Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update October 22, 2026 (Cheshvan 10, 5787)



For the Yachad Report Newsletter For October 2026

Israel; Paris Synagogue Ransacked, Jewish Shops Torched in Marseille as Palestinian Flags Fly Over French Riots

- *U.S. and Israel Have Drawn up Plans for Iran Strikes After Midterms*
- *Netanyahu Says Iran Trying to Interfere in Israel's Elections*
- *Arab Rioters Attack Pro-Israel Influencers and Knesset Candidate on Regavim Tour*
- *Israeli authorities arrest 21 suspects in Gaza contractor fraud scheme*
- *Three Years After October 7, Online Antisemitism Hits a Record High, and It Is Mostly the Old Jew-Hatred*

If you are interested in having Yachad Ministries to come your church and share about what is going on in Israel and the Middle East, and how the Bible is unfolding right in front of our eyes.

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Standing with Israel!

IDF on Highest Alert as Zamir Orders Leave Restrictions and Reinforces Central Command Ahead of the Elections; IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir led a multi-front situational assessment on the morning of Monday, October 19, 2026, reviewing the military's preparations for the election period. The heads of the Operations and Intelligence Directorates attended, along with the commanders of the Northern, Central, and Southern Commands and the Home Front Command. Zamir opened by stating that the IDF's mission is to enable the elections to proceed "safely and as scheduled." Israel goes to the polls on Tuesday, October 27, 2026. The Chief of Staff said the IDF remains on "the highest state of alert" and will stay vigilant and ready on all fronts. As part of the assessment, he ordered a series of measures to raise readiness, beginning with a restriction on leave for IDF units starting Thursday, October 22, 2026, subject to ongoing assessments. Senior commanders will increase their presence in command centers, headquarters, and units to ensure operational and combat readiness. Zamir also ordered the Central Command reinforced with the Paratroopers Brigade Headquarters and additional forces, strengthening the deployment and putting more soldiers on the ground. The brigade will serve as a mission-specific headquarters in the area between Samaria and Benjamin. Additional soldiers will be assigned to the other fronts air, sea, and land as operational needs require. *(INN/VFI News)*

IDF Footage Shows Hamas Running Kamal Adwan Hospital as an Operations Center and Using Patients and Medical Staff as Human Shields; The IDF released footage on Sunday, October 11, 2026, that shows Hamas operatives inside Kamal Adwan Hospital in Beit Lahia, in northern Gaza, using the hospital grounds as an operations center. The military says the footage proves Hamas is still using patients, medical staff, and civilians as human shields, in breach of international law. Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad have used the hospital over the past several years to plan attacks on Israeli civilians and soldiers, "despite repeated calls by Israel and the IDF to refrain from the military use of medical facilities." In August 2026, intelligence showed Hamas had set up an ambush against IDF soldiers from a structure about 70 meters from the hospital, 50 meters from the Yellow Line and 170 meters from a school; the IDF struck the site, which it presents as an example of Hamas's systematic use of civilian and humanitarian infrastructure. IDF operations near the hospital in 2024 and 2025 found that Hamas and PIJ stored weapons and explosives on the grounds. In one operation, troops captured Anas Muhammad Faiz al-Sharif near the hospital and moved him to Israel for questioning. Sharif, 21, who joined Hamas in 2021, is one of 240 terrorists the IDF detained in the area around the hospital. "Weapons were moved in and out of the hospital for ambushes and tunnels," he said, explaining that Hamas and PIJ operatives assumed the IDF would not target the hospital while patients and civilians were present: "They believe the army can't bomb the location, like with an F-16 missile, or destroy the building." The IDF says intelligence from these arrests has been critical to ongoing operations. *(INN/VFI News)*

'If We Need to Act Alone, We Will Act Alone': Netanyahu Unveils a New National Security Doctrine Built on Prevention and Offense; Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu presented Israel's

new National Security Doctrine to the public on Sunday, October 18, 2026. He said the attack of October 7, 2023, "compelled Israel to wage a fierce war," describing continuous combat from Gaza to Lebanon, Yemen, and Iran that warded off an imminent nuclear threat and removed the Iranian axis's chokehold. The doctrine, formulated with the National Security Council under Director Shmuel Ben Ezra, sets out ten principles. The first is preventing Israel's enemies from acquiring nuclear weapons, including through preemptive military action. "We must ensure that nuclear weapons are prevented. If we need to act alone, we will act alone," Netanyahu declared, saying a single Iranian bomb could destroy the country and calling the effort his life's mission. The doctrine gives priority to "prevention and offense" over containment and defense, and its next principles cover deterrence through overwhelming precision strikes, continuous intelligence gathering to prevent another surprise attack, and initiative and critical thinking inside the IDF and the security establishment. The fifth principle covers defense buffer zones where necessary, multilayered air defense, and constant readiness while stressing that defense must be backed by offensive capability; in Judea and Samaria, Netanyahu said, "we shifted to an offensive approach," including entering refugee camps that had become terror camps. The remaining principles call for strengthening alliances, military and technological independence through expanded domestic weapons production, the battle for public opinion, a definition of victory, and "National Spirit." "Israel is now a regional power, and in certain fields even a global power," Netanyahu stated. *(INN/VFI News)*

IDF Eliminates a Hamas Cell Commander and Two Operatives in Gaza Strikes as the Terror Group Works to Rebuild Its Arsenal; Israeli forces eliminated a Hamas cell commander and two other Hamas operatives in a series of targeted strikes in the Gaza Strip on Saturday, October 17, 2026, the IDF announced on Monday, October 19, 2026. In the Tuffah area of northern Gaza, the IDF struck Mohammed Khamis Jaber, a member of Hamas's military wing who "played a significant role in the functioning of Hamas' production headquarters." In further strikes in the same area that day, Israeli forces eliminated Majed Ahmed Mustafa Sabbagh, a cell commander in Hamas's military wing. In Jabalya, the IDF eliminated Amer Bashir Mohammed Khourani, a member of Hamas's military engineering battalion. The military said all three had planned attacks on IDF troops and Israeli civilians in the period before the strikes and had worked to rebuild Hamas's military capabilities, in what it described as a systematic violation of the ceasefire. The announcement followed two separate strikes on Thursday, October 15, 2026, confirmed by the military on the morning of Friday, October 16, 2026. An airstrike in northern Gaza eliminated Mohammed Mohammed Abd al-Khalek Hala, a commander in Hamas's Izzadin al-Qassam Brigades who entered Israeli territory on October 7 and later commanded the weapons production headquarters of Hamas's military wing. In Khan Yunis, the IDF eliminated Ahmad Jabrin Tawqif Dalhan of Palestinian Islamic Jihad's al-Quds Brigades, who advanced attacks on IDF troops and civilians and violated the ceasefire by trying to restore PIJ's pre-war strength in Gaza. *(JPost/VFI News)*

Herzog to Visit Hungary and Meet Prime Minister Magyar in the First Senior Israeli Visit Since Orbán's Defeat; President Isaac Herzog will fly to Hungary on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, for a one-day visit with President András Baka and new Prime Minister Péter Magyar, at the request of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The trip is the first by a senior Israeli official since Magyar replaced Viktor Orbán as prime minister in April 2026. Netanyahu and the then prime minister-elect held what the Prime Minister's Office called "a warm introductory phone call" on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, in which both sides signaled they would keep ties on course after Hungary's election. The call focused on preserving the close relationship between Jerusalem and Budapest under Hungary's incoming leadership. Magyar said he planned to maintain the close Hungary-Israel relationship and invited Netanyahu to a ceremony marking the 70th anniversary of the Hungarian Uprising; Netanyahu accepted and in turn invited Magyar to a government-to-government meeting in Jerusalem. Orbán had cultivated a public friendship with Netanyahu for years, producing close ties between the two states. After the International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants for Netanyahu and former defense minister Yoav Gallant in November 2024,

Hungary announced it would withdraw from the ICC, having earlier become the first ICC member country to say Netanyahu could visit without being arrested. Netanyahu visited Hungary in April 2025 and praised the move as "an important decision for the whole world, to stand up against a corrupt organization like the ICC"; Magyar reversed the withdrawal in May 2026. *(JPost/VFI News)*

Ontario Court Convicts Youth on Terrorism Charges in the 2023 Plot to Carry Out a Mass-Casualty Attack on Ottawa's Jews; An Ontario court found a young defendant guilty on two terrorism counts on Friday, October 16, 2026, for his role in a 2023 conspiracy targeting Jews in Ottawa. Ontario Superior Court Justice Kerry McVey convicted the youth of conspiracy to commit murder through involvement with a terrorist group and of facilitating terrorist activity by seeking to acquire a prohibited firearm. The trial began in April 2026, following a separate proceeding in which a co-accused youth was found guilty on four charges. McVey acquitted the youth of a separate charge of facilitating terrorist activity by sharing extremist propaganda and weapons-related documents with his co-accused, as she was not convinced he understood he was furthering terrorist acts when he sent the files. Because of his age, the youth cannot be identified under the Youth Criminal Justice Act. By August 2023 the two youths had developed an interest in violent content and expressed hostility toward certain groups, including Jewish people; the material they exchanged included Islamic State videos and documents on firearms, explosives, and methods of killing. Prosecutors said the communications escalated until, by late October 2023, a concrete plan for a mass-casualty attack had emerged, with the co-accused intending to die in the attack. McVey found that once the defendant learned of the plan he moved beyond expressing support, contacting potential firearm sources and relaying availability and pricing to his co-accused. Trying to obtain an assault rifle for a preplanned, religiously and ideologically motivated mass shooting plainly facilitated terrorist activity, she said, concluding that the planned attack was intended to intimidate the Jewish community. *(JPost/VFI News)*

Magen David Adom Unveils 96 New Ambulances to Mark 96 Years of Saving Lives; Magen David Adom, Israel's national emergency medical service, unveiled 96 new ambulances at a ceremony marking 96 years since its founding. The ceremony took place on Thursday, October 15, 2026, at MDA's headquarters in Ramla, attended by Director-General Eli Bin, Michel Ktorza, president of the European Friends of MDA, and MDA employees and volunteers. Donations from supporters in the United States, Canada, France, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Belgium, and Australia funded the ambulances, with the giving coordinated by MDA's international Friends associations. The vehicles will be distributed across Israel and added to the existing fleet of about 2,000, where they are meant to improve coverage, cut response times, and strengthen MDA's handling of both routine emergencies and large-scale incidents. "In its 96th year of operation, Magen David Adom is inaugurating 96 new ambulances," Bin said, describing them as joining the roughly 2,000 already operating nationwide. "While 96 is a mature age, Israel's national emergency medical service is young and strong," he added, pointing to the service's modern lifesaving capabilities. Bin thanked the international donors and Friends associations, saying their contributions help MDA maintain and expand its emergency response capacity across the country. *(YNN/VFI News)*



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