Israel in 10

written by Misgav Institute | 06.09.2026

Israel in 10: Daily Brief is a daily ten-minute briefing on the top stories from Israel and the Middle East. Hosted by Laura Cellier, each episode features the day's key headlines and fast-paced interviews with newsmakers, policy shapers, and experts. Produced by the Misgav Institute for National Security, Israel's leading national security policy center, Israel in 10 delivers the news and context you need to start your day in just ten minutes.

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Nitsana Darshan-Leitner joins the Misgav Institute's International Advisory Council

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Israeli activist attorney Nitsana Darshan-Leitner has been leading the fight against Israel's enemies in the courts around the world. She has been at the

forefront utilizing civil actions to combat terror financing, antisemitism and incitement to terrorism on social media, and multitude of lawfare threats against the Jewish State.

Ms. Darshan-Leitner is the founder and the president of Shurat HaDin and the co-author of the national bestseller HARPOON. She was chosen as one of the 50 most influential Jews in the world by the Jerusalem Post, and named by Israel Hayom as one of the 50 most influential Israeli women in the Iron Swords War.Ms. Darshan-Leitner is a graduate of the Bar-Ilan University Law Faculty and holds an MBA from Manchester University, a mother of six, including triplets.

John Spencer joins the Misgav Institute's International Advisory Council

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John Spencer is an award-winning scholar, professor, author, combat veteran, and military analyst. An internationally recognized authority on urban warfare, military strategy, and modern conflict, he is widely regarded as one of the world's leading experts on urban warfare. During his Army career, he served as an advisor to the Army's senior four-star general and other senior leaders as part of strategic research organizations spanning the Pentagon and the United States Military Academy at West Point. Since retiring from the Army, he has continued to advise senior military leaders, heads of state, and militaries around the world.

Spencer is co-founder and Executive Director of the Urban Warfare Institute, a nonprofit dedicated to advancing the study of urban environments and military operations. He served as the Chair of Urban Warfare Studies at the Modern War Institute at West Point, co-director of the Urban Warfare Project, and host of the Urban Warfare Project podcast. He is also co-founder and executive director of the Urban Warfare Institute, Chair of War Studies at the Madison Policy Forum, and a founding member of the International Working Group on Subterranean

Warfare.

For more than a decade, Spencer's research has focused on military operations in dense urban terrain, megacities, and subterranean environments. His work combines academic scholarship with field research in active and recently concluded conflicts, including Nagorno-Karabakh, Ukraine, India, Israel, and Gaza.

He is the author of four books: Understanding Urban Warfare (2022); Connected Soldiers: Life, Leadership, and Social Connections in Modern War (2022), winner of the 2023 Military Writers Society of America Gold Medal for Best Military History Memoir; The Mini-Manual for the Urban Defender (2022); and Twenty Times I Almost Died: Life Lessons from the Edge of Survival (2026), a memoir of survival and resilience.

Spencer has published more than 200 book chapters, case studies, and professional articles. His work has appeared in TIME, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, USA Today, Los Angeles Times, WIRED, Politico, Foreign Policy, Defense One, The Hill, Army Magazine, and numerous other publications. He is also a frequent military analyst for CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, the BBC, and other international media outlets.

In February 2022, following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Spencer wrote The Mini-Manual for the Urban Defender to help Ukrainian civilians defend their cities. The guide was translated into Ukrainian and distributed widely throughout the country. It has since been translated into 16 languages, with additional translations underway.

Spencer served more than 25 years on active duty as an infantry soldier and officer, rising from private to major. His assignments included service in the 75th Ranger Regiment, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, and the 4th Infantry Division. He completed two combat deployments to Iraq as an infantry platoon leader and company commander, served as a Ranger Instructor with the Army's Ranger School, a Joint Chief of Staff and Army Staff action officer, fellow with the Chief of Staff of the Army's Strategic Studies Group, and co-founded the Modern War Institute at West Point, where he later served as deputy director. While teaching at West Point, he received the Apgar Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Following active duty, Spencer continued his service as a colonel in the California State Guard, assigned to the 40th Infantry Division, California Army National Guard, as Director of Urban Warfare Training. There, he co-founded, designed, and continues to teach the world's only course dedicated to preparing division- and brigade-level commanders and staffs to plan, conduct, and sustain large-scale

urban operations.
Spencer holds a Master of Policy Management from Georgetown University.

David Magerman joins the Misgav Institute’s International Advisory Council

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David Magerman is the founder and president of the Tzemach David Foundation, where he leads initiatives that strengthen Israel through education and expand opportunities for American students to study and build their lives in Israel. His philanthropy supports transitional university programs, advances K–12 education reform, and includes strategic under-the-radar projects that bolster the development and resilience of the Land of Israel.

Before focusing his efforts on Israel, David founded the Kohelet Foundation, which played a transformative role in Jewish day school education in the United States. Professionally, he previously served as a pioneering computer scientist at Renaissance Technologies and is now Managing Partner at Differential Ventures. He co-founded the fund and has played a central role in guiding investments in deep-technology companies that power the data-driven economy.

Ariel Sterngold Joins International

Advisory Board

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Ariel Sterngold is an entrepreneur and business leader with a longstanding track record in developing and scaling innovative consumer and hospitality focused technologies. He brings extensive experience in product development, go-to-market strategy, and multi-unit operations, blending deep R&D experience with the ability to build strong commercial partnerships across sectors including retail, hospitality, corporate, and wellness environments.

He brings a practical, growth oriented perspective to organizational leadership and is known for bridging strategic thinking with hands on execution. His work emphasizes innovation, operational excellence, and creating solutions that deliver meaningful value to both businesses and end users.

Ariel is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, has attended Harvard Business School Owner/President Management (OPM) program, and is actively involved with Succat Shalom, reflecting his deep commitment to education, leadership development, and community service.

He lives with his wife and four children in Jerusalem and is committed to balancing family, business, and service to the community.

David Hatchwell Altaras Joins International Advisory Board

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David Hatchwell Altaras holds an MBA in International Business and Finance from New York University’s Stern School of Business and is a graduate of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

In his professional life, Mr. Hatchwell serves as Chairman of his family office, 3H, whose investments range from real estate to content production. He is also

Chairman of 2H, a joint venture for the Spanish-speaking world with Hackman Capital, the leading studio production investment and management company in the world. Until June 2025, he served as Chairman of Excem Grupo, a diversified international family group founded by his late father, leading philanthropist and visionary Mauricio Hatchwell Toledano (Z"L).

From 1992 to 2000, David lived in Beijing, where he developed operations in China, achieving more than 20 projects across various sectors, including owning the rights to Real Madrid in Asia from 2003 to 2008. He also chairs a Real Estate Investment Trust, SITUR, which is a major hostel owner and operator in the Iberian Peninsula.

David Hatchwell has held several leadership roles in the global Jewish community. He served as President of the Jewish Community of Madrid from 2011 to 2017. He is currently a member of the Genesis Prize selection committee and serves on the Peres Center for Peace and Innovation International Board of Governors.

In 2015, Mr. Hatchwell co-founded the Fundación HispanoJudía, an NGO which he chairs. The foundation is dedicated to building a Hispanic Jewish Museum in Madrid, with the goal of fostering bridges of mutual understanding between the Spanish-speaking and Jewish worlds.

He has been a member of YPO (Young Presidents' Organization) since 2005, where he has served on various committees and as Chair of the Madrid Chapter. He has been a member of the Board of the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM), Spain's most prestigious technological university.

David Hatchwell is the executive producer and one of the anchor investors of *Malinche the Musical*, the No. 1 musical show in both Spain and Mexico, created by megastar Nacho Cano. The show celebrates diversity and the deep historical ties between Spain and Mexico. He is also a producer of several successful live shows (including *Ibiza Paradise*) and various documentaries on musical and historical themes.

Over the last 40 years, David and his family have contributed to numerous philanthropic projects in Israel, Spain, and China. He and his wife, Natalia, and their three children (Yavne, Dayan, and Magen) divide their time between Madrid and Jerusalem.

Brig. Gen. (res.) Effi Eitam

written by Misgav Institute | 06.09.2026
Brig. Gen. (res.) Effi Eitam joins the Misgav Institute’s

Mr. Robert Greenway Joins the Misgav Institute for National Security’s International Advisory Council

written by Misgav Institute | 06.09.2026
Mr. Robert Greenway has joined the Institute’s International Advisory Council.

Nobel Laureate Prof. Yisrael Aumann Joins the Misgav Institute’s International Advisory Council

written by Misgav Institute | 06.09.2026
Prof. Yisrael (Robert) Aumann joined the mathematics department at the Hebrew

University of Jerusalem in 1956 and has been there ever since. In 1990, he was among the founders of the Center for the Study of Rationality at the Hebrew University, an interdisciplinary research center centered on game theory. He is the author of more than a hundred scientific papers and seven books, and has held visiting positions at Princeton, Yale, Berkeley, Louvain, Stanford, Stony Brook, and NYU.

In 2005, he was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences.

Prof. Aumann was born in 1930 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany to a well-to-do Orthodox Jewish family. The family fled Nazi persecution and emigrated to the United States in 1938, settling in New York. In the process, his parents lost everything, but nevertheless gave their two children an excellent Jewish and general education. Aumann attended yeshiva elementary and high schools, obtained a bachelor's degree from the City College of New York in 1950, and a Ph.D. in mathematics from MIT in 1955.

He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences (USA), the British Academy, the Academia Europaea and the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities. He holds honorary doctorates from the Universities of Chicago, Bonn, Louvain, City University of New York, Bar Ilan University, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, and the University of Paris II (Pantheon-Assas). He is married and had five children; the oldest was killed in IDF service in Lebanon in 1982. Also, he has twenty-one grandchildren, and thirty-eight great-grandchildren.

Is Normalization on the Horizon?

written by Misgav Institute | 06.09.2026
27/05/2024

Monday | 12:30–15:30 IL time | Live on INSS digital platforms

A joint conference of the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) and the

Misgav Institute for National Security and Zionist Strategy. The conference will be broadcast live on the digital platforms of both INSS and the Misgav Institute.

Timetable

12:30 – Opening Remarks

Brig. Gen. (res.) Udi Dekel, Head of the Israeli–Palestinian Conflict Program, INSS

Ronen Levi (Maoz), Senior Fellow, Misgav Institute

12:50 – Special Interview | Head of the National Security Council, Tzachi Hanegbi

Interviewer: Tal Schneider, Political-Military Correspondent, Times of Israel

13:20 – How to Advance Normalization After October 7?

Dr. Yoel Guzansky, Head of the Gulf Program and Senior Researcher, INSS

Asher Fredman, Senior Managing Fellow, Misgav Institute

Aryeh Lightstone, Former US Special Envoy for Economic Normalization

Ruth Wasserman Lande, Senior Fellow, Misgav Institute

Moderator: Maj. Gen. (res.) Udi Dekel

14:05 – Normalization and the Peace Countries

Dr. Moran Zaga, Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Mitvim Institute

Eitan Naeh, Ambassador of Israel to Bahrain

Dr. Ofir Winter, Senior Researcher, INSS

Mena Ta-Shma, Head of the Regional Division, Directorate of Defense Research and Development, Ministry of Defense

Moderator: Fleur Hassan-Nahum, Senior Fellow, Misgav Institute

14:50 – Regional Normalization: Iran, Iraq, and the Palestinians | Panel Discussion

Maj. Gen. (res.) Tamir Hayman, Executive Director, INSS

Meir Ben Shabbat, Head of the Misgav Institute

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