

Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update December 1, 2025 (Kislev 11, 5786)



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Israel-Hamas Cease-fire

Israel to Begin Imminent Lebanon Operation Until Hezbollah Disarms, U.S. Reportedly Tells Iraq

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- *Gov't minister, bereaved families denounce 'shameful' coalition bill exempting Haredim from IDF*
 - *Former PM Bennett supports pardoning Netanyahu if he agrees to step down*
 - *Slain hostage Dror Or laid to rest in Kibbutz Be'eri*
 - *Gaza Health Ministry: 356 Palestinians killed since cease-fire announced*
- *Court extends arrest of activist who called to 'fight traitor' Netanyahu in online post*

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Trump Signals Plan To Designate Muslim Brotherhood A Terrorist Organization; In remarks published on November 24, 2025, President Donald Trump indicated he is preparing a formal designation of the Muslim Brotherhood as a terrorist organization, saying the paperwork is being finalized. The move follows a spate of warnings from researchers and policy groups asserting that the Brotherhood's ideology and networks pose security concerns in the United States, and comes on the heels of state-level actions targeting the organization's affiliates. The administration has not yet released the final documents, but officials and outside experts describe a measure that would bar support and trigger financial penalties for entities found to be linked. Supporters of the designation argue that a U.S. listing would align Washington with several Middle Eastern governments that already ban the Brotherhood. They contend it would also send a broader message about confronting movements that they say provide ideological cover for violent offshoots. The White House has not detailed the implementation timeline or how it will vet affiliates, but signaled that the plan is intended to be sweeping in scope. While civil liberties questions and legal challenges are expected if the designation proceeds, proponents insist that federal authorities must take stronger steps to curb the influence and financing of extremist-linked organizations. The administration's allies have framed the initiative as part of a wider strategy to counter Islamist extremism at home and abroad. *(FOX/VFI News)*

White House after Elimination of Hezbollah Chief of Staff: Trump Supports Israel's Self-Defense; Following Israel's targeted strike in Beirut on November 23, which eliminated Hezbollah's Chief of Staff, the White House affirmed that President Trump supports Israel's right to defend itself and remove terrorist threats. Briefing reporters, Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said that while she had not discussed the specific operation with the President, the administration's position remains that Israel may act decisively against those who plot or carry out attacks. Israel described the slain operative as a long-time Hezbollah commander involved in operations in Syria and Lebanon, including responsibilities for force build-up and coordination across fronts. The strike occurred amid ongoing tensions along Israel's northern border and continuing debates inside Lebanon over disarming the Iranian-backed group. The statement from Washington signaled continued diplomatic cover for Israeli counter-terror actions. Regional observers expect Hezbollah to weigh a response while contending with internal political pressure and international scrutiny. U.S. officials have reiterated that the group's entrenchment in civilian areas and cross-border aggression make escalation risks persist, even as mediators attempt to shore up fragile understandings. *(INN/VFI News)*

Unwelcome in Israel: UNRWA Rebuilds in Gaza; Israel National News reports that UNRWA has restored key services in Gaza, including schools serving hundreds of thousands of students, multiple clinics, and dozens of medical points treating large numbers daily. The agency says it is expanding facilities in Gaza City and Jabalia despite difficult conditions. Israeli officials maintain that UNRWA is no longer permitted to operate within Israel under the recently enacted law, while critics point to past revelations implicating UNRWA employees in the October 7 atrocities. A review panel commissioned by the UN found "neutrality-related" issues at the agency, yet claimed insufficient evidence for broader staff terror affiliations, a

conclusion Israeli officials dispute. Additional testimony has emerged from former hostages alleging they were held at UNRWA sites, fueling calls in Israel's Knesset to curtail cooperation and utilities for the agency. The International Court of Justice, however, urged facilitation of humanitarian relief through UN bodies, including UNRWA—an instruction Israel and the U.S. criticized in light of security concerns. As services resume in the Strip, the political fight over UNRWA's role is likely to intensify, with donor governments weighing oversight demands against urgent humanitarian needs. Israeli ministries continue to stress that any aid mechanism must avoid empowering groups tied to terror. (*INN/VFI News*)

IDF Swerves Away from Chinese Cars, Citing Spy Risks in Everyday Tech; The Israel Defense Forces are phasing out or avoiding Chinese-made vehicles for senior personnel due to mounting concerns that modern cars—with their cameras, microphones, and networked components—could be exploited for surveillance. Reports this month indicated that authorities have recalled numerous vehicles used by high-ranking officers, part of a wider effort to reduce exposure to potential foreign intelligence collection. Officials and security experts note that today's automobiles function like rolling computers, continuously generating data and sometimes communicating with external servers. Even absent hard proof of a breach, defense institutions often take precautionary steps to harden against plausible threats, particularly when sensitive movement patterns or conversations could be inferred from telemetry. The scrutiny of commercial tech is accelerating in tandem with battlefield digitization. The move aligns with global debates on the security of connected vehicles and the supply chains behind them. Israel's stance reflects a broader shift toward stricter procurement and tighter device policies for those with access to classified information. (*TOI/VFI News*)

Mamdani Transition Team Includes Women's March Leader Embroiled in Anti-Semitism Scandal; New York City mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani's transition roster features Tamika Mallory, the former Women's March co-chair whose past praise for Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan and refusal to denounce antisemitism drew sustained criticism. The appointment, published November 26, has sparked alarm among Jewish community advocates and others concerned about normalizing figures associated with anti-Jewish rhetoric. The controversy arises as city leaders navigate a surge in antisemitic incidents and campus unrest, with calls for municipal authorities to set a firmer tone against hate. Supporters of the pick argue for redemption and coalition-building; detractors see it as a troubling signal about priorities at a delicate moment for intercommunal relations. Questions now turn to how the incoming administration will engage with New York's diverse Jewish communities, protect free speech, and confront bigotry without empowering voices that have previously trafficked in prejudice. (*TOI/VFI News*)

'The War of the Future is Already Here': IAI Chief Highlights Role of Drones and AI; Israel Aerospace Industries CEO Boaz Levy said on November 27 that the most striking element of Iran's recent multi-front confrontation was not technological surprise but the audacity to unleash heavy salvos on civilian populations. He outlined how unmanned systems, artificial intelligence, and advanced interceptors shaped Israel's responses and will increasingly define both offense and defense. The remarks come as Israel upgrades layered air defenses and accelerates development of autonomous capabilities. Levy described the rapid evolution of precision strike, swarming tactics, and counter-UAS measures, framing them as core to future readiness. He emphasized the need for industrial resilience and rapid innovation cycles, given adversaries' ability to adapt and saturate. The defense sector, he argued, must fuse software, sensors, and munitions faster than ever to stay ahead. Strategists view these lessons as guiding procurement and training for years to come, with implications for allies who rely on Israeli systems. The conversation also underscores a growing consensus that cyber, space, and electromagnetic operations will be tightly interwoven with kinetic action in the next conflicts. (*JPost/VFI News*)

‘Xena, the Warrior Canine’: from Gaza’s Streets to a Loving Home; A week after the war began, IDF soldiers found a wounded dog near Zikim and transferred her to the Israeli rescue group “Let the Animals Live.” Nicknamed Xena for her grit, she underwent treatment—including chemotherapy—and later joined a prison foster program that pairs dogs with inmates for mutual rehabilitation. Months later, a Tel Aviv couple adopted her, and the inmate who had cared for Xena sent an emotional note describing how the dog’s resilience strengthened his own recovery. Program staff say the initiative teaches compassion, routine, and responsibility, benefiting both the animals and the people who care for them. Xena now thrives in city life, still bearing scars yet serving as a gentle companion—an example of animal-assisted therapy’s power to heal those with hidden wounds. Her journey—from the outskirts of Gaza to a permanent home—has become a small symbol of restoration in a hard season, reminding many that acts of kindness can ripple outward long after the headlines fade. *(YNN/VFI News)*



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