

Innovation as an Engine for Regional Development: Strengthening and Expanding the Abraham Accords in the Fields of Water, Food and Healthcare

written by Noa Lazimi | 23.11.2025



Highlights

The fields of water, food and healthcare offer a strategic opportunity for regional collaborations between Israel and countries that signed the Abraham Accords (the UAE, Bahrain, Morocco and Sudan) and with potential candidates, including Saudi Arabia. In addition to the top-priority defense and security needs, countries in the region are attributing increasing importance to addressing acute challenges relating to water scarcity, food insecurity and improving public healthcare systems – as an integral part of their national development plans:

□ In relation to **water**, countries in the region are contending with

overexploitation of freshwater sources, a shortage of recycling and partial access to clean water. Israel offers proven solutions for desalination, wastewater recycling, smart water management and data-based forecasting technologies.

□ In relation to **food**, there is high dependence on imports, coupled with a desire to strengthen sustainable local production. Israel offers unique know-how in desert agriculture, precision irrigation, advanced cultivation technologies and food-tech solutions.

□ In relation to **healthcare**, relatively high morbidity rates, disparities in access to medicine in outlying regions and a growing need for personalized healthcare solutions create numerous opportunities for Israel, which is an innovation leader in fields such as digital medicine, telemedicine, genetic data analyses and bioinformatics.

Goal-oriented collaborations in these fields, harmonized with the target countries' needs and national vision, could enable Israel to establish an ongoing regional presence and deepen partnerships based on the values of stability, sustainability and innovation. Considering the inherent potential, this document recommends a policy based on four key guiding principles:

□ **Adapting Israeli solutions to local needs:** Adapting innovative Israeli technologies and services to government plans and SDGs in Abraham Accords countries, by creating partnerships with local governmental and private entities.

□ **Promoting integration into national ventures using a public-private partnership model (PPP):** Encouraging Israeli companies to participate in wide-scale national projects in the Middle East, led by sovereign funds, by establishing local branches in order to reduce legal and regulatory obstacles.

□ **Establishing a dedicated financial support mechanism:** Devising a system of state guarantees and risk insurance for Israeli business activities in Abraham Accords countries, focusing on markets such as Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, to contend with project financing difficulties.

□ **Formulating of a multi-year strategic plan for international development:** Adding a humanitarian layer to Israel's commercial approach through joint ventures between Israel and Abraham Accords countries in developing countries, for the purposes of promoting regional stability and

humanitarian influence and establishing Israel's standing as a responsible partner.

Germany, the leading European country in advancing the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and a strong supporter of regional integration in the Middle East, can play a key role in supporting and building this process, in conjunction with the European Union, which has already formed a strategic partnership with the Gulf states. A trilateral partnership between Israel, the Gulf states and Germany/the EU can become a significant engine for promoting stability, innovation and sustainable development in the region.

To read the full article

Trump accelerates Middle East plan as tensions grow

written by Meir Ben Shabbat | 23.11.2025

The US is focusing its efforts on November 18, the date of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's visit, during which an expanded defensive pact and new arms deals between the two countries are expected to be announced.

Israel and the US bear hug: An attempt to place Jerusalem under

Washington's authority

written by Prof. Zaki Shalom | 23.11.2025

Netanyahu is trying to clarify that Israel is not a protectorate of the United States, and that it alone will decide how to pursue its security objectives.

Defund and replace the UN

written by David M. Weinberg | 23.11.2025

Do we have to settle for a system that elects Saudi Arabia and Iran to lead human rights councils, and that disregards slaughters in Syria and Sudan while outrageously branding Israel a war criminal enterprise?

The Evangelical dimension: The Trump administration's policy

written by Prof. Zaki Shalom | 23.11.2025

Countries whose foreign policy toward Israel has been favorable enjoy strong and prosperous economies. Conversely, France and Britain have endured difficulties.

Europe must adopt a wartime

mindset as conflict with Russia becomes inevitable

written by Prof. Zaki Shalom | 23.11.2025

The European states, as in the 1930s, refuse to see the danger standing at their threshold.

India-Israel ties: A relation meant to last generations

written by Joseph Rozen | 23.11.2025

The recent investment agreement represents more than economic coordination—it is the latest milestone towards a generational vision built on complementary strengths, shared democratic values, and mutual respect

What Israel can learn from Modi: National honor as strategic asset

written by Prof. Zaki Shalom | 23.11.2025

From India, we learn that national honor is not a luxury but a far-reaching strategic asset. If Israel desires to secure its standing and security, it must project firm resilience to the world.

Britain silences its own critics

written by Prof. Zaki Shalom | 23.11.2025

On August 12, the US State Department published its annual report on the state of human rights around the world. Among other things, the report states that there are “credible reports of serious restrictions on freedom of expression in the United Kingdom.” The report determined that the state of human rights in Britain in 2024 had worsened, particularly since Prime Minister Keir Starmer was elected on July 4, 2024. During the year, the report states, the British government repeatedly intervened to limit free speech.

State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce declared that restrictions on freedom of speech in Britain are “intolerable in a free society.” The United States, she emphasized, views free expression as a “foundational component” of the functioning of democracy. Freedom of speech, she added, only strengthens the resilience of a democratic society. Government censorship of speech is intolerable in a free society.

Restrictions on free expression

It should be recalled that Vice President JD Vance already raised the issue of deteriorating free speech in Britain in his speech at the Munich Conference in February 2025. He then asserted that restrictions on free expression pose a greater danger to Europe than Russia.

Vance also brought up this issue during meetings between Starmer and US President Donald Trump. He further claimed that British citizens feel betrayed since the ruling elites of Britain opened its gates to millions of unrestricted immigrants.

Recently, reports have surfaced in the British media about government efforts to secretly monitor publications on social media. The official justification for that was concern for the safety of children. However, many have voiced concerns that the true purpose is to restrict criticism of the regime.

A member of the US House Judiciary Committee, Jim Jordan, recently claimed that in Britain, a person who writes a malicious post on social media can face a longer prison sentence than someone who commits a violent crime. Former British education secretary Sir Gavin Williamson argued that the British government supports free expression only so long as it reflects views it agrees with.

Condemnations of Israel

The harsh criticism of Britain's civil rights policies at home has not deterred the British prime minister from repeatedly issuing fierce condemnations of Israel and its violations of the rights of Gaza's residents. Here are just two examples: On June 4, 2025, Starmer described Israel's policy in Gaza as "appalling, counterproductive, and intolerable." On July 24, 2025, he sharply criticized what he called the "starvation" imposed by Israel on Gaza's residents, stressing that this was a move "indefensible in any way."

Netanyahu stressed a few days ago in a television interview that in his conversations with European leaders, they admit to him that they "know the truth" about what is actually happening in Gaza, but that they are subject to difficult pressures that force them to repeatedly condemn Israel publicly.

Few in Israel are aware of the harsh criticism now being directed in both the United States and within Britain itself against the level of free expression in the British kingdom - long celebrated as the "mother of parliaments" and as a model of democracy.

The Israeli media does not reflect this reality. The result is a distorted picture, as though Europe's leaders are "champions of civil liberty" who, from their moral high ground, are entitled to criticize Israel's policies as it fights for its existence against brutal terror organizations.

One can understand the efforts of European leaders to downplay the criticism they face. It is harder to understand why the State of Israel repeatedly bows its head before its critics. True, there are significant "power gaps" between us and them. Yet we, too, possess sources of strength that we can use to somewhat ease the pressure on us. Among other things, we can cause them to show restraint in their criticism of Israel in light of their own domestic situation. It is a pity that we do not do so. Published in The Jerusalem Post, August 18, 2025.

The hunger games: How Hamas's starvation campaign exposes

Western hypocrisy

written by Joseph Rozen | 23.11.2025

The disturbing ease with which Western nations embrace Hamas's lies stems from classical antisemitism resurging. This worsens due to a dangerous alliance between liberals and Islamist communities wielding electoral power in the West.