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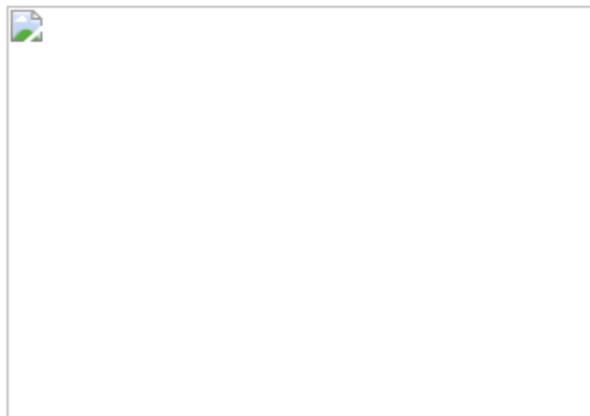


Netanyahu to Putin: Iran seeks to 'annihilate Israel,' control Syria and the region

Leave the symbols of Nazi persecution alone, Billy Joel

Netanyahu's hard choice

Jewish beard-growers strive to be the face of global facial hair showdown



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (right) and Russian President Vladimir Putin during a previous meeting, in June 2016 in Moscow.

Netanyahu to Putin: Iran seeks to 'annihilate Israel,' control Syria and the region

By Adam Abrams/JNS.org

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with Russia's President Vladimir Putin Wednesday to discuss Iran's "accelerated" presence in Syria. "We cannot forget for a single minute that Iran threatens every day to annihilate Israel," Netanyahu said, noting that the Islamic Republic is "well on its way" to controlling not only Syria, but also Iraq, Yemen and Lebanon. "The problem now is that things have evolved quickly in a way that has left the Israelis without many options," Jonathan Schanzer, senior vice president of research at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, told JNS.org. "And we're seeing a quickening of this Iranian land bridge [stretching from Iran to Lebanon] and the installations that the Iranians are building."

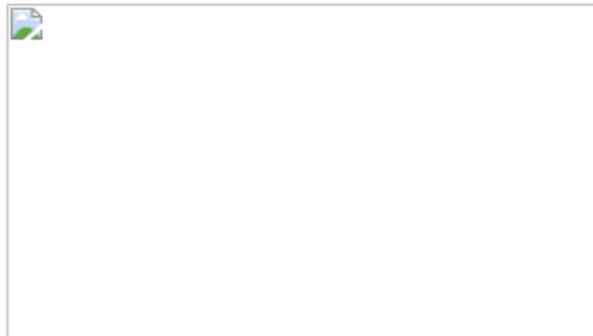
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Leave the symbols of Nazi persecution alone, Billy Joel

By Ben Cohen/JNS.org

By sporting a Star of David on his jacket during a concert, maybe Billy Joel thought he honored the victims of the Holocaust. Maybe it was his way of asking, "Can you imagine an America like this?" Yet even if we can all imagine that, there is nothing happening to suggest a Fourth Reich is around the corner, writes JNS.org columnist Ben Cohen.

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Billy Joel sports a Star of David on his jacket during a concert at New York City's Madison Square Garden.

Netanyahu's hard choice

By Jonathan Tobin/Israel Hayom/JNS.org

The same people who spent eight years slamming Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's willingness to publicly take on President Barack Obama are now loudly lamenting his refusal to do just that with President Donald Trump. Netanyahu was slow to respond to an anti-Semitic and racist march in Charlottesville, Va. Are his critics hypocrites? Of course they are. Are they wrong? Not entirely, writes columnist Jonathan S. Tobin.

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In June, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addresses a joint Knesset-Congress event for the 50th anniversary of Jerusalem's reunification.

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Jewish beard-growers strive to be face of global facial hair showdown

By Orit Arfa/JNS.org

Visitors to the Otto Weidt Workshop for the Blind Museum in Berlin would need to be blind not to notice Haim Hoffmann—or rather, his weird beard—as he asks them to leave their backpacks at the reception desk. “It’s called the ‘Three-day Freestyle,’” joked Hoffman, the museum’s shift manager. Hoffman should know. He’s the German champion for the “Imperial Beard,” in which a sizable mustache-beard arches upward. He’ll be defending the bronze medal at the 2017 World Beard and Mustache Championships (WBMC) in Austin, Texas, from Sept. 1-3. Bryan Nelson, the organizer of this year’s WBMC, counts at least a handful of “Members of the Tribe” among the record-high 700 contestants.

[Read more.](#)



Haim Hoffmann, a German champion for the “Imperial Beard,” at the Otto Weidt Workshop for the Blind Museum in Berlin.

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