


EUROPEAN LEADERSHIP NETWORK

ELNET-Israel's Monthly Newsletter

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

Building Israel's Diplomatic Iron Dome in Europe

Dr. Emmanuel Navon, CEO of ELNET-Israel



Dear Friends,

The IDF suffered tragic losses this month. 21 of our soldiers were killed on January 22 alone. Despite the pain, however, Israelis remain resolute to pursue the battle and to win the war. A recent poll shows that over 80% of Israelis are satisfied with the IDF's performance. Day-to-day conversations among Israelis produce an unmistakable picture: people want to finish Hamas. I attended this week an IDF ceremony to thank reservists, including one of my sons, who've been fighting in Gaza for the past four months. The spirit of determination and unity was palpable...

Read Full Analysis Below

ELNET Activities This Month

First Solidarity Mission of 2024



The first ELNET delegation of 2024 was headed by former First Secretary of State Lord Peter Mendelson. The delegation included 22 European lawmakers from ten countries: The United Kingdom, Germany, The Netherlands, Denmark, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Cyprus, Lithuania, and Croatia.

The solidarity mission visited the ravaged communities and kibbutzim hit on October 7th, and the families of hostages. It met with President Isaac Herzog and with security cabinet member Gideon Sa'ar. [Read More](#)



Meeting with President Isaac Herzog



Meeting with Members of Knesset



Dinner with Minister Gideon Saar



Meeting with President Isaac Herzog

French Solidarity Mission



ELNET brought a French solidarity mission composed of parliamentarians and of award-winning authors. The delegation was headed by Senator Loïc Hervé, Deputy Speaker of the French Senate.

Addressing the Knesset's Commission for the Liberation of the Hostages, Senator Hervé said that France does and will continue to do its utmost for the unconditional release of all hostages. The delegation also met with France's ambassador to Israel Frédéric Journès, with Knesset Speaker Amir Ohana, with Minister Gideon Sa'ar, and with senior members of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Senator Loïc Hervé speaks before the Knesset's Commission for the Liberation of the Hostages



Meeting with Knesset Speaker MK Amir Ohana



IDF Briefing by IDF Spokesperson in French Olivier Rafowicz



Meeting with French Ambassador to Israel Frédéric Journès

Quarterly Briefing with European Ambassadors



ELNET-Israel opened the year 2024 with a new quarterly briefing for European ambassadors. Four times a year, all European ambassadors to Israel will be briefed by a senior Israeli public figure on topical issues.

The first briefing of 2024 was attended by 25 European ambassadors. MK Yuli Edelstein, Chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, shared his unique insights on the war in Gaza, on the likely scenarios at Israel's northern border, and on Israel's post-war plans.





MK Shelly Tal Meron Addresses Polish Senate



ELNET-Israel brought MK Shelly Tal Meron to Poland to address the Polish Parliament on the sexual crimes perpetrated by Hamas on October 7. The event was hosted by Deputy Speaker of the Senate, Michał Kamiński, and it included members of the Polish Senate as well as the Israeli Ambassador to Poland, Yacov Livne.

MK Tal Meron showed the audience the 'atrocities movie' containing original footage of Hamas' terror attacks on 7 October 2023. She also met with Warsaw's Jewish community and visited the Auschwitz concentration camp on International Holocaust Remembrance Day.



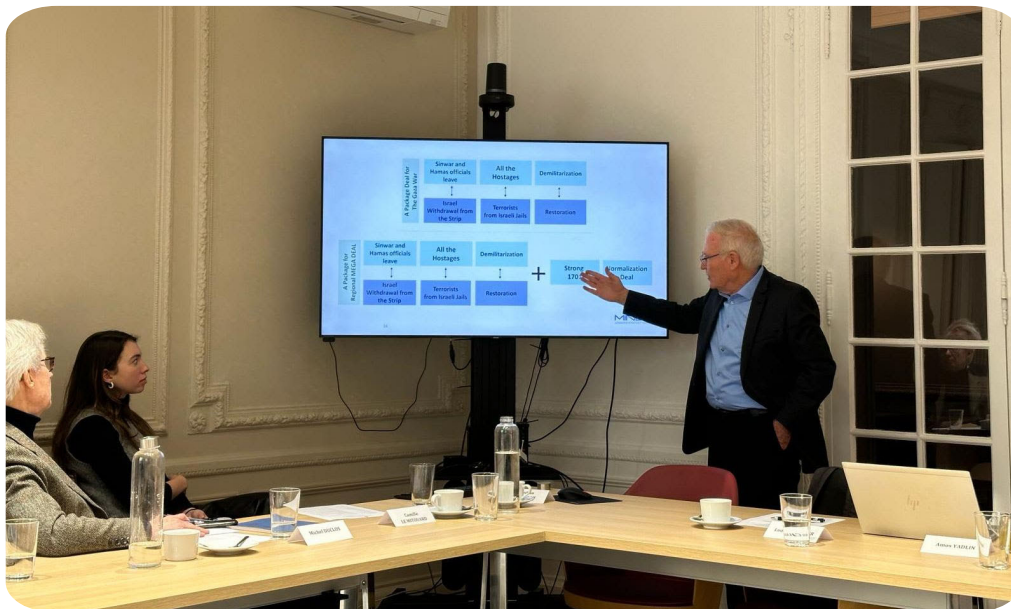


Dr. Emmanuel Navon in Madrid to Build Partnerships for ELNET-Israel



ELNET-Israel's CEO, Dr. Emmanuel Navon, flew to Madrid to rebuild relations with ACOM and to establish a partnership with the think tank of former Prime Minister José Maria Aznar (Instituto Atlántico & FAES Institute). Dr. Navon had productive meetings with ACOM leaders David Hatchwell and Angel Mas.

Maj. Gen. (res.) Amos Yadlin in Paris to Brief President Macron's Advisors



The Chair of ELNET's Forum of Strategic Dialogue, Amos Yadlin, briefed President Macron's senior advisors on the need to de-militarize southern Lebanon. Mr. Yadlin also addressed the Montaigne Institute, a leading French think tank.

Latest Videos



ELNET

100 DAYS - 100 EUROPEAN LEADERS

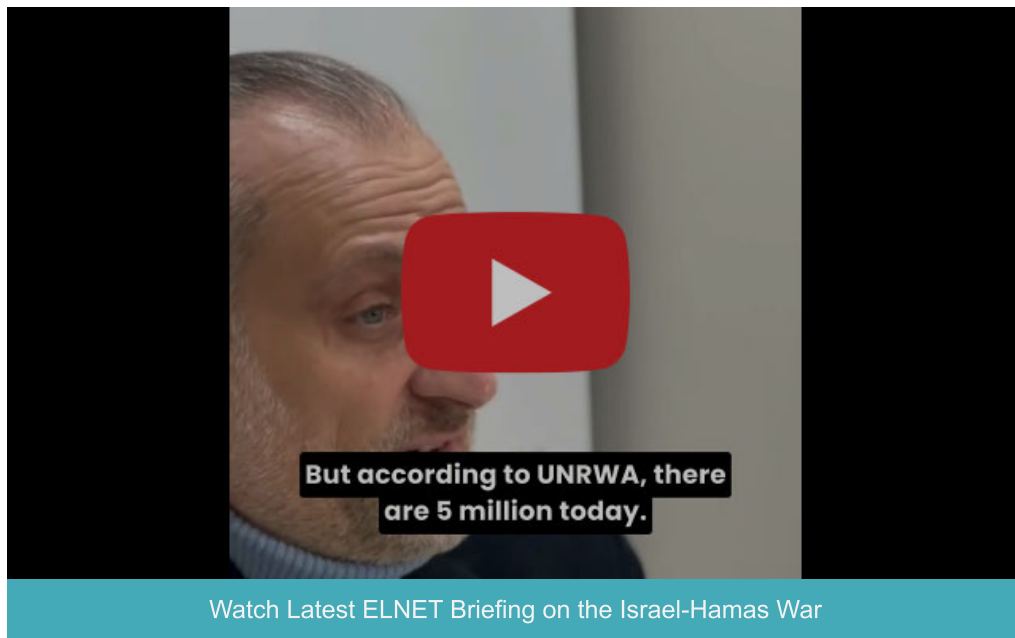
A VIRTUAL PANEL DISCUSSION
FEATURING THREE
THE OVER ONE HUNDRED
BEARING WITNESS IN ISRAEL

MP Mauro Del Barba, ITALY
MP Andrew Percy, UK
MP Natalia Pouzyreff, FRANCE





ELNET Special '100 Days - 100 European Leaders' webinar



Latest ELNET Statements

Today's ruling by the International Court of Justice should end South Africa's politically motivated and legally tenuous case against Israel.

The Court noted that only following Hamas's atrocities on October 7, 2023, did Israel launch a military operation to remove the terrorist threat to its civilian population. Israel's obligation to defend its citizens is well established in international law. Equally important, the Court called for the unconditional release of Israeli hostages.

Falsely leveling the charge of genocide against Israel, the world's sole Jewish state, was cynical and destructive. It trivialized and politicized the most heinous of crimes, one that is called, "the crime of all crimes."

Sadly, South Africa brought the accusation of genocide by Israel to the ICJ as a leading participant in the shameful and long-running campaign to demonize, delegitimize, and ultimately destroy the State of Israel.

ELNET will continue to work with European and Israeli leaders to advance the truth and call out the political misuse of international bodies.

[Full statement here](#)

EU CALLS FOR THE DISMANTLING OF HAMAS AND THE UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL THE HOSTAGES AS A PREREQUISITE FOR A CEASEFIRE

Today, the EU Parliament passed a historic resolution with a decisive majority (312-131) calling for the dismantling of Hamas and the unconditional release of all the hostages as a prerequisite for a ceasefire.

The vote further confirms Europe's conviction that achieving a ceasefire and securing a future political process is contingent upon the release of hostages and the dismantling of Hamas.

ELNET applauds Europe's unequivocal stance and remains committed to bolstering relations between leaders from Europe and Israel based on shared democratic values and strategic interests.

[Full statement here](#)

ELNET in the Press



The Jerusalem Post

[German MP: Six million reasons for our unprecedented wartime support](#)

MP Falko Drossman and ELNET-Israel

Spokesperson, Daniel Shadmy speak about the importance of German's support since Oct. 7



The Aaron and Eli Show

[The War in Israel: Facilitating Conversations, Improving Relations and Hoping for Peace](#)

ELNET-Israel Spokesperson, Daniel Shadmy, on

ELNET's continuous efforts to bring decision-makers to Israel since Oct. 7



The Jewish Chronicle

[Speak to Israelis and you'll understand why no-one is talking about two states](#)

David Rosethe the JC's Politics and

Investigations editor joined ELNET's Solidarity

Missions and shares his thoughts



Newsweek

[Israeli Parliament Stormed by Hostages' Families](#)

ELNET-Israel Spokesperson shares his insights on the situation



Israel Hayom (HEB)

[78% of Germans see Hamas in a negative light](#)

New ELNET poll shows Germans split on Israel-Hamas war

Building Israel's Diplomatic Iron Dome in Europe

Dr. Emmanuel Navon, CEO of ELNET-Israel

The IDF suffered tragic losses this month. 21 of our soldiers were killed on January 22 alone. Despite the pain, however, Israelis remain resolute to pursue the battle and to win the war. [A recent poll](#) shows that over 80% of Israelis are satisfied with the IDF's performance. Day-to-day conversations among Israelis produce an unmistakable picture: people want to finish Hamas. I attended this week an IDF ceremony to thank reservists, including one of my sons, who've been fighting in Gaza for the past four months. The spirit of determination and unity was palpable.

But wars are not only fought on the battlefield. They are also fought in the diplomatic, media, and legal fields. We were reminded of this other dimension of war this month when South Africa brought a case against Israel at the International Court of Justice (or ICJ), accusing the IDF of committing genocide in Gaza. Had the ICJ ordered Israel to suspend hostilities –which thankfully it didn't– the UN Security Council would have been seized by Israel's ill-wishers to enforce that decision. Hence the importance of building a "diplomatic iron dome" around Israel. ELNET is building that dome, successfully, in Europe.

Thanks in part to ELNET, Israel enjoys strong diplomatic support in Europe. Germany, France, the United Kingdom and Italy have dissociated themselves from South Africa's ICJ submission. This month, the EU parliament passed a resolution that conditions a ceasefire in Gaza on the dismantling of Hamas and on the release of all Israeli hostages. Over a dozen European countries, and the EU itself, have announced the freeze of UNRWA funding after it was revealed that UNRWA employees actively took part in the October 7 massacres. UK Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer said recently that a future Labour government would not unilaterally and pre-emptively recognize a Palestinian state.

One of Sir Keir's Labour colleagues, Lord Peter Mendelson, visited Israel this month with an ELNET delegation. Besides being full of praise for ELNET, he concluded his visit thus: "I think if I come away with anything, it is an end to naïveté. Everything is so much more complicated, there are so many more variables. What bewildered us really is having heard so graphically what happened on October 7, and how many people could act in such a completely debased way."

After thanking ELNET for bringing Gideon Sa'ar to the concluding dinner, Lord Mendelson said of Mr. Sa'ar's insights: "I thought that his explanation about the qualitatively different form of war that Israel is engaged with now, the first jihadist war as opposed to a territorial one, is one of profound importance. And that is why the war that Israel is engaged in now is one that touches us all and why all of us have so much at stake in its outcome."

For a veteran British politician, who will likely serve as a senior cabinet member in a

future Labour government, to make such a statement vindicates the value of ELNET's work.

There are, of course, less friendly governments in Europe. The current Spanish government is one of them. ELNET does not have an office in Spain but has potential allies there. This is why I flew to Madrid this month to rebuild our relations with [ACOM](#), and to establish a partnership with the [Atlantico Institute](#).

The French government can at times seem wobbly. Hence are ELNET-France and ELNET-Israel working hard to make France tilt to Israel's side. France added its voice to the condemnation of South Africa's outrageous genocide accusation, and it announced that it would also freeze its funding of UNRWA. The French and Israeli offices of ELNET arranged this month high-ranking meetings between Amos Yadlin (the Chair of ELNET's Forum for Strategic Dialogue) and President Macron's top advisors.

ELNET will continue, thanks to your help, to build Israel's diplomatic iron dome in Europe.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Follow up programming in Germany on Hamas' Gender-Based Crimes
- Italian and British Solidarity Mission
- German and French Solidarity Mission
- First Defense Delegation from the Baltic States
- Israel Police Delegation to Paris and London

For More ELNET Content and Activities Follow Us:



Join Us on Telegram

Join ELNET's new [Telegram](#) account to follow us for the most up-to-date content and briefings

[view this email in your browser](#)

Copyright © 2024 ELNET Europe Israel, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you expressed interest in ELNET's activities.

Our mailing address is:

ELNET Europe Israel
13 Tuval Street
Ramat Gan 5252228
Israel

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

