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We need to pay more attention to ADHD pills

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## Steinitz heads to US for high-level talks on Iran

IAEA: Tehran failed to address concerns about nuclear program

By TOVAH LAZAROFF and Reuters

Strategic Affairs Minister Yuval Steinitz will head to Washington early this week with a high-level Israeli delegation to hold a strategic discussion with the US that will focus on halting Iran's nuclear program.

Representatives from Israel's intelligence community and the Foreign Ministry will be part of the delegation.

The meeting comes in advance of the next round of six-party talks to be held later this month in New York between Iran and the US, Russia, China, France, Great Britain and Germany.

On Friday, the United Nations' International Atomic Energy Agency said Iran has failed to address concerns about atomic bomb research by an agreed deadline.

The lack of movement in an inquiry by the IAEA will disappoint the West and could further complicate efforts by the six world powers to negotiate a resolution to the dispute with Iran over its nuclear ambitions.

Israel said it was not surprised that a report by the IAEA showed that Iran had not fulfilled its international obligations with respect to its nuclear program.

Iran's behavior toward the IAEA cast doubt on the possibility that the world powers could achieve a comprehensive and satisfactory agreement with regard to its nuclear program.

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Steinitz said.

"Iran's lack of response to the IAEA's question is clear evidence of its contrived nuclear antics. Iran has not yet made a decision to open a new page with respect to its relations to the world," Steinitz said.

An Israeli official added that, "anyone who believes the Iranians have abandoned their quest for a nuclear weapon and suddenly come clean is deluding themselves."

An IAEA report obtained by Reuters showed that little substantive headway has been made in the UN agency's long-running investigation into the possible military dimensions of Iran's nuclear program.

The Islamic Republic has implemented just three of five nuclear transparency steps that it committed to do by August 25 under a confidence-building deal it reached with the IAEA in November, according to the quarterly report.

Crucially, it has not provided information on the two issues that are part of the IAEA's investigation: alleged experiments on explosives that could be used for an atomic device, and studies related to calculating nuclear explosive yields.

The report said Iran told the IAEA last week that most suspicions over its program were "mere allegations and do not merit consideration."

## Obama brings Europe on board in coalition against Islamic State

US focus now on recruiting Mideast allies in efforts against group

By MICHAEL WILNER  
Jerusalem Post correspondent

WASHINGTON – European powers are now on board to aid in the fight against Islamic State, US President Barack Obama announced in Wales this weekend.

The addition of nine countries, including the UK, France and Turkey, to the cause furthers the president's goal of achieving a broad, global coalition to combat the group – the third such alliance to battle in Iraq in a quarter century.

Members of NATO agreed unanimously that the vicious organization, in control of territory spanning through eastern Syria and much of northern Iraq, "poses a significant threat to NATO members."

According to Article V of the NATO treaty, an attack on one member is an attack on all – including those perpetrated by non-state terrorist actors, such as al-Qaida's strikes against the US on September 11, 2001.

Obama said he was "extremely encouraged" at the "great conviction," and lack of resistance, from NATO leaders in their collective will to bring the fight to Islamic State before the group is able to launch attacks on member states.

"I'm confident that we're going to be able to build on that strong foundation and the clear commitment, and

have the kind of coalition that will be required for the sustained effort we need to push ISIL [Islamic State] back," he said.

But at the conclusion of the Wales summit on Friday, with its coalition expanded, the Obama administration shifted focus to the Middle East, where it hopes to recruit both Shi'ite and Sunni governments to the effort.

Jordan is directly threatened by the group, and it is expected to participate in a practical role that does not openly antagonize Islamic State leadership to target the kingdom: Jordanian land and air-space rights as launching pads for US-led military operations are likely, as is help gathering intelligence on the group, brimming along its eastern border.

Turkey's participation is a strategic imperative for the US, with its borders along both Iraq and Syria key to expanding visibility into Islamic State operations. Those borders, too, constitute a front line in preventing Islamic State members from crossing into the European continent.

The US hopes that Saudi Arabia, a large Sunni power, will provide intelligence and funding to moderate opposition fighters. US Secretary of State John Kerry is set to travel to Riyadh and Amman this week

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SOLDIERS FROM THE US 173rd Airborne Brigade leave a C-130 Hercules military transport aircraft during the Steadfast Javelin II exercise at Lielvarde Air Base in Latvia yesterday. See story, Page 9. (Ints Kalnins/Reuters)

## Brussels Museum shooter tortured Islamic State hostages

By JOSEPH STRICH  
Jerusalem Post correspondent

PARIS – The French Islamist who killed four people at the Jewish Museum of Belgium in May had tortured hostages in Syria for Islamic State, French media reported on Saturday.

His victims included American journalist James Foley and Israeli-American journalist Steven Sotloff, both later beheaded by Islamic State terrorists.

Mehdi Nemmouche, 29, from Roubaix near Lille in northern France, was arrested six days after he committed the May 24 terrorist attack in Brussels. He shot to death a tourist couple

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EX-ISLAMIC STATE hostage Nicolas Henin arrives in France. (Reuters)

## Moscow, Kiev say cease-fire holding, more steps needed

No POW swap yet • Russia vows to react to new EU sanctions

By GARETH JONES and GABRIELA BACZYNSKA

KIEV/DONETSK (Reuters) – The presidents of Russia and Ukraine said a cease-fire between Ukrainian government forces and pro-Russian separatists was holding up fairly well and they discussed urgent humanitarian aid for the shattered region.

Residents and combatants in eastern Ukraine welcomed the respite in a five-month conflict that has killed at least 2,600 people but said they did not expect it to last. They each accused the enemy of using the truce to rebuild their forces.

"The two heads of state said that overall the cease-fire was being implemented... [and] discussed steps to achieve a permanent cease-fire,"



UKRAINIAN SOLDIERS inspect a damaged tank yesterday on the outskirts of the southern coastal town of Mariupol. (Reuters)

Ukraine's Petro Poroshenko said in a statement on Saturday after his telephone call with Russia's Vladimir Putin.

The presidents expressed support for the full involvement of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, a rights watchdog, in monitoring the cease-fire.

The Kremlin later put out a similar statement on the talks. Envoys of Ukraine, Russia, the separatist leadership and the OSCE approved the cease-fire in Minsk on Friday as part of a peace road map that includes an exchange of prisoners of war and establishing a humanitarian corridor for refugees and aid.

Poroshenko agreed to the cease-fire after Ukraine

accused Russia of sending troops and arms onto its territory in support of the separatists, who had suffered big losses over the summer. Moscow denies the accusation.

In the days before the cease-fire, fighting had been fierce in two hot spots – in rebel-held Donetsk, the region's industrial hub, and also near the port of Mariupol on the Sea of Azov, where government forces were trying to repel a major rebel offensive backed – Kiev says – by Russian troops.

Both cities were quiet on Saturday, despite some isolated shelling overnight near Donetsk Sergey Prokofiev Airport, which remains in government hands. Mortar

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## Abbas sells peace plan in Cairo

Jerusalem publishes tenders for 283 homes in Elkana settlement

By KHALED ABU TOAMEH and TOVAH LAZAROFF

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas arrived in Cairo on Saturday to seek backing from Arab countries for his new political initiative to create a Palestinian state.

Abbas is expected to hold talks with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi on the latest developments in the region, including the peace initiative and the cease-fire between Hamas and Israel.

During his three-day visit to Egypt, Abbas is also set to attend a meeting of Arab League foreign ministers and try to convince them to support his plan.

Last week, Abbas's chief negotiator, Saeb Erekat, presented the peace plan to US Secretary of State John Kerry.

According to a PA official in Ramallah, the US administration has expressed reservations about the initiative, saying Washington remains strongly opposed to unilateral

moves that could impact the peace process.

Abbas's plan calls for holding peace talks with Israel over a period of nine months, during which there would be a full freeze of settlement construction and a release of Palestinian prisoners.

The plan envisages the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital in no more than three years.

If the talks fail, Abbas intends to resort to the UN Security

Council to ask for a resolution that demands a full Israeli withdrawal to the pre-1967 lines. This would be followed by Palestinian applications to join dozens of international treaties and conventions, as well as pursue Israel in the International Criminal Court.

The last round of talks, which fell apart in April, also took place over a nine-month period in which Israel released 80 prisoners and continued

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## PA increases crackdown on Hamas activists in W. Bank

By KHALED ABU TOAMEH

Palestinian Authority security agencies in the West Bank on Saturday stepped up their clampdown on Hamas.

Hamas said that the PA had rounded up more than 40 of its members and supporters since Operation Protective Edge ended on August 26, adding that another 30 activists were summoned for interrogation.

On Saturday, Hamas representative Hussam Badran condemned the PA clampdown and called on all those who have been summoned for questioning not to report.

The crackdown was "unjustified" and constituted a "blow to the blood of Pales-

tinian martyrs and unity," Badran said.

The PA has refused to comment on the crackdown on Hamas.

However, Palestinians believe it is related to recent claims that the Islamist movement had planned to stage a coup against the PA, saying that the crackdown is also linked to charges that Hamas had targeted hundreds of Fatah members in the Gaza Strip during the war.

More than 300 Fatah men were placed confined to their homes in the Gaza Strip during the war, and Fatah said that dozens of its men were shot in the leg by Hamas for

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