



# Rabbinic Recap

The week ending September 25, 2015

## U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONSHIP

### House Committee Marks Up Anti-Israel Incitement Bill

On Sept. 17, a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee held a [mark-up](#) for a new resolution concerning anti-Israel and anti-Semitic incitement within the Palestinian Authority (PA). Authored by the subcommittee's Chairman Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) and Ranking Member Rep. Ted Deutch (D-FL), the bill directs the State Department to regularly monitor and publish information on all official incitement by the PA against Jews and the state of Israel.

"We must do more to hold the PA accountable for its anti-Israel incitement, we must do more to encourage the PA to discontinue its incitement to violence against Israel, and we must work to do more to support and encourage those individuals and organizations working to promote cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians," said Rep. Ros-Lehtinen in a statement.

Rep. Deutch also said in a statement, "President Abbas came to power on a platform of non-violence. He speaks of his desire for peace, but using inflammatory language and failing to speak out against anti-Semitism and incitement simply gives the appearance of condoning it. Violence cannot be condoned, and those truly seeking peace must speak out."

## SYRIA

### Israeli, Russian deputy military chiefs to coordinate on Syria

[Reuters](#) reports that an Israeli-Russian coordination team set up to prevent the countries accidentally trading fire in Syria will be headed by their deputy armed forces chiefs and will hold its first meeting by Oct. 5, an Israeli military officer said on Thursday.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Russian President Vladimir Putin agreed on Monday to set up the team as Moscow steps up military support for Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, who has been losing ground to an Islamist-led insurgency.

Israel is worried the Russian deployment, which U.S. officials and regional sources say includes advanced anti-aircraft units and warplanes, risks pitting Russian forces against its own over Syria.

An Israeli military officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told Reuters the talks with Moscow would focus on aerial operations in Syria and "electromagnetic coordination." The latter appeared to refer to the sides agreeing not to scramble each other's radio communications or radar-tracking systems, and devising ways of identifying each other's forces to avoid any unintended confrontation in the heat of battle.

Israel and Russia will also coordinate on sea operations off Syria's Mediterranean coast, where Moscow has a major naval base, the Israeli officer said.

## IRAN

### **Boosted by nuke deal, Iran ups funding to Hezbollah, Hamas**

[The Times of Israel](#) reports that since the [Iran nuclear] deal was signed, Iran has significantly increased its financial support for two of the largest terror groups in the region that have become political players, Hamas and Hezbollah. In the years before the deal was signed, the crippling sanctions limited this support, which had significantly diminished along with Iran's economy. But Tehran's belief that tens, or hundreds, of billions of dollars will flow into the country in the coming years as a result of sanctions relief has led to a decision to boost the cash flow to these terror organizations.

This support, for example, has enabled Hezbollah to obtain highly developed new armaments, including advanced technologies that many militaries around the world would envy. Al-Rai, a Kuwaiti newspaper, reported Saturday that Hezbollah has received all the advanced weaponry that Syria has obtained from the Russians.

## ISRAEL IN THE NEWS

### **US Navy buys Brainsway helmets for treating depression**

The US Navy will start using an Israeli product as part of a comprehensive treatment approach to depression at some of its healthcare centers for service people and their families according to the website [israel21c.org](http://israel21c.org).

[Brainsway's deep TMS](#) (transcranial magnetic stimulation) helmets use magnetic pulse energy similar to MRI to stimulate deep structures of the brain and regulate their electrical activity. The helmets are used in several countries for noninvasive, painless treatment of major depressive disorder, addictions and a wide range of other neurological, psychiatric and medical conditions.

"Our validation as a supplier to the US Navy is an important stepping stone for our company into the US market," said Brainsway CEO Guy Ezekiel in Jerusalem. "We are concentrating our efforts on expanding our strategic presence in the US and increasing sales there."

Since receiving US Food and Drug Administration approval in 2013 for the treatment of depression in patients who have failed to respond to antidepressant medications, the Brainsway device has been installed in many therapeutic settings in the United States, Australia and Sweden, among other countries.