

Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update August 10, 2026 (Av 26, 5786)



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Israel; How an Unproven Claim Sparked a Witch Hunt Against Arab Israeli Medical Staff

- *Lebanon and Israel unlikely to resume talks in coming month, source says*
- *95 percent of Jewish students at Canadian universities encountered antisemitism, survey finds*
 - *Poll: Nearly 20 percent of Israelis considered emigrating in past two years*
 - *Israeli faces charges after smashing entrances of Haaretz, Channel 12 offices in Tel Aviv*
- *Pentagon reportedly pushes U.S. arms makers to boost production amid Iran war shortages*
 - *Israel warns citizens in Greece to lie low ahead of pro-Palestinian protests*

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Standing with Israel!

IDF Uncovers Thousands of Hezbollah Terror Sites Inside Lebanese Villages; The IDF has uncovered thousands of terrorist facilities that Hezbollah entrenched within civilian villages in southern Lebanon, publishing footage and evidence of the findings on Thursday, August 6. The military noted that this infrastructure exploits and endangers Lebanon's civilian population, while also posing a direct threat to Israel's soldiers and civilians. "Over the past several months, IDF soldiers under the Northern Command have been operating in southern Lebanon against the Hezbollah terrorist organization in order to eliminate threats to Israeli civilians," the IDF said. "During these operations, IDF soldiers uncovered thousands of facilities used by Hezbollah, including command centers, living quarters, launch sites, observation posts, underground infrastructure, and large quantities of weapons." The military explained that over the years, Hezbollah established a broad operational network within villages in southern Lebanon, embedding terrorist infrastructure deep within civilian areas and turning them into locations of significant strategic value for its military activities, while cynically exploiting and endangering the Lebanese population. (INN/VFI News)

US Supreme Court Refuses to Halt \$656 Million Judgment Against Palestinians Over Terror Attacks; US Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor declined to halt \$655.5 million in damages that Palestinian authorities were ordered to pay plaintiffs in a US civil lawsuit concerning terror attacks that killed and injured Americans in Israel from 2002 to 2004, during the Second Intifada. Sotomayor denied a request by the Palestinian Authority, based in Judea and Samaria, and the Palestine Liberation Organization to pause the judgment while they appeal a lower court's decision to revive the case years after it had been dismissed. The lawsuit was filed by victims of attacks in Jerusalem that killed 33 people and wounded hundreds more. The attacks took place during the Second Intifada, in which roughly 1,000 Israelis and others were killed in a string of suicide bombings and other terror attacks. The Supreme Court last year upheld a federal law passed in 2019 that allowed claims like those brought by the plaintiffs in the case. Sotomayor did not explain her decision and did not refer the case to the entire court; she handles emergency matters for cases arising from New York and certain other states. The Manhattan-based 2nd US Circuit Court of Appeals reinstated the judgment in March, following the Supreme Court's 9-0 decision in June 2025 to uphold the 2019 law, called the Promoting Security and Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act. The Palestinian organizations claimed that enforcing the judgment would cause severe financial harm and destabilize government services in Judea and Samaria. (TOI/VFI News)

Sa'ar Heads to Colombia and Ecuador as Israel Deepens Ties With Latin America; Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar is on a diplomatic trip to Colombia and Ecuador, the Foreign Ministry announced on Wednesday, August 5, as Israel looks to cultivate ties with Latin American nations headed by right-wing leaders. Sa'ar flew first to Miami, where he met with local US Jewish leaders and noted a recent ruling by a Palm Beach County judge that threw out a lawsuit challenging the county's \$1 billion Israel bond investment. He then arrived in Ecuador on Wednesday, August 5, marking the first visit to the

country by an Israeli foreign minister in 44 years. In Quito, Sa'ar was set to meet Ecuador's foreign minister and deliver joint statements honoring Manuel Antonio Muñoz Borrero, the Ecuadorian diplomat recognized as Righteous Among the Nations for issuing Ecuadorian passports to European Jews in 1941. Sa'ar was also scheduled to meet President Daniel Noboa, visit parliament, and meet members of Ecuador's Jewish community. Sa'ar will then fly to Colombia to attend the inauguration of the country's new president, Abelardo de la Espriella, on Friday, August 7, where he will also meet leaders from across Central and South America. De la Espriella has pledged to renew a strategic alliance with the State of Israel and to open an embassy in Jerusalem, and has announced that Colombia will withdraw its intervention in the genocide case against Israel at The Hague. "We are continuing our effort to bring Latin America closer to Israel," Sa'ar said. "Israel and its citizens will benefit from this in every sphere, diplomatically, economically and through tourism." (TOI/VFI News)

Anti-Semitic Assaults in Britain Surged by 82% in First Six Months of 2026; Anti-Semitic incidents in the United Kingdom rose 21 percent in the first six months of 2026 compared to the same period last year, reaching the second-highest total on record for the first half of a year, the Community Security Trust announced on Wednesday, August 5. The organization recorded 1,926 anti-Jewish hate incidents between January and June, up from 1,598 during the first half of 2025 an average of 321 incidents per month. Physical attacks rose sharply, with 135 recorded anti-Semitic assaults, an 82% increase year-over-year. Incidents in schools jumped 59% to 178, while synagogue-related incidents surged by 31%. The most serious incidents included the stabbing of two visibly Jewish men in London's Golders Green neighborhood on Wednesday, April 29, which fueled 71 further anti-Jewish incidents over the following three days. "These attacks are directed against British Jews, but they are also attacks on Britain and our society," CST chief executive Mark Gardner said. British officials pledged action in response. Policing Minister Sarah Jones called the numbers "appalling" and pointed to the government's recent announcement that it would spend £250 million (\$336.45 million) over the next three years to better protect Jewish communities, providing additional officers to help protect schools, synagogues, and community centers. "Antisemitism goes against our country's values, and I will do everything in my power to protect our Jewish communities," she said. (TOI/VFI News)

Record Israeli Emigration Continued for a Third Consecutive Year in 2025; A record wave of emigration from Israel continued in 2025, with an estimated 45,000 to 50,000 Israelis leaving the country for more than 12 months for the third year in a row, Tel Aviv University researchers concluded in a study published Monday, August 3. About 49,000 Israelis left the country for more than a year in both 2023 and 2024, and travel data from the Central Bureau of Statistics indicates the trend likely continued in 2025. Because official statistics count people as emigrants only after they have spent most of a year abroad, official data for 2025 will not be available until the beginning of 2027. To estimate the trend earlier, the researchers analyzed three-month departure periods and found that the number of Israelis spending at least three months abroad closely tracked the number who ultimately remained away for at least a year, with a statistical correlation of 0.96. In 2025, 90,922 Israelis remained abroad for at least three consecutive months, compared with 91,499 in 2024 and 86,509 in 2023. The calculation deliberately excludes new immigrants who arrived in the past three years, in order to measure how many longtime Israeli residents are actually leaving. The researchers noted that the figures on their own do not yet pose a threat to Israel's resilience and do not present an immediate systemic danger to the country. The study was conducted by Itai Ater of the Collier School of Management, Nittai Bergman, head of the School of Economics, and doctoral candidate Doron Zamir. (TOI/VFI News)

Boris Gelfand to Become First Israeli Inducted into World Chess Hall of Fame; Grandmaster Boris Gelfand has been selected as the first Israeli chess player ever to be inducted into the World Chess Hall of Fame in St. Louis. The hall recognizes world champions, historians, and visionaries who have

made exceptional contributions to the development of chess, and Gelfand will join a distinguished list that includes Emanuel Lasker, Mikhail Tal, Bobby Fischer, Garry Kasparov, and Judit Polgar. Gelfand, who immigrated to Israel from Belarus in 1998, is widely regarded as one of the greatest chess players in the country's history. He remains the only Israeli to have won an Olympic chess title, earning a gold medal at the 1990 Chess Olympiad, and later became the only Israeli to win the Chess World Cup, taking the title in 2009. Two years later, he won the Candidates Tournament and qualified for a match for the world championship. The defining moment of his career came in 2012, when he challenged Indian world champion Viswanathan Anand for the title. Their 12-game match ended in a 6-6 draw, with Anand retaining the crown only after winning the rapid tiebreaks. Now, Gelfand's place among the game's immortals is official a first for Israeli chess. (YNN/VFI News)



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