

U.S.-Israel ties souring worse threat than Iran, report says

INSS report presented to President Herzog says growing political polarization and antisemitism in the U.S. could put a strain on Jerusalem's relations with Biden administration

Itamar Eichner / Jan. 23, 2023

A report published on Monday by the **Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)** on major threats to Israel in 2023 said that maintaining strong relations with the U.S. is the most important challenge for Israel in the coming year.

The report also detailed two other major threats to Israel — the Iranian nuclear program, and a possible collapse of the Palestinian Authority leading to a conflagration of tensions throughout the Palestinian territories.

INSS chief Prof. Manuel Trajtenberg and Director-General Tamir Hyman presented the report to President Isaac Herzog at an official event in Jerusalem.

The INSS emphasized in the report that the ever-growing polarization in U.S. politics could gnaw at the relations between Washington and Jerusalem, and the research institute considers maintaining those relations a paramount priority in 2023.

According to the report, the progressive political camp in the U.S. is continuing to tighten its grip on American youth, who increasingly consider Israel an illegitimate state and an expression of white supremacy and colonialism. This, alongside increasing antisemitism and racism across the U.S., challenges the amicable relations between the countries.

INSS researchers believe that should Israel pursue policies deemed by Washington undemocratic or harmful to the Palestinians, this could put a strain on bilateral ties.

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