



Rabbinic Recap

The week ending October 23, 2015

U.S. – ISRAEL RELATIONSHIP

UNESCO Passes Anti-Israel Resolution, Members of Congress Condemn

On Oct. 21, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) passed a resolution blaming Israel for the recent surge in violence in the Jewish state and falsely accusing it of violating the status quo on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. The final vote included 27 countries in favor, six opposed and 25 abstentions. The United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Netherlands, Czech Republic and Estonia voted in opposition. The resolution was submitted by Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates on behalf of the Palestinian Authority. It originally contained a clause asserting that the Western Wall, among other things, should be part of the al-Aqsa Mosque. The clause was condemned by many, including UNESCO Dir. Gen. Irina Bokova, and was removed in the final version of the resolution. The Jewish members of the U.S. House of Representatives issued a [joint statement](#) denouncing “the continued false allegations against Israel.” The resolution adopted by the UNESCO Executive Board condemning Israel for the recent surge in violence can serve no purpose other than to escalate tensions, exacerbate religious conflict, and further incite violence,” wrote the representatives. “This resolution, submitted by the six Arab member countries of UNESCO on behalf of the Palestinian Authority, is offensive and incendiary. We commend the Administration for opposing the resolution, and for demonstrating once again the need for the U.S. to maintain a strong presence in international institutions.”

IRAN

U.S., Allies Call for U.N. Action on Iran’s Ballistic Missile Test

On Oct. 21, the United States, Britain, France and Germany demanded that the United Nations Security Council's (UNSC) sanction committee investigate Iran’s recent ballistic missile test. Iran violated UNSC resolution 1929, which states “Iran shall not undertake any activity related to ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons, including launches using ballistic missile technology,” by testing the Emad on Oct. 11, a new long-range ballistic missile. In a joint report to the sanctions committee, the aforementioned countries wrote that the missile is “inherently capable of delivering a nuclear weapon. “We trust that this information will assist the committee in its responsibility to examine and take appropriate action in response to violations of U.N. Security Council resolutions,” the countries wrote in their joint report. According to news sources, the report was sent to the UNSC’s sanction committee after the United States posed the issue to the Security Council. U.S. ambassador to the U.N. Samantha Power issued a [statement regarding the requested U.N. action](#). “The United States will continue to press the Security Council to respond effectively to any future violations of U.N. Security Council resolutions. Full and robust enforcement of all relevant U.N. measures is and will remain critical,” Power said.

ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIANS

Five Soldiers Run Over Wednesday, another Stabbed

Five Israeli soldiers were run over last night by a Palestinian driver in the West Bank's Gush Etzion region, hours after a 19-year-old female soldier was severely wounded by a knife-wielding Palestinian near the West Bank settlement of Adam, reports [Haaretz](#). In all, there were three attacks in the day, all in the West Bank, that left seven Israelis injured—six by car rammings, one by stabbing. Security forces killed one of the assailants, wounded another and arrested the third. A few hours earlier, a Palestinian driving a car with Israeli license plates rammed his car into a policeman at the Ofra checkpoint, leaving him mildly injured. The driver fled on foot toward the Palestinian village Silwad, but was soon arrested. Yesterday's attacks followed three stabbing attacks on Tuesday in Hebron, during which two Palestinians were shot and killed. The IDF believes that the growing number of incidents in Hebron is a result of terror attacks elsewhere, with one attack inspiring others. "It's contagious, but we can't identify a directing hand," said a defense establishment source.

[U.S. Members of Congress continue to release statements condemning the Palestinian wave of terror on Israeli citizens. Click here to read those statements.](#)

ISRAEL IN THE NEWS

Hummus discount for Jews and Arabs breaking pita together

An Israeli eatery is making headlines across the globe for its latest menu deal: 50 percent off any hummus dishes served to tables seating Jews and Arabs together. Breaking bread together throughout history has always been an act of sharing and reconciliation. So, in response to the latest wave of terror attacks and incitement in Israel, Hummus Bar, at the M Mall in Kfar Vitkin, near the coastal city of Netanya, posted a Facebook call for customers to share pita and hummus together—and pay less if they do. Speaking to local media, manager Kobi Tzafrir said there were a number of people taking up on the offer from his joint, which is famous for its chickpea spread. But, he added, the short post also fueled interest from around Israel and the world. Hummus eateries are countless in Israel, yet Tzafrir reported that visitors have come from around the country to show support for the Hummus Bar's message of tolerance and camaraderie. The kitchen is kosher and therefore halal as well, meaning the only thing stopping observant Jews and Muslims is the will to dine together on the hummus with stewed chickpeas and msabaha—warm chickpeas swimming in tahini. "If there's anything that can bring together these peoples, it's hummus," Tzafrir told [The Times of Israel](#).