**Mid-Year Report 2024**

1. **Shurat HaDin suing the Red Cross: Once again failing in its mandate when it comes to Jews**

Shurat HaDin has filed an unprecedented lawsuit against the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) alleging that its failure to assist the Israeli hostages is a massive breach of its legal and moral obligation. The hostage families' complaint noted that for decades, going back to the Holocaust, the ICRC has refused to utilize its agencies to provide assistance to Jews. The claim filed in the Jerusalem District Court on behalf of families of hostages accuses the ICRC of not acting to fulfill its mandate to visit the Israeli hostages, failing to guarantee their safety, failing to act for their release, failing to deliver the necessary medicines to the hostages - even when provided to the organization's representatives. [New York Times: Hamas Hostages and Families of Captives Sue Red Cross in Israeli Court](https://thehill.com/opinion/4408958-hope-is-not-a-strategy-the-futility-of-a-possible-palestinian-authority-return-to-gaza/?mc_cid=b521b3f637&mc_eid=3185a49eb4).

1. **Shurat HaDin spearheads efforts to have UNRWA declared a terror organization in Israel**

Although UNRWA has held itself out to be a humanitarian organization, the discovery of a Hamas command center under its headquarters has changed that completely. It has housed tunnels under their building, allowing for storage of a myriad of weapons in its offices, including guns, ammunition, grenades, and explosives, in addition to now havingsome of its employees accused of murdering innocent Jews on October 7. UNRWA has perpetuated a false and dangerous historic narrative about Israel for years, stoking the hatred of Jews by the Palestinian people, further radicalizing them against the Jewish State, thus allowing for the October 7 massacre to occur. After October 7, Shurat HaDin launched an initiative to establish a legal war room to coordinate legal efforts around the world, in defense of Israel and to initiate legal actions against Hamas. Having UNRWA declared a terror organization is necessary to prevent the next victims of terrorist violence and to expedite the collapse of Hamas rule in the Gaza Strip.[The Jerusalem Post: Victims of October 7 demand declaration of UNRWA as terror group.](https://www.jpost.com/israel-hamas-war/article-786643?mc_cid=9f936da0ea&mc_eid=04962a0f1e)

1. **Shurat HaDin accuses the US of funding UNRWA despite knowing its ties to terror**

Since the US is UNRWA's primary donor, 8,000 plaintiffs have filed suit against the US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken and other government employees, who share the responsibility for coordinating all US federal aid to UNRWA. Shurat HaDin, on behalf of the plaintiffs demanded "a complete cessation of all funding to UNRWA in contravention of law.” The complaint lays out how the US looked the other way despite knowing that the millions it sent to UNRWA was being diverted to fund terrorism and that UNRWA employees were complicit in the attacks of October 7, including murdering, raping, and kidnapping Israelis, as well as holding hostages in their homes. [The Jerusalem Post: US accused of funding UNRWA while terror ties known, complaint charges.](https://www.jpost.com/israel-hamas-war/article-790017)

1. **Shurat HaDin helps October 7 victims' families sue the Palestinian Authority (PA) and Hamas**

Demanding that the PA and Hamas pay for the atrocities committed on October 7, Shurat HaDin is fighting an economic war to defeat the terrorists. In the first lawsuit filed against the PA since the outbreak of the war, the PA is accused of funding the Hamas terror machine. By demanding compensation of over 1 billion shekels, they along with Shurat HaDin are looking to eliminate Hamas "by cutting off its economic life support," said Shurat HaDin's President, Nitsana Darshan-Leitner. [Ynet: October 7 victims’ families sue Palestinian Authority and Hamas: ‘They will pay for their actions.’](https://www.ynetnews.com/article/rkddcb3pp?mc_cid=cc9487a4ad&mc_eid=04962a0f1e)

1. **Bringing Kosovo Sexual Violence Survivors to Speak Out Against Hamas' Crimes**

Shurat HaDin brought to Israel a delegation of sexual assault activists from the Kosovo War who are outspoken in their insistence that rape be treated and prosecuted by the international community as a war crime.The delegation included a world renowned women’s rights activist, Vasfije Krasniqi Goodman, who at 16 was raped during the Kosovo War, and agreed to speak about the assault, after 18 years of silence. The delegation, accompanied by the Kosovo ambassador to Israel, met with Israeli leaders at the Knesset and at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, toured the southern kibbutzim and Nova Festival site where many of the attacks occurred, heard the details of the crimes from the first responders, and visited with family members of the hostages and victims.

This solidarity visit was crucial to emphasize to the world that war-time sexual assaults cannot be simply disregarded with impunity and that the crimes perpetrated by Hamas are not merely an Israeli problem, they are a global offense that requires a powerful and immediate response. One of the delegation members, a Columbia University professor who investigated sexual crimes in war zones, over the past 30 years, told us that the levels of violence and rape committed against Israeli woman on Oct. 7 was unprecedented in other conflicts. [Israel Hayom: Kosovo war sexual assault victim in Israel for solidarity visit.](https://www.israelhayom.com/2024/02/08/kosovo-war-sexual-assault-victim-in-israel-for-solidarity-visit/)

1. **Shurat HaDin calls on Biden to defeat Hamas and stop paying it lip service**

Despite the US announcing that "Hamas must be subdued at all costs," it is doing nothing to cut off the monies that feed Hamas. Although offering a $10 million reward for information about Hamas' funding sources, the US does everything it can to subvert the actual flow of cash to Hamas. The US knows that Qatar transfers hundreds of millions of dollars to Hamas via different avenues such as fuels, tax monies, and charity for Hamas' "humanitarian organizations." Given the relationship that the US has with Qatar, it is no surprise it does not go after Qatar. It allows the Palestinian Authority (PA) to pay for Gaza infrastructure and Hamas to keep tax money earmarked for such purposes, thus feeding its war monster. The US has never demanded an end to these payments.

It sends the State Department to dismiss lawsuits against the PA and terrorist-supporting banks, on procedural grounds. It even exempted the PA from paying hundreds of millions of dollars after a unanimous jury verdict found the PA responsible for the intifada attacks. Though vacated on appeal, due to a lack of local jurisdiction and despite legislative changes that Shurat HaDin led to show that the aid that the PA receives from the US establishes local jurisdiction, the Administration argued that the laws are unconstitutional and opposed the reinstatement of the verdict. Biden must go after Qatar and the PA to stop this endless flow of terror funding to Hamas. [Israel Hayom: כך יכול ביידן להכניע את הטרור](https://www.israelhayom.co.il/opinions/article/15071251?mc_cid=34a8a94959&mc_eid=7f93a30669) (Hebrew)

1. **Nitsana Darshan-Leitner on the price we pay for making deals with the enemy**

Having gone through rounds of prisoner exchanges our suffering is compounded by those prisoners we release and how difficult it is for Israel to avenge the blood of innocent Jews, when those we release make their way to new lives outside of Israel. [Israel Hayom: Entering the deal with eyes open.](https://www.israelhayom.com/opinions/entering-the-deal-with-eyes-open/?mc_cid=39919069c7&mc_eid=7f93a30669)

1. **Shurat HaDin’s lawyers are being called to assist in the Israeli effort to fend off long-feared indictments of Israeli officials and IDF officers in The Hague**

In response to the US Department of State's possible sanctioning of the Netzah Yehuda Force, there is renewed concern over the ICC's intent to proceed with an investigation of alleged war crimes by the IDF. The US sanctions may embolden the ICC to do just that. This would play into the hands of the Palestinians and all other enemies of Israel who attempt to use the ICC, ICJ, and UNHRC to leave Israel unable to legally defend itself when under attack. Shurat HaDin’s lawyers have been called to meetings with legal experts to provide their analysis and thinking on how the Jewish State and IDF can head off and respond to these perilous legal campaigns that threaten to weaken our resolve and leave us defenseless; something Shurat HaDin vows to fight in any legal arena that challenges Israel's existence.

1. **Shurat HaDin launches a multi-million-dollar lawsuit against Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) on behalf of victims of Hamas terror**

Sixty terror victims of October 7th and beyond, have filed a multi-million-dollar lawsuit in the Middle District of Florida under the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) against American Muslims for Palestine (AMP), Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), its affiliated network of student organizations, and their leaders. The plaintiffs argue that SJP is a network established and supported by Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood, and which offers material support for terrorism. The complaint further demonstrates how Hamas has, over the last two decades, covertly extended its terrorist influence on college campuses in the United States via groups like SJP; the results of which we are seeing each day across college campuses. [YNET: **'**Terrorist wing in academia': October 7 victims sue Students for Justice in Palestine organization](https://www.ynetnews.com/article/rj5ymweg0).

1. **Shurat HaDin calls on Biden to halt the ICC from issuing indictments and warrants against Israeli officials**

Almost 200 attorneys from Israel, the US and from around the world, issued a letter to President Biden to stop the ICC's Chief Prosecutor from bringing indictments against Israeli leaders and senior IDF officers. The letter, authored by Nitsana Darshan Leitner, emphasized the urgency with which the administration must protect its allies under the American Service-Members Protection Act. It is clear that instead of going after Hamas and Iran, the Hague is wrongly targeting Israel. Biden needs to intercede and prevent the issuing of arrest warrants for Israeli leaders and high ranking IDF soldiers. Not doing so would be a threat not just to Israel, but to all Western democratic states. [JNS: Lawyers call on Biden to halt ICC warrants for Israeli officials.](https://www.jns.org/israeli-us-lawyers-call-on-biden-to-halt-icc-indictments-of-israeli-officials/?mc_cid=c65d27fdb1&mc_eid=04962a0f1e)

1. **Nitsana Darshan-Leitner chosen as one of the 48 people who exemplify Israeli resilience and are building toward a brighter future by Israel 21 Century**

Immediately after the October 7 massacre Nitsana Darshan-Leitner mobilized Shurat HaDin and worked with security forces to go after the money that feeds terrorism. Shurat HaDin filed lawsuits against Hamas, the Palestinian Authority, the Red Cross, UNRWA, and the American government for funding UNRWA. Shurat HaDin also turned to the ICC to issue arrest warrants for Hamas leaders. In addition, Shurat HaDin is working on going after the Qatari charity fund and the crypto companies that allow and assist Hamas to raise funds. In the American arena, Shurat HaDin filed lawsuits against Harvard for allowing the proliferation of antisemitism on campus and for doing nothing to eradicate it. With a belief in the people of Israel's resiliency through the ages and a hope for a better world for her children, Nitsana fights on wherever the need arises. [Israel21c: The 48](https://www.israel21c.org/the48-2024/).

1. **Shurat HaDin demands the US investigate corruption claims against South African leadership**

A group of 160 lawyers, led by [Shurat HaDin](https://israellawcenter.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3e7e2c5a9ce7856f4b1195a01&id=cf16f7489f&e=18242e8d9a), have issued a call to US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken, the Justice Department, and Congressional leaders urging an investigation of South African leaders. In a letter sent in May, the lawyers call upon American authorities to investigate members of the African National Congress Party (ANC), the party that holds a majority of seats in the National Assembly and also leads the South African government, under the Magnitsky Act for participating “in acts of significant corruption involving bribery.”

The letter further alleges that officials accepted bribes from Iran which were intended to cover ANC debts, in return for which party members agreed to pursue the case in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) blaming Israel for committing genocide in Gaza.

The letter reveals a series of events that began in October 2023, shortly after the outbreak of the war, when South African Foreign Minister Naledi Pandor traveled to Iran to meet with the President of the Republic to discuss the Israel-Hamas war. Less than two months later in December, South Africa had filed the complaint against Israel in the ICJ. In January, despite well-known crippling financial difficulties within the ANC, the party surprisingly announced that its finances had been stabilized. [The Jerusalem Post: 160 Lawyers demand US investigate corruption claims against South African leadership.](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-801490?mc_cid=c94448ac62&mc_eid=7f93a30669)

1. **Nitsana Darshan-Leitner is interviewed by PragerU's CEO Marissa Streit**

Nitsana Darshan-Leitner discusses Shurat HaDin's legal fight against terrorist organizations and state sponsors of terror in courts around the world. Nitsana and PragerU Marissa Streit discuss the unconventional strategy of bankrupting terrorism through the courts. [PragerU: This lawyer sues terrorists into bankruptcy.](https://israellawcenter.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3e7e2c5a9ce7856f4b1195a01&id=3042e038e7&e=7f93a30669) (Video)

1. **Shurat HaDin defends Israel against unfounded challenges over conditions at the Sde Taimen Jail**

Based on unsubstantiated reports by the biased UN agency UNRWA, Pro-Palestinian civil rights organizations filed a high court petition demanding the closure of the Sde Taimen jail in which the Hamas Nuchba terrorists are held, alleging civil rights abuses. Shurat HaDin asked to join the petition and argued that there exists no proof of such abuses, and that UNRWA is filled with Hamas members in its ranks, so relying on its findings is like relying on Hamas’ allegations regarding its terrorists. Shurat HaDin also argued that the terrorists were military combatants, thus should be given no more than the minimal rights they are entitled to by law. Shurat HaDin demanded that the jail continue to house them indefinitely, that no information about them be turned over to the Red Cross, or to Hamas, especially since Hamas does not allow access to the Israel hostages.

1. **Shurat HaDin's fundraising campaign to continue its fight against terror**

While our soldiers fight for us on the battlefield, Shurat HaDin fights terror in the halls of justice. Shurat HaDin along with the best legal minds, with hundreds of volunteer attorneys, with leading experts, wages legal war for Israel and for our people. Shurat HaDin has taken on Iran, UNRWA, Students for Justice in Palestine, Harvard, and the Red Cross. Shurat HaDin is raising awareness of the sexual assaults against Israelis on October 7 as war crimes, demanding the suspension of the Red Crescent from the International Federation of the Red Cross, cutting Hamas' fundraising channels, requesting an injunction against UNRWA's funding, and pushing for new legislation to increase damages for terror victims.

To be a part of this fight you can support Shurat HaDin’s legal battles. YOU can also fight back against Hamas and campus extremists. YOU can help target the terrorists. YOU can defend the Jewish State. YOU can stand with the world Jewish community. Together we must fight back and together we will prevail! [Please watch this timely video and donate generously to support our legal war on Israel's behalf.](https://causematch.com/shurathadin_YH2024?mc_cid=888b0f5797&mc_eid=3185a49eb4)

**Op-Ed:**

**Hope is not a strategy: The futility of a possible Palestinian Authority return to Gaza**

By Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, [THE HILL, 01/15/2024](https://thehill.com/opinion/4408958-hope-is-not-a-strategy-the-futility-of-a-possible-palestinian-authority-return-to-gaza/?mc_cid=b521b3f637&mc_eid=3185a49eb4)

**Op-Ed:**

**North Korea Is Fighting Israel on the DL**

By Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, [NEWSWEEK, 02/02/2024](https://www.newsweek.com/north-korea-fighting-israel-dl-opinion-1866410)

**Op-Ed:**

**Entering the deal with eyes open**

By Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, [ISRAEL HAYOM, 03/18/2024](https://www.israelhayom.com/opinions/entering-the-deal-with-eyes-open/)

**Op-Ed:**

**Hatred from the Casa de Nariño: Colombia severs ties with Israel**

By Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, [JERUSALEM POST, 05/23/2024](https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-802405?mc_cid=5f71a89783&mc_eid=04962a0f1e)