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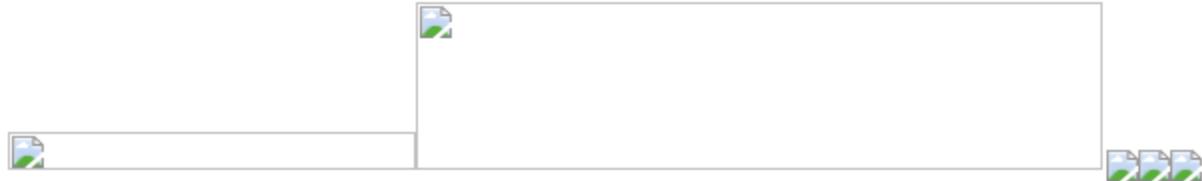
Subject: 'Culture' of anti-Israel bias persists in news; Why does Verizon call Israel 'Palestine?'

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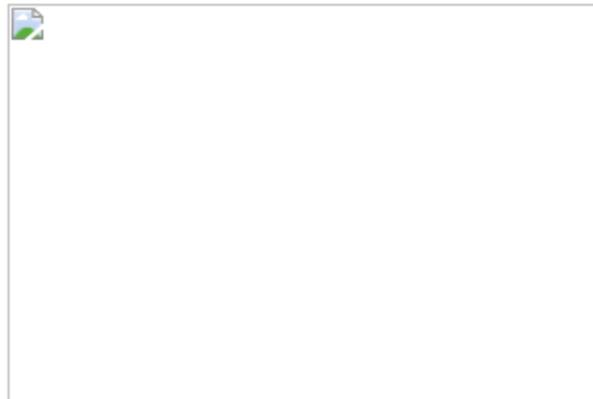
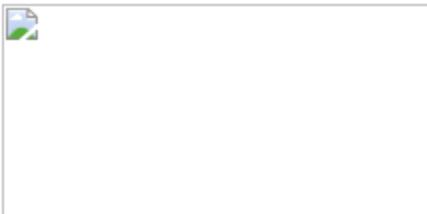
Watchdogs: 'culture' of anti-Israel bias persists despite newspapers' admissions of error

Why does America's largest cell carrier call Israel 'Palestine?'

The American pastor at Erdogan's mercy

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Israeli entrepreneurs see a bright future for solar technology



A view of the offices of The New York Times in Manhattan.

Watchdogs: 'culture' of anti-Israel bias persists despite newspapers' admissions of error

By Rafael Medoff/JNS.org

Recent admissions by The New York Times and The Washington Post of errors in their coverage of Israel are rare exceptions to the "culture" of anti-Israel bias that permeates both newspapers, experts say. "If errors tend to consistently skew in one direction—and the anti-Israel skew of each of these major corrections is not a coincidence, but a trend—then newspapers need to look into a culture that seems especially indulgent with outlandish anti-Israel accusations," said Gilead Ini, a senior research analyst for the CAMERA media watchdog group.

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Why does America's largest cell carrier call Israel 'Palestine?'

By Karen McDonough/JNS.org

When Mark Rosenblatt touched down at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv April 5 and powered on his cell phone, he got the surprise of his mobile technology life. Rosenblatt received a text message from his cell phone carrier, Verizon, reading, "Welcome to Palestine." Attempting to explain the situation, Verizon spokesman Scott Charlston told JNS.org that Ben Gurion Airport "is close to the Israeli border [with the West Bank] and there are cell sites and wireless signals from different providers on both sides. In general, customers living in or visiting border areas occasionally receive a wireless signal from a cross-border provider." Experts dismissed Verizon's response on the grounds that no state of "Palestine" exists under international law.

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A Verizon mobile user received this "Welcome to Palestine" text message when arriving at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv.

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The American pastor at Erdogan's mercy

By Ben Cohen/JNS.org

As Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan assumed near-dictatorial powers following his dubious victory in a constitutional referendum April 16, Andrew Brunson, a Christian pastor from North Carolina, was marking his sixth month in a Turkish prison over an unsubstantiated charge. What makes Brunson's case particularly outrageous, writes JNS.org columnist Ben Cohen, is that his imprisonment comes in Turkey—traditionally an ally of the U.S., a member of NATO

and widely regarded in the years prior to Erdoğan's rise as the ideal model for a secular state with a Muslim majority.

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Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan during the general debate of the United Nations General Assembly Sept. 20, 2016.

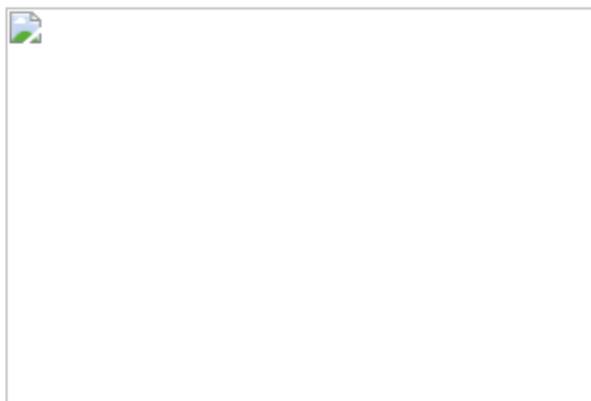
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Will Iran's looming election provide a glimpse into the Islamic Republic's future?

By Sean Savage/JNS.org

Iran is scheduled to hold its next presidential election May 19, with incumbent President Hassan Rouhani seeking a second four-year term. Though he handily won the presidency in a landslide in 2013 and forged Iran's nuclear deal with world powers, Rouhani faces stiff challenges from several other candidates this time around as many Iranians have become dismayed with the country's slumping economy.

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Iranian President Hassan Rouhani addresses the 71st United Nations General Assembly in New York City, Sept. 22, 2016.

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Israeli entrepreneurs see a bright future for solar technology

By Jeffrey Barken/JNS.org

The Israeli start-up SolarPaint's technology can generate solar power by putting a nanoparticle-infused coating—known as “photovoltaic paint”—on roofs, walls and in the future, even roads. This technology could be a game-changer, directly confronting the problem of limited land resources that has traditionally challenged the solar industry. Eran Maimon, SolarPaint's chief technology officer, foresees a significant change in the way electricity is delivered to consumers. “I think we will have more 'prosumers'—producers that are also consumers,” he says.

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Inside the studio of the Israeli start-up SolarPaint.

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