. That group was later replaced on the lawsuit when it was [investigated](#) by a state criminal agency for allegedly forging signatures and registering dead people to vote.

Weeks after the Ohio lawsuit was filed, a second lawsuit was filed challenging Wisconsin's voter ID laws. A third lawsuit was filed in Virginia soon afterward, a challenge Soros and Elias [would ultimately lose](#). Lawsuits in other states followed.

Soros has also funded recent voter registration campaigns from his own bank account.

Soros donated \$3 million to the Immigrant Voters Win PAC, which was established to fund the Families Fight Back campaign. That campaign aims to register 400,000 Hispanic voters in swing states before the November elections.

J. Christian Adams, president of the Public Interest Legal Foundation, a nonprofit law firm that litigates to defend election integrity, said that Soros is spending big to transform American elections.

"George Soros is involved in every aspect of manipulating the rules of American elections," Adams told the *Washington Free Beacon*. "From funding Pew's efforts to centralize election administration, to fueling litigation that attacks election integrity laws, to fanning the flames of racial agitation and polarization, Soros dollars are doing all they can to fundamentally transform American elections." <http://freebeacon.com/issues/soros-aims-to-enlarge-electorate-by-10-million/> **[The US needs to do to Soros what Hungary has done and make him a persona non grata and ban him and his money from any group in the USA. He really should be treated like the war criminal he is(and was). – rdb]**

What is Civilization Jihad?
<https://player.vimeo.com/video/174076001>

FBI's 3rd time hunting for Clinton-Lynch tarmac documents

'They are only now searching their 'Central Records System''

Published: 23 hours ago

The first time the American Center for Law and Justice asked the Justice Department for its records on the Bill Clinton-Loretta Lynch tarmac meeting in Phoenix, it quickly replied that there were no records.

It was, after all, according to the participants, only a brief meeting for old friends who were talking about their grandchildren.

The former president and departing attorney general insisted their private meeting had nothing to do with the FBI's investigation of Clinton's wife, then a candidate for president, of her mishandling of classified information.

The ACLJ thought the public should know what the government knows about the meeting, so it asked for the DOJ records.

Nothing, report the agency.

So the ACLJ asked again, and reported the DOJ said, wait, there are a few.

Twenty-nine pages.

But that's all.

The ACLJ still wasn't convinced and went to court for a summary judgement against the agency over its searches. Now the DOJ is promising to search, apparently for the first time, its Central Records System.

In fact, "the Deep State FBI claims it now needs more time to do that," the ACLJ said Friday.

"Think about that for a minute. For the first time since July 2016, and after telling us they couldn't find any records responsive to our request, they are only now searching their 'Central Records System' for records. This is outrageous," the organization said. **MORE** - http://www.wnd.com/2018/04/fbis-3rd-time-hunting-for-clinton-lynch-tarmac-documents/?cat_orig=politics

Commentaries: - A special for the Day of Remembrance

President Trump Can Counter OPEC and Achieve Energy Dominance

Ken Blackwell Posted: Apr 21, 2018 12:01 A

President Trump, in a [recent tweet](#), has drawn attention to a pernicious threat against American interests that has persisted for decades: The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its alliance with other petrostates as they seek to control the price and supply of oil.

With its stated goal of reducing the world's oil glut in sight, the cartel and its unofficial members should have spent their meeting in Jeddah discussing an exit plan for this pact. However, with oil at three-year highs and rising, the group has moved the goalpost yet again, with discussions on extending the cuts even further as well as indefinite coordination on oil production with Russia.

Let's be clear: OPEC has wrapped its actions in rhetoric about stabilizing oil prices to help the global economy. Now that they've institutionalized their cooperation with Russia and other states—expanding the group's market share to include countries that represent 55 percent of daily supply—and whittled down excess oil inventories, they can go about their real agenda: Juicing the books for Saudi Aramco's pending IPO, and inflating government revenues to support everything from military spending to lavish lifestyles for their ruling elites. Is this how American motorists want to spend their money?

President Trump is right to say this market manipulation is unacceptable. Gasoline prices are also now at their highest in three years, and analysts see them wiping out the benefits of the president's historic tax cuts as U.S. households will spend [\\$400 more](#) on average at the pump in 2018 alone. Endemic instability in key oil-producing regions—particularly the Middle East and Venezuela—combined with the reduction of global crude oil inventories from 400 to 43 million barrels mean that there is little to insulate Americans from an oil price spike.

Oil dependence is a global problem, but Americans are disproportionately affected. Every year, the United States spends \$67.5 billion to ensure the worldwide free flow of oil, as we assume the burden of patrolling oil supply lines and engaging in unstable oil producing regions. Even though this commodity is the lifeblood of the world economy, it is priced on an unfree global market subject to OPEC's collusion. No matter how much oil we drill at home, we will always be vulnerable to the price spikes and slumps brought about through the actions of countries that don't share our democratic or free-market principles. As we know, an oil supply disruption anywhere impacts prices everywhere.

In addition to these geopolitical challenges, OPEC's actions have a very real impact on household budgets. The last time Americans received tax cuts, the benefits were wiped out by oil price spikes. The cumulative impact of the Bush-era tax cuts from 2001 to 2008 increased household income by \$1,900, yet household spending on gasoline increased by \$2,000 in the same period. Similarly, in 2011, record gasoline prices cost American households an

additional \$104 billion compared to 2010, offsetting the \$108 billion in additional take-home pay from the Obama-era payroll tax cut.

Will we let this happen again? Policy solutions are available, and President Trump can take clear and concrete steps to achieve his goal of energy dominance and mitigate our exposure to OPEC's behavior.

First, we must continue to develop more of our oil resources here at home—the President has already taken steps to achieve this objective.

Second, Trump's EPA must maintain strong fuel economy standards, and use the current rulemaking period to strengthen and modernize fuel efficiency rules that have been effective in saving consumers money for decades.

Third, we must encourage the adoption of alternative fuel vehicles running on diverse sources of domestic energy, including electricity, natural gas, and hydrogen. Finally, we must have an honest assessment of our ability to respond to OPEC's actions to influence oil prices. President Trump can establish an OPEC commission that will investigate how the cartel's actions undermine American interests and propose solutions to counter their influence.

Following these steps lays a clear path towards the energy dominance that Americans deserve.

https://townhall.com/columnists/kenblackwell/2018/04/21/president-trump-can-counter-opec-and-achieve-energy-dominance-n2473107?utm_source=thdaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nl&newsletterad=

Prayer for the IDF - Mi Sheberach, Yaakov Shwekey

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJEpLklULs0>

THE SHORASHIM BIBLICAL GIFT CATALOG 005

<http://mad.ly/7f9f64?pact=20013931524&fe=1>

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ARUTZ SHEVA

Is the State Dep't preventing exposure of PA UNRWA textbook content?

The Government Accountability Office study of PA textbooks may be filed as classified by the State Dep't. Why?

David Bedein, 21/04/18 23:50 | updated: 23:43

The writer is director of Israel Resource News Agency and heads the Center for Near East Policy Research, author of Genesis of the Palestinian Authority and Roadblock to Peace: How the UN Perpetuates the Arab-Israeli Conflict: UNRWA Policies Reconsidered.

A journalist and constituent of Sen. James Risch (R-IDAHO), recently asked the GAO (Government Accountability Office) as to the status of the GAO investigation of the Palestinian Authority school books now used by UNRWA, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, which are rife with indoctrination to war. Senator Risch had requested this GAO study after this Idaho constituent introduced the Senator to the findings of the [Center for Near East Policy Research](#), which purchases, translates and evaluates all school books that Palestinian Arab children learn in UNRWA schools.

Chuck Young, managing director of public affairs of the [GAO](#) provided the following answer to Dr. Harper's request:

"I checked with our team doing the work on Palestinian textbooks that you inquired about. The work is scheduled to be completed and go to the requester, Sen. Risch, the last week in April, though the date could always slide a bit. During the course of the work, the State Department indicated the report will need to be classified and cannot be released publicly. GAO must follow such classification decisions so we do not expect to issue a public report at this point. It would be available only to those with the necessary secret security clearance and a need to know, such as Members of Congress"

The question remains: Will any member of the US Congress, in the Senate or the House, ask to read and publicize the findings of the GAO investigation of the PA school used in the UNRWA schools?

After all, schoolbooks taught to half a million students of UNRWA are publicly disseminated.

Why should the content of PA school books paid for in part by the US government not be disclosed?

The question remains: Why does the State Department not want to disclose what half a million students study in US partially funded UNRWA schools?

Background

The US [donates](#) 30% of the \$1.2 billion UNRWA budget. 54% of that UNRWA budget is allocated to UNRWA education.

In September 2016, Senator James Risch, chairman of the US Senate Foreign Relations Near Subcommittee, received [studies of PA textbooks used by UNRWA](#) conducted by The Center for Near East Policy Research, which showed that UNRWA education had regressed into total war education. Following that, Senator Risch formally asked the GAO to conduct an investigation of UNRWA education.

In September 2017, the Center for Near East Policy Research completed [a study of the 2016-2017 school books](#), partially financed by the Simon Wiesenthal Center and published by the Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center.

In February 2018, the Center for Near East Policy Research completed a study of [the newest PA school books provided to UNRWA](#), and determined that the 2018 PA schoolbooks provided for UNRWA continue to [prepare a new generation for war](#).

What is the US State Department trying to hide? And why? <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/Articles/Article.aspx/22034>

Russia to Israel: We will not refrain from arming Syria

Russia conveys unambiguous message to Israel that there is nothing preventing it from selling S-300 missile defense system to Syria.

Nitsan Keidar, 22/04/18 13:03

In the past few days, the **Russian government has conveyed an unambiguous diplomatic message to political sources in Jerusalem that, if it should feel the need to, Russia intends to sell the advanced S-300 missile defense system to the Syrian regime.**

The Russians explained that after the American intervention in Syria and the recent bombing in cooperation with Britain and France, **they were committed to helping the Syrians defend themselves in the best possible way.**

[Last week](#), Israel emphasized to Russia that the sale of the advanced S-300 missile defense system to the Syrian regime constituted the crossing of a red line.

A political source who revealed the message in a conversation with *Arutz Sheva* stated that the message was conveyed following a Russian Defense Ministry announcement that Moscow was reconsidering the sale of arms to the Syrians following the [joint attack](#) on Syria by the US, Britain, and France.

The S-300 system could be a very significant upgrade to Syria's air defense, which is now based mainly on purchases from the former Soviet Union, since no country has ever agreed to sell an advanced system of that kind to the Assad regime before.

In 2016 Russia renewed the sale of the weapons system to Iran. The deal was signed in 2007 but was frozen following the international sanctions imposed on the Iranians.

The regime of Ayatollahs in Tehran has expressed interest in purchasing the S-400 missile defense system. This more advanced system has not yet been sold to any international actor and remains solely in the hands of the Russian military. <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/244783>

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