

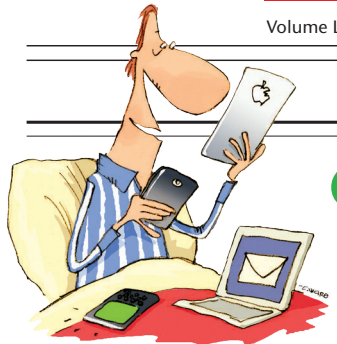
# THE JERUSALEM POST

Volume LXXXV, Number 23898

FOUNDED IN 1932

NIS 13.00 (EILAT NIS 11.00)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2017 ■ 18 TISHREI, 5778



## Cyber-psych

Navigating your way through the Internet

Page 6

## Tel Aviv to Taipei

Taiwan is becoming a popular destination for Israelis

Page 7



## Close encounters

HBO documentary dives into Steven Spielberg's life

Page 24



# PLO envoy: We're joining world bodies 'as a state'

Mansour says he sees consensus for two-state solution

• By ALLYN FISHER-ILAN  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

VIENNA – The Palestinians plan to pursue a course of operating diplomatically “as a state” despite the absence of a peace deal with Israel, PLO Ambassador to the UN Riyad Mansour told a world body forum in a two-day session here that ended Friday.

Lamenting a lengthy stalemate in negotiations and talk of the possible abandonment of a longtime recognized goal of achieving a two-state solution, Mansour said: “We are joining international conventions and treaties every day as a state.”

Referencing Interpol's recent acceptance of Palestinian membership despite protests by Israel and Washington, Mansour said “that the trend [of joining international organizations] is moving forward.”

“We are acting as a state, we are accepted as a state and we will continue on this path,” Mansour told the International Media Seminar on Peace in the Middle East.

The conference is an annual event held since the Oslo Accords were achieved in 1993 as a way of propelling stalemated diplomacy forward. Formal peace talks last broke off in 2014.

The UN General Assembly gave Palestinians non-member observer status in 2012 but left the achievement of actual statehood up to negotiations with Israel. Jerusalem rejected that move as a unilateral step

aimed at sidestepping peace talks.

Some journalists, diplomats and politicians at the conference wondered aloud whether the two-state solution was still relevant, referencing US President Donald Trump's failure to embrace the idea as a goal.

Mansour rejected a suggestion by peace activist Abraham Burg, a former Knesset speaker and Jewish Agency

head, that the idea of independent Palestinian statehood alongside Israel “may no longer be on the shelf.”

“Is the concept of a nation-state still applicable?” Burg asked, pointing to the latest referendums for autonomy by Catalonia and the Kurds as examples of a more modern “withdrawal from the state back to the tribe” type model.

See *STATE*, Page 10



## CATALAN CRISIS

“Can we talk?” the banner reads at a rally in Madrid yesterday, where protesters called for dialogue to resolve Catalonia's bid for independence. Similar protests were held across 50 cities amid reports that the Catalan parliament will vote on a declaration of independence on Tuesday. See story, Page 8. (Sergio Perez/Reuters)

# Despite the risks, Ankara announces Idlib incursion

• By SETH J. FRANTZMAN

“Today there is a serious operation in Idlib and it will continue, because we have to extend a hand to our brothers in Idlib,” Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Saturday.

An operation to enter Syria's Idlib province, one of the largest areas still controlled by Syrian rebels, would be a major development in the civil war. It is also in line with Turkey's stated policy over the last year vis-a-vis the situation to its south.

However, it presents many dangers for Ankara. With Russian airpower operating over Idlib and Turkey supporting rebel groups on the ground against other extremist

groups, there is an increased risk of civilian casualties and angering Syrians who have welcomed Turkish support in the past.

Idlib province in northwestern Syria has been controlled by a collection of opposition rebel groups for years. In 2012, after protests against Bashar Assad, it was the target of an assault by Syrian regime forces but fell to a collection of rebel groups, including many Islamists, in March 2015. The provincial capital, Idlib city, was home to around 200,000 people, and its countryside has been strongly pro-rebel since 2011.

Aron Lund, a fellow at the Century Foundation, called the province a “poor, rural and conservative Sunni Arab

governorate” in 2016. It has since become the home of the most extreme Islamist rebel

See *IDLIB*, Page 10

TODAY. 6-9 PM  
LECHAYIM WITH THE ARTIST  
ROSENBACH  
contemporary



BEVERLEY-JANE STEWART "SELECT WORKS"

16 King David St. (entrance on 2 Hess St)  
www.rosenbach.co.il  
+972-507-516091

# Week remains for Trump decision on Iran deal

Netanyahu's advisers cite 'Fix it or nix it' speech but PM still has no comment

• By HERB KEINON

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has yet to publicly comment on US President Donald Trump's upcoming decision on whether to “decertify” the Iranian nuclear deal, even as advisers to the premier responded to queries about the matter on Saturday night by referring to his “Fix it or nix it” speech at the UN some three weeks ago.

Iranians are not abiding by the agreement, Congress will have two months to decide

See *TRUMP*, Page 10

Rouhani defends nuke deal, Page 4

Trump, who has called the nuclear deal – known formally as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action – an “embarrassment,” faces an October 15 deadline for deciding whether to certify to Congress, as he must do every 90 days, whether Iran is abiding by the deal and whether it remains in America's national interest.

If he determines that the



9770793913016 41

08/10/2017

פוסט חול

Joey Freudmann invites you to join him for a great Pesach 2018 At the first class Sharon Hotel Herzliya



A great location facing the Mediterranean, situated in beautiful gardens, private beach, outdoor and indoor pools, spa, gym.

- Delicious Mehadrin cuisine
- Afternoon tea daily (sweet hour)
- English speaking program
- Movies daily
- Entertainment daily
- Superb supervised kid's program
- Scholar Rabbi Dr Nachum Amsel and other guest speakers
- Great atmosphere
- Attractive rates

For details contact: Joey at Ophir Tours 09-7602062 or 0547-455359  
Email: joey@netvision.net.il | www.whollykosher.com  
From the UK: 0203-239-2115 | From the USA 1.718.395-3755

Also at "Hotel Kibbutz Lavi Galilee" new - ask for details

UNITED HATZALAH SUKKOT | CONCERT EXTRAVAGANZA

Honoring the world renowned philanthropist Mr. Leonardo Farkas, Chile

FRIENDS OF UNITED HATZALAH OF ISRAEL

UNITED HATZALAH SUKKOT | CONCERT EXTRAVAGANZA

# AVRAHAM & Family FRIED

UNITED TO SAVE LIVES

FOR THE FIRST TIME!

8th Day Shmuel & Bentzi Marcus

Benny Friedman

Eli Marcus

Simche Friedman

Musical Director Yuval Stupel

**TOMORROW**

**Monday, October 9th 2017**

For more information and reservations, call:  
Israel: +972-2-940-1401 - US & Canada: 646-833-7108  
UK / ENGLAND 02088197655, France: 01-77-47-39-00  
sales@concertinisrael.com  
www.concertinisrael.com

Monday, October 9th 2017 Chol Hamoed Sukkot 19:30 PM  
Binyanei Haumah - ICC Jerusalem - Int. Convention Center

יום שני י"ט בתשרי חוה"מ סוכות 19:30  
בנייני האומה ירושלים

Ticket Prices: Sponsor: \$1,000 | VIP: \$500 | Gold: \$360 | Platinum \$120 | Silver: \$60

All donations, excluding the fair market value of the ticket price, are tax deductible



# Navigating your way through cyberspace

An Oxford-educated Israeli psychologist explains the benefits and risks of the Internet to the English-speaking public with a new book. Judy Siegel-Itzkovich reports

There is no way to put the genie back into the bottle. Now that the Internet has changed the way people think, are informed and behave and created a tool that offers both good and bad, there is no turning back. Mankind will have to learn to deal with the benefits and dangers of the digital media as a form of human communication.

The online world can be used to educate and find love, treat patients from afar and empower the disabled, but it can also make it easier for terrorists to organize and spread aggression, mayhem and death.

Prof. Yair Amichai-Hamburger has devoted almost two decades to the study of how the Internet influences our lives. Head of the Center of Internet Psychology at the Interdisciplinary Center's Sammy Ofer School of Communication in Herzliya, Amichai-Hamburger has taught courses on psychology and the Internet, management and leadership.

Having earned his doctorate in psychology at Oxford University, the award-winning Israeli has worked as a leading industrial consultant and senior adviser to the Education Ministry and has written widely on the impact of the Internet on wellbeing. Amichai-Hamburger was one of the earliest commentators to note the potential power and significance of online social networks. His first book, *The Social Net: Human Behavior in Cyberspace*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2005. His second book, *Technology and Wellbeing*, was published three years later by Cambridge University Press.

The researcher's third book, *The Social Net: Understanding Our Online Behavior*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2013. Now he has written *Internet Psychology: The Basics*, just published by Routledge of London and New York, which is geared to an intelligent laymen audience but is nevertheless based on scientific studies and backed up by hundreds of references in its 201 pages. The volume is well written, organized and documented.

Few Internet users know or care about its origin way back in the 1950s with the development of electronic computers and networking among them in computer science labs in the US, Britain and France.

“AMICHAH-HAMBURGER notes that the Internet was actually “conceived by accident... at a time when the superpowers were at the height of their arms race. Filled with the spirit of the times, researchers at the US Department of Defense were preparing for the worst. They wanted to develop a form of communication that could keep data unharmed through a nuclear holocaust.”

They reasoned that if data were centralized in one location and destroyed by the enemy, they could not be reconstructed. “Time passed, and the decentralized military computer network evolved into an academic network. From there to today's Internet, the journey was a short one.”

British computer scientist Time Berners-Lee worked at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research and created the World Wide Web (www), linking hyper-text documents into an information system accessible from any node on the network.

This rapidly blossomed into instant communication by email, free interactive video calls (Skype), discussion forums, blogs, online shopping and social networks. Smartphones have been turned into any adult or child's personal communications, gaming and information device.

The eight chapters of the book (softcover for a general audience and hardcover for libraries) cover these topics: Who are we online?; Does our personality affect our online behavior; Is true love obtainable via the Internet; Violence on the Internet; Youth and the Internet: Entering the enchanted forest; Groups and leaders; How



(TNS)

we can use the Internet to create a better world; and how we can successfully navigate our way through the digital jungle.

“I started working in the field of Internet psychology in 1998, the author recalled.

“I had noticed that psychologists had almost nothing to say about the Internet, despite the fact that psychology was integrally linked to it. At a cocktail party at his university a year later, a senior professor said in a scathing voice in front of colleagues: “Yair, can you tell me what on earth psychology has to do with the Internet?”

Amichai-Hamburger was determined. “What indeed! The Internet is an inherent part of our lives. We do almost everything via the Internet – checking the weather in the morning in order to dress appropriately; making hotel reservations for a London holiday or organizing our social arrangements, as professionals, we use it to keep up with our own specialized fields. For children and young people born into a digital world, Internet use is as much a part of life as drinking water and breathing air.”

Since 1998, the author has invested all his time in the subject. Around the world, thousands of academic articles on the subject have appeared.

THE INTERNET, he continues, has created a unique psychological space by providing users with a feeling of anonymity; control over one's level of physical exposure; high control over communication; ease in locating like-minded people; accessibility and availability at all times and places; feeling of equality; and the fun of Web surfing.

A famous cartoon in the magazine *The New Yorker* back in 1993 depicted two dogs, one in front of a computer keyboard and the other looking at him quizzically. The dog, notes the author, says: On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog.” Today, the cartoon “still expresses the enormous power of the anonymity that the Web brings.”

It can bring emancipation to the overweight, unattractive, disabled and others who feel uncomfortable in the presence of new people, but this condition of impersonality also makes it easy for pedophiles to

attack children, extremists to promote hate and terrorist organizations to lure attackers.

Amichai-Hamburger tackles questions such as why our self-control sometimes abandons us on the Internet? Why does the online environment create a separate realm of social and personal relationships? How does all that change us as people? Are youngsters really as exposed and threatened on the Web as people think?

Interspersed among the chapters are mini-biographies of outstanding psychologists and psychiatrists, including Sigmund Freud, Carl Rogers, Albert Bandura, Solomon Eliot Asch, Gordon Allport, John Bowlby and others. Sometimes the author suggests how they would regard the changes wrought by the Internet.

Websites and chat groups on a variety of subjects from railroads to saving endangered species to Mickey Mouse and Elvis Presley give people who used to think they were odd and ostracized a feeling of belonging. “They form ties, and they understand that they are not alone.”

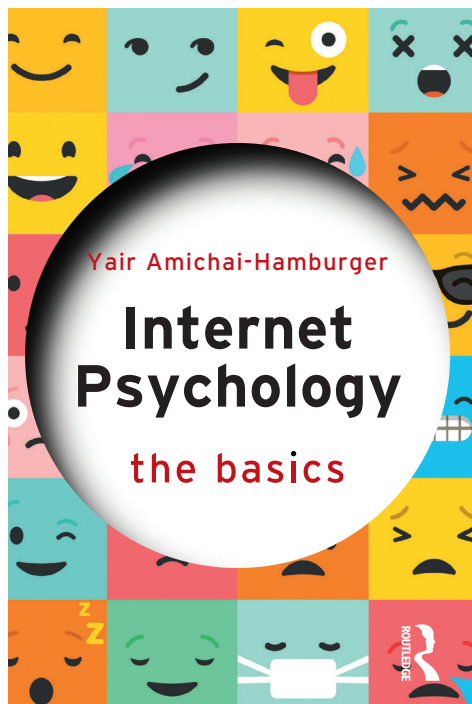
They get the feeling that there are others like them.

Internet gives people the freedom to review a book, movie, restaurant or hotel even if they are not experts. It also enables them to give a voice to oppressed minorities whose words are obliterated by authoritarian regimes.

You can post photos on Instagram and a video on YouTube or express outrage on Facebook. These are even used daily by presidents and prime ministers to reach the public directly without the “interference” of the press, sometimes causing their too-speedy comments to make them look idiotic.

“People nowadays believe the expression ‘I'm the media.’ You are no longer a mere consumer of media but rather a provider of media.”

Years ago, Amichai-Hamburger first learned that online communications is a two-edged sword, when the response of some readers to an academic article on Internet psychology that he wrote elicited talkbacks personally calling him a “moron” and even less-kind names.



PROF. YAIR AMICHAH-HAMBURGER

GETTING INTO e-therapy, in which psychologists and psychiatrists are now advising and analyzing patients via their computer screens without even shaking their hands, the author notes that such treatment can have great advantages. Counseling online is considered by many a safer, more secure environment. People ashamed of being seen in a psychologist's waiting room are likely to prefer getting advice that way, as would people who live in the periphery of the country and unable to reach the office of a professional. While it is harder for a therapist to decipher body language of a patient, there is even a possibility of the him attaching sensors to his body to monitor pulse or perspiration. Skype sessions can give the therapist the feeling he is there with the patient.

Most people can name couples who married as a result of being introduced on the Internet. “I believe that the Web is a very significant place in which to find love,” he writes.

While the Internet provides an easy way for people – especially those to shy in the real world – to get together, many of them exaggerate their personal assets. People looking for love may fall in love with a fantasy rather than a real person. The fact that there are so many potential mates on display on dating sites may discourage working hard to get to know somebody, because there are always more profiles to view.

Amichai-Hamburger also warns against abuse, such as the case of the Ashley Madison website, which encouraged people to have extramarital affairs.

“Life is short; have an affair.”

But the author notes that two years ago, hackers broke into the site and stole names, addresses and credit card details of those who used it. In addition, staff members of Ashley Madison were found to have invented hundreds of fake female profiles to make the site seem more popular than it was.

“As always, there is an interplay between revelation and concealment, between fantasy and reality. These are the factors that make romance online possible, but they are also the very same factors that make online pursuits (or something like it) so very fraught with danger.”

The election of US President Donald Trump led to a resurgence on the social networks of extreme statements by previously marginal groups who suddenly came out of the woodwork. Social psychologist Bandura studied the roots of violence by dividing a group of children into two. One group watched a video of an adult hitting and shouting at an inflatable doll weighted at the bottom so that, if tipped, it rights itself. The other group watched an adult calmly arranging some toys. When he put

both groups together in a room full of toys and dolls, children who viewed the violence themselves became violent against the dolls, imitating the actions of the person they saw. The greatest aggression was seen among the group that watched the adult who received an award for his nasty behavior.

The ease of finding like-minded people “creates a hothouse for nurturing violence. On the Internet, the aggressor can find soul mates to share any particular hatred and any campaign of harassment – against people of any ethnicity or religion, for example. These friends,” writes Amichai-Hamburger, “will provide positive reinforcement, which acts as a reward for the violence expressed toward the hated group.”

But he does not agree with those who claim that the Internet can turn good people into bad ones, except that it may serve as a school for teaching violence to non-aggressive people.

As an Israeli, Amichai-Hamburger notes how the Center for Multiculturalism brought together religious and secular young Israeli Jews and Arabs – future teachers in colleges. They communicated with each other under supervision, and the result was a reduction in stereotyping and prejudice.

Cyberbullying, encouraging anorexia and other eating disorders, pornography and other online dangers are discussed on detail by the author, who urges parents to take a role in the Internet use of their children. As they get older, they are likely to deceive their parents about the things to which they are exposed.

He advises setting up a regular, fixed time for parents and children to spend time together – turning off smartphones, tablets, laptops and TV.

“Be present both physically and mentally. Really listen to what they say. Be non-judgmental. Ask only clarifying questions, reflect their answers back to them, and do not discuss your personal history. Ensure the focus is completely on them,” he counsels.

The book ends with a look into the future – at robots that will be able to “act human” and Internet sites that will provide additional senses of taste, smell and touch through virtual reality. One will in future be able to “visit” Niagara Falls while sitting in your living room, feeling a refreshing spray of water on your face and smelling the air.

“The digital world we inhabit is dynamic, challenging and sometimes frightening,” he concludes. “But we have many choices: we can choose to drift or be tossed around in our boat, at the mercy of the ocean, or we can invest in an efficient navigation system.”

## Lower extremities are ultimately legs

### NEW WORLDS

• By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

The application's terminology lists for the general public include, on average, less professional jargon than scientific abstracts, but only by a small margin – 10% compared to 14%. The significance of the data is that when scientists wrote to the general public, one in 10 words was unfamiliar jargon. Previous studies have shown that in order for the text to be understood, the reader must recognize at least 98% of the words. Therefore, the researchers recommend reducing the proportion of professional terminology in the text to 2% – much less than today – in order to promote effective and fruitful dialogue between researchers and the general public.

Baram-Tsabari's statement is not based on gut feeling, but rather on a study she conducted with Dr. Zipora Rikzon of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology and Dr. Elad Segev and his students Noam Chapnik and Roi Yosef of HIT.

In the study, published in the journal *PLoS One*, the researchers present De-Jargonizer, a new program designed to help scientists and those involved in making science accessible to the public by creating more accessible and understandable texts. The software enables users to simplify their text by identifying, removing, substituting or explaining professional terms that are not familiar to the general public.

The use of the software is very simple. One enters the free site scienceandpublic.com, uploads the text to be tested, and the algorithm automatically and

immediately paints the words in the text according to their frequency in the vocabulary of a regular reader. Today the software is based on the frequency of words on the BBC News website, but the database will be expanded and updated to include additional sources and languages later on.

“De-Jargonizer is a tool that can help researchers and scientists make their research available to the public, support scientific literacy and strengthen the vital dialogue with the general public by using appropriate vocabulary,” concluded Baram-Tsabari.

“It may also have other uses, such as helping doctors who want to make the patient's medical diagnosis clear.” Using the new tool, researchers compared 5,000 pairs of texts written by scientists – abstracts of an article and a summary intended for the general public, describing the article in a popular way. All texts were taken from *PLoS Computational Biology* and *PLoS Genetics*.

### FISH TO SHRINK AND GASP FROM WARMER WATERS

If ocean temperatures continue to rise, fish are expected to shrink in size by 20% to 30%, according to a new study by researchers at the University of British Columbia.

“Fish, as cold-blooded animals, cannot regulate their own body temperatures. When their waters get warmer, their metabolism accelerates and they need more oxygen to sustain their body functions,” said Prof. William Cheung, co-author of the study, at the

Institute for the Ocean and Fisheries.

“There is a point where the gills cannot supply enough oxygen for a larger body, so the fish just stops growing larger.”

Daniel Pauly, the study's lead author, explained that as fish grow into adulthood, their demand for oxygen increases because their body mass becomes larger. However, the surface area of the gills – where oxygen is obtained – does not grow at the same pace as the rest of the body. He called this set of principles that explains why fish are expected to shrink “gill-oxygen limitation theory.”

For example, as a fish like cod increases its weight by 100%, its gills grow by only 80% or less. When understood in the context of climate change, this biological rule reinforces the prediction that fish will shrink and will be even smaller than thought in previous studies.

Warmer waters increase the fish's need for oxygen, but climate change will result in less oxygen in the oceans. This means that gills have less oxygen to supply to a body that already grows faster than them. The researchers say this forces fish to slow their growth to be able to fulfill their needs with the little oxygen available to them. Some species may be more affected by this combination of factors. Tuna, which are fast-moving and require more energy and oxygen, may shrink even more when temperatures increase.

Fish becoming smaller will have an impact on fishery production as well as the interaction between organisms in the ecosystems.

Software developed at Haifa's Technion-Israel Institute of Technology and the Holon Institute of Technology (HIT) will help scientists make their research accessible to the general public by reducing the use of abstruse professional terminology. The world of science is wide and fascinating, and many scientists understand the importance of making it accessible. However, many potential consumers of scientific knowledge give up on it because of an unnecessary encounter with jargon.

One of the reasons for the widespread use of professional jargon is the “curse of knowledge” – the expert's difficulty in remembering what he did not know as a novice. The difficulty is in understanding that the person opposite him does not know, for example, what methylation of RNA is, or a solvent or turbulent flow – terms that he uses dozens of times a day as an expert.

According to Prof. Eilat Baram-Tsabari of the faculty of science and technology education at the Technion, “Scientists understand intuitively that they should reduce the use of professional jargon when speaking to the general public, but many of them do not implement it adequately in texts intended for the general public.”

According to Baram-Tsabari, “The De-Jargonizer application reveals a rather gloomy picture of the patterns of use of scientific jargon in writing to the general public.”