

ELNET-Israel's Monthly Newsletter

A Review of Activities & Analysis on Europe-Israel Related Matters

ELNET is on the Map

Dr. Emmanuel Navon, CEO of ELNET-Israel



Dear Friends,

This past month has confirmed that ELNET is on the map.

The ELNET International Policy Conference (EIPC), held between May 8 and May 10 in Paris, was a tremendous success. Over 500 participants attended the keynote speeches and panel discussions from respected politicians, military officers, academics and entrepreneurs who came from Israel, Europe, the United States, and Arab countries. The feedback we have received is unanimous: this was a top-level conference both in terms of content and execution.

Read Full Analysis Below

ELNET Activities This Month



Opening Plenary Roundtable Discussion with Dr. Ebtesam al-Ketbi, Senator Roger Karoutchi, Amb. Eric Danon, Amb. Haim Waxman, Congressman Brad Schneider, and moderator Dr. Kenneth Weinstein



Keynote Speaker French Minister of Economy and Finance Bruno le Maire



Anett Numa, Head of Gov. Relations and Communications, Accelerate Estonia at the Drones and Cybersecurity Breakout Session



Keynote Speaker Amb. Zvi Vapni, Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to the President of Israel



General John Allen with NATO Asst. Sec. Gen. David Cattler and Maj. Gen. Amos Yadin on Europe new Security Architecture



Voice of Conscience Award to European Commission Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism, Katharina von Schnurbein



Interfaith discussion between Chief Rabbi Haim Korsia, Father Patrick Desbois, and Imam Mohammad Tawhidi



Members of Knesset meet with Members of the French Senate during the EIPC



ELNET co-hosted two panels on Europe-Israel relations at the Herzliya Conference

ELNET's Third International Policy Conference:

ELNET concluded its third International Policy Conference (EIPC) in Paris between May 8-10, 2023. The title of the conference was “Normalization in the Middle East, War in Ukraine: Challenges and Opportunities in a Changing World Order”. The conference brought together some 500 participants and 70 of the most influential policymakers and leading public opinion-makers from Europe, Israel, the US and Arab countries to discuss and impact the shaping of Europe’s Middle East policy and Europe-Israel relations.

The theme of the conference was ‘A New Era in Europe-Israel Relations,’ and the plenary discussions, roundtables, and 15 breakout sessions tackled policy areas such as new security challenges, the war in Ukraine and its aftermath, Israeli-Arab normalization, the Russian and Iranian threats, energy and food security, climate change, antisemitism and anti-Zionism.

Keynote speeches were given by Deputy Speaker of the Polish Senate Michal Kaminski, MK Gideon Sa’ar, President of Israel Isaac Herzog, French Minister of Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire, Former Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. Michael Oren, Chair of the European Delegation for Relations with Israel MEP Antonio Lopez-Isturiz White, Former Prime Minister of France Manuel Valls, Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to the President of Israel Zvi Vapni, Vice President of the European Parliament

During the Gala Dinner, the Voice of Conscience Award was presented to European Commission Coordinator on combatting Antisemitism Katharina von Schnurbein for her dedicated work to combat antisemitism.

See much more content from the 3rd EIPC on our [website](#)

Members of Knesset visit the French Senate: As part of the conference, ELNET arranged a meeting for Members of Knesset speaking at the EIPC, including Gideon Saar, Merav Ben Ari, Boaz Bismuth, Oded Forer, and Tsega Melaku at the French Senate. The MKs met with Deputy Speaker of the French Senate, Senator Roger Karoutchi who also serves as the President of the France-Israel Friendship Group, as well as 15 other Senators.

Israel Survey 2023: During the EIPC, ELNET published the findings of its 2nd survey of European parliamentarians on their perspectives on Israel, the Middle East, and Jewish life in Europe. 381 parliamentarians participated from 17 European parliaments and the European Parliament. An overwhelming majority of the participating MPs consider their country's relations with Israel as very good or rather good (66 percent). 77% call for greater cooperation with Israel, with the focus being on science and education, defense, and homeland security. In addition, European politicians think their countries should assume more responsibility within the framework of the Abraham Accords. Read more [here](#).

ELNET co-hosts Herzliya Conference Panels: As in past years, ELNET was a co-host of two panels focused on Europe at the Herzliya Conference. The first panel was titled "Europe in a Dynamic Era", and the second was titled "The Ukraine Crisis: Strategic Implications for Europe". Read more [here](#).

ELNET ELROM Publication: ELNET is proud to announce its cooperation with Elrom Center for Air and Space Studies, at Tel Aviv University. The first joint collaboration included translating into English and publishing a research paper written by newly appointed ELNET-Israel Board Member, Dr. Sarah Fainberg, and Lt. Colonel (res.) Daniel Rakov. Read the full publication [here](#).

Latest Video Releases





President of Israel Isaac Herzog Keynote Address at ELNET's 3rd EIPC Conference



Vice President of the European Parliament MEP Nicola Beer Keynote Address at ELNET's 3rd EIPC Conference



Chairman of the 'New Hope' Party and Former Minister of Justice MK Gideon Sa'ar Keynote Speech at ELNET's 3rd EIPC



Speakers at the EIPC share their thoughts on the Conference and ELNET's work

MORE VIDEOS

Former Prime Minister, MK Yair Lapid [Keynote Address](#)

Deputy Speaker of the Polish Senate, Senator Michal Kaminiski [Keynote Address](#)

German Federal Gov. Commissioner for the Fight against Antisemitism, Dr. Felix Klein [Interview](#)

Plenary Discussion between Chief Rabbi of France Haim Korsia, President of the Yahad-In Unum Association Father Patrick Dosbois, and Vice President of the Global Imams Council Imam Mohammad Tawhidi, '[The Treatment of Minorities in the Middle East](#)'

Panel with European Commission Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism Katharina von Schnurbein, UK Special Envoy for Post-Holocaust Issues Lord Eric Pickles, Yad Vashem Chairman and ELNET-Israel Board Member Amb. Dani Dayan, German Federal Gov. Commissioner for the Fight Against Antisemitism Dr. Felix Klein, Senior Rabbi of Sinai Temple David Wolpe, '[The IHRA Definition: Still a Long Way to Go!](#)'

Panel with NATO Assistant Secretary General David Cattler, Ret. U.S. Marine Corps Four-Star General John Allen, and ELNET's Forum of Strategic Dialogue Chairman Maj. Gen. (ret.) Amos Yadlin 'The Ukraine War and its Aftermath: What Security Architecture for Europe?', and fire side talk on innovation with Israeli High-Tech Entrepreneur Eyal Waldman and ELNET-Israel Board Member Sani Sanilevich in the [Opening Plenary Session](#)

Watch much more exclusive content, including speeches, interviews, panel sessions, and highlights [here](#)

ELNET in the Press



L'Express

[Général Amos Yadlin : "Israël devrait fournir des armes antiaériennes à l'Ukraine"](#)

Interview with Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Amos Yadlin at EIPC



Jerusalem Post

['Israel should be a global NATO partner'](#)

Interview with MP Rihards Kols at EIPC



L'OBS

[La détermination des Israéliens à protéger la démocratie libérale est intacte », Gideon Saar revient sur la crise que traverse le pays](#)

Interview with MK Gideon Sa'ar at EIPC



JNS

[Survey: Europe wants more cooperation with Israel](#)

Israel Survey and EIPC



Jerusalem Post

[Central, Eastern Europe and Israel: A strategic partnership ahead - opinion](#)

Op-Ed by Pascaline Wagemans, Director of ELNET's FSD on the upcoming Central Eastern Europe Strategic Dialogue



Maariv

[אירוע הצדעה לישראל התקיים בבית העליון של הפרלמנט הפולני](#)

Polish Senate event co-hosted by ELNET-Poland for Israel's 75th Independence Day

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The success of the EIPC would not have been possible without the professionalism and dedication of ELNET-Israel's team. I am glad to announce that this exceptional team has a new office manager as of last week: Aliya Slepko, who was previously a project manager at Sinai Temple in Los Angeles. Rabbi David Wolpe, Senior Rabbi at Sinai Temple, spoke at the EIPC and mentioned in a [recent sermon](#) the strong impression that the conference has left on him.

Leading media outlets have echoed the success of the conference and interviewed its speakers. France's three top weekly magazines published interviews with ELNET's prestigious guests: [L'Express](#) quoted General John Allen (Retired U.S. Marine Corps Four-Star General and former commander of the NATO International Security Assistance Force and U.S. Forces in Afghanistan) on the war in Ukraine; [L'Obs](#), published a long interview with MK Gideon Sa'ar (Former Minister of Justice currently representing the opposition in the negotiations on judicial reform taking place under the auspices of President Herzog); and [Le Point](#) referred in length to Major General (Ret.) Amos Yadlin (Chairperson of ELNET's Forum of Strategic Dialogue) on Iran's nuclear program. In addition, [Le Figaro](#) published an interview with Dr. Sarah Fainberg (Head of Great Powers Research Program, Elrom Center for Air and Space Studies in Tel Aviv University, and new member of the ELNET-Israel Board) on the Russia-Iran relationship; and [The Jerusalem Post](#) featured the EIPC while quoting at length MP Rihards Kols, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Latvian Parliament.

Last week ELNET-Israel co-hosted two panels on Europe-Israel relations at the Herzliya Conference, one titled "[Europe in a Dynamic Era](#)", the second titled "[The Ukraine Crisis: Strategic Implications for Europe](#)". Speakers on the panels included Former Prime Minister of Sweden, Carl Bildt; Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, Tobias Lindner; Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Security Policy at the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Kai Sauer; Former Advisor to the Office of the President of Ukraine, Oleksiy Arestovych; Member of the Bundestag, Roderich Kiesewetter; Head of Policy Planning at NATO, Benedetta Berti; Former UK Shadow Secretary of State, Ivan Lewis; and myself. Both panels underscored the importance of Europe-Israel partnerships in the wake of the Ukraine war. ELNET-Israel is working hard to promote such partnerships. In the coming weeks, we will be hosting in Israel two Strategic Dialogues: one with East European countries, and one with Spain, as well as and two delegations from the UK: one of parliamentarians, and one of journalists.

ELNET-Israel also directly engages with leading European opinion makers on sensitive matters of policy. At the same time that the EIPC was taking place in Paris, ELNET-Israel Board Member Shimrit Meir, Former Diplomatic Advisor to the Prime Minister, and renowned Arab-Israeli journalist Khaled Abu Toameh, represented ELNET-Israel in an important private meeting with the leader of the Belgian Mouvement Réformateur Party (the senior party in Belgium's current coalition government), Georges-Louis Bouchez, and additional MPs from the Party.

In my remarks at the closing session of the EIPC, I mentioned that ELNET has literally produced a miracle. I was referring to the fact that May 10, the final day of the Conference, was the same symbolic date on which in 1940 Winston Churchill was appointed Prime Minister of Great Britain, and Germany invaded the Netherlands, Belgium, and France, after having occupied Poland. "And here we are," I said, "83 years later in Paris, with the Chief Executive Officers of ELNET representing all these countries: ELNET-Germany, ELNET-UK, ELNET-France, ELNET-Poland, and ELNET-Brussels. Plus, of course, the office of a country that

now working together as ELNET CEOs to build a better future. This is truly a miracle, one that ELNET can be proud of.”

Thank you for your support, which makes that miracle possible.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Delegation of Lords from the UK
- Central Eastern Europe Delegation
- Partnering in the 2023 Jerusalem Post Annual Conference
- First Central Eastern Europe – Israel Strategic Dialogue
- Fifth Spanish–Israel Strategic Dialogue
- Delegation of Journalists from the UK
- Delegation of Labour Party Staffers from the UK
- GIHF–AI and GINSUM co–organizing GVG Health Summit
- GIHF–AI Second Roundtable on Health Regulation

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ELNET Europe Israel
13 Tuval Street
Ramat Gan 5252228
Israel

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