

# TRANSCRIPT

A VICTORY COALITION BRIEFING

## **The Odious Biden Legacy of Two-faced Betrayals of Israel and the Hamstringing of Trump 2.0**

**Will Team Biden Double-down on Such Travesties  
at the U.N. Security Council on Its Way Out the Door?**

*Frank Gaffney with Rabbi Pesach Wolicki, Dr. David Wurmser,  
Karen Siegemund, and Peter McIlvenna*

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## BEGIN TRANSCRIPT

[00:00:10] **Dede Laugesen:** Hello, everyone. Thanks for joining us today. I'm Dede Laugesen for the Victory Coalition. We encourage you to visit [victoryco.org](https://victoryco.org) for information on new programs, access to other videos and other very valuable content. Please follow us on X at @Co4victory. Our moderator today is Frank Gaffney. Frank is the president of the Institute for the American Future, founder of the Victory Coalition and host of Securing America on Real America's Voice Network.

[00:00:50] **Frank Gaffney:** Welcome, everyone, to our first briefing of this new victory coalition. We have put it in motion at [00:01:00] the encouragement of Steve Bannon. I'm pleased to say he just gave us a very generous send up on War Room. And we are looking forward to a continued collaboration with him and the posse and others about some of the issues that we believe are of paramount importance to the security of the United States and the well-being of its people. Specifically, the mission of this coalition is to address the threat posed by what I call Sharia supremacism. Sharia, of course, being the. Well, the operating code, for want of a better term of authoritative Islam. Fortunately, not all Muslims embrace it, let alone believe that they should live their life according to it. Or more to the point. Compel everybody [00:02:00] else to live their lives according to it, either as converts to Islam or as dhimmis. Arabic term for effectively

enslaved peoples. Sharia supremacism is in evidence all over the world at the moment. We will be talking with a principal focus today about its presence in and increasing violent aggressiveness in the Middle East, whether it is in the form of that practice by the Muslim Brotherhood and its offshoots like Al Qaeda and the Islamic State and other terrorist organizations, or that sponsored by Shia Iran and [00:03:00] its offshoots, notably Hezbollah and the Houthis, and even a Sunni outfit called Hamas.

[00:03:12] **Frank Gaffney:** That particular one is much in the news at the moment, and we will be discussing it intensively, as there is a very concerted effort being made in the final days of the Biden Harris administration to compel Israel to agree to a cease fire with Hamas. The effect of which, I think, as our presenters will address, not only ensuring the survival of that terrorist organization, but perhaps its victory over Israel and ultimately over our interests, both in Israel and more broadly as well. [00:04:00] Indeed, a victory by any of these Sharia supremacist entities will translate into an emboldening of others worldwide as they seek to accomplish the explicit objective of this doctrine, namely, global domination under a caliph who will rule in accordance with Sharia. These topics will bring us opportunities to discuss both what the supremacists of this ideology are up to at the moment both again in the region and beyond. What the implications are, if indeed they are successful in surviving Israel's efforts to defeat [00:05:00] them decisively, notably in the persons of the Hamas jihadists, those of Hezbollah, those of the Houthis, and of course, the people who make them all. All these operations possible. The mullahs of Iran will also be talking about a new emerging threat from Turkey with Qatar as its collaborator and bankroller. And what that is translating into in places like Syria, especially at the moment.

[00:05:35] **Frank Gaffney:** And not least, we're going to talk about an initiative apparently being used by the Biden administration to intensify the leverage on Israel to make a cease fire deal with Hamas during this closing days of the Biden presidency. And what [00:06:00] that might entail at the United Nations Security Council. And for the Trump administration soon to come into office as well. A very rich program. And delighted to say we are proud to be joined by several of the best, I think policy practitioners in the world on this occasion. And I will introduce each of them in turn, starting with Rabbi Pesach Wolicki. Rabbi Wolicki is an American by birth who made Aliyah to Israel some 30 years ago. He resides there has been very active, particularly since October 7th of 2023. In the information warfare space, he is a columnist for The

Jerusalem Post. He is a driving force behind [00:07:00] Israel 365 action and a podcaster with the Shoulder to Shoulder program. He has been an extraordinarily important ally, as is his adopted land for this country, and we look forward to hearing his thoughts about the state of this. Well, conflict with the Sharia supremacists. This now playing out in the Middle East in particular, as seen from the perspective of Israel. Rabbi, we're delighted to have you with us, sir. The floor is yours.

[00:07:45] **Pesach Wolicki:** Thank you. Frank. And I can. I can't say enough about the importance of this victory coalition. The realization that we all share that Israel's war against these Sharia supremacists, as you call them, these jihadist Muslims, [00:08:00] is the war against all the enemies of not only Israel, but of Jews, Christians, the West, the civilization that we, you know, and values that we hold dear. And this victory coalition is the right thing at the right time. So thank you for having spearheaded that. And thanks in absentia to our good friend Steve Bannon for having the vision. What I'd like to do here with the few minutes that I have before we hear from and I'm looking forward to hearing from him as well from Doctor Wurmser and others. I would like to just lay out the Biden administration's relationship to Israel as a narrative. So that we really understand what we're seeing here because as the advertisement for this webinar indicated, there's a kind of duality or it looks like a kind of back and forth or playing both sides that the Biden administration does in its approach to Israel from the beginning. And [00:09:00] that will fool people into thinking, well, they're kind of pro-Israel. They're sometimes pro-Israel. They sort of play both sides. But really, what they are is very anti-Israel with a facade of being pro-Israel. And I'm just going to walk through it as efficiently as I can. When Joe Biden came into office, we were coming off of the three years 20, 18, 19 and 20, which in succession were the third lowest, second lowest and lowest numbers of terrorist casualties year over year in Israel's history from 1948 till today.

[00:09:39] **Pesach Wolicki:** Terrorism was on its way. I wouldn't say it was on its way out, but the terrorists were on their back foot. The Iranian regime was on the verge of collapse because of crippling sanctions put on it by the Trump administration, not allowing them to sell their oil to anyone. Anyone who bought any oil or petrochemical products from the Iranians [00:10:00] would not be able to do business with the US, so they couldn't sell their oil. And this evil regime did not have the money that it would, that it would need to fund its proxies Hamas, Hezbollah, the Houthis and

others, the terrorists in Judea and Samaria, etc. and the Trump administration had also cut off all financial aid to the Palestinian Authority, so long as they persisted in paying the families of terrorists. They have the program that we call the pay for slay program that the Palestinian Authority will pay the families of a terrorist who murders Israelis or even tourists in Israel. And during the Trump administration, a law was passed to prohibit the United States from providing funding to the Palestinian Authority, so long as they continue to do that, the Taylor Force Act. Donald Trump enforced that in 2018, right after he signed it into law, and terrorism was on the downswing.

[00:10:58] **Pesach Wolicki:** And we even saw when they [00:11:00] when Donald Trump moved the embassy to Jerusalem, we were told for years that the that the Middle East would be aflame, that the that the Arab countries would, you know, would, you know, would riot in protest. And the exact opposite happened. The Abraham Accords, bringing unprecedented peace deals and recognition of Israel in the Middle East, happened after the embassy moved. So Biden comes into office in that context and immediately sends \$75 million to the Palestinian Authority in violation of the Taylor Force Act as a way of, quote unquote, regaining trust with the Palestinian Authority, ignoring the law that prevents them from doing that, not demanding they stop paying terrorists. He Also stopped enforcing. The Biden administration stopped enforcing the sanctions on Iran, allowing them to now sell their oil. The Chinese Communist Party soon afterwards signed a 25 year output deal with the Iranians that, to date has netted them over \$100 billion in revenue that they [00:12:00] now had, you know, the resources to fund all of their nefarious activity around the region. Joe Biden also snubbed Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister Netanyahu. This is before October 7th. He was on a visit to Washington, D.C., and refused to meet with him. And also in February of 2022, Joe Biden declared Qatar, who is the. Together with Iran, they're the two greatest funders of Hamas. And of course, they're the they were the seat of the Muslim Brotherhood. And that's where Hamas's leadership had its base. And Qatar is really a very nefarious actor in all of this.

[00:12:35] **Pesach Wolicki:** And Joe Biden declared Qatar a major non-NATO strategic ally. That's his wording a major non-NATO strategic ally. Basically, Joe Biden emboldened all of the bad actors, all of the Sharia supremacists in the Middle East, moving to post October 7th. The first thing that Joe Biden did. And everyone, most people remember this seminal moment where a couple days after October 7th, Joe

Biden gave a speech where he said, don't. And [00:13:00] and he said that Israel is going to have whatever it needs to win the war. But even in that speech, we saw the seeds of where we are today. We saw how the Biden administration was going to try to hamstring Israel and prevent Israel from winning the war. In that speech, for everything Joe Biden said in that ten minute speech, there was not one mention of Iran and not one mention of Qatar, the two countries that provide that provide the lion's share of the funding for Hamas. And while Hamas had just attacked Israel, he did not call out the funders behind Hamas. He also in that speech, while talking about how terrible it was and was, and how Israel is going to have whatever it needs to defend itself. He said that it's very important that Israel adhere to international law in the prosecution of whatever war they have or in their in their retaliation. Now, to even say something like that is a way of saying, kind of wagging his finger at the Israelis and warning the Israelis that they have to be careful about how they prosecute the war.

[00:13:59] **Pesach Wolicki:** Now, [00:14:00] why would anyone think that the Israelis aren't going to adhere to international law? The Israeli army always goes far beyond international law, but that was already setting the predicate for what was going to come next. They also, the Biden administration twisted Israel's arm and forced them to provide humanitarian aid, which they knew would go directly into the hands of Hamas. They even admitted that they knew it would go into the hands of Hamas. And that is what has allowed Hamas to continue to persist to this day. The reason that Hamas has not yet destroyed is directly due to the fact that all this humanitarian aid that's going in, almost all of all of it falls into the hands of Hamas, and then they weaponize it in order to fuel their continued war machine, in order to recruit, in order to still lord over the people of the Gaza Strip. They also worked very hard to prevent a ground invasion. At the outset, Joe Biden admitted as such a couple weeks after October 7th, before Israel had even gone in on the ground. Joe Biden was asked if he was trying to prevent a ground invasion, and he [00:15:00] said that he's speaking to the Israelis about it, essentially admitting that he was. And then many people here probably remember that the Biden administration was trying to prevent Israel from going into Rafah, into Rafiah, the southernmost town in the Gaza Strip.

[00:15:15] **Pesach Wolicki:** And they were talking about how terrible it would be and how Israel can't do it, and they were trying to prevent it. And Kamala Harris got involved. And we now know that the reason they were trying to prevent it really was because they

didn't want to reveal the fact that there were tunnels that led into Egypt and that the Egyptians had been complicit in the in the arming and building up of Hamas. There could be other reasons they were preventing it, but they were trying to prevent Israel from going into one of the main Hamas strongholds. Same thing happened in Lebanon. We saw that the Biden administration worked very hard to prevent Israel from attacking Hezbollah, from going after them and from taking care of that terrorist organization. When Iran attacked Israel with ballistic missiles, the Biden administration did everything they could to minimize Israel's [00:16:00] retaliation to make it less debilitating to the Iranians. Essentially every move that the Biden administration has made since the beginning of the war, while at the same time providing military aid to Israel, which is, of course, also a lever of power they have over us. But they have taken steps throughout the war from the very beginning to protect Iran, to protect Hamas from total destruction and to protect Hezbollah from total destruction. That is what they have been doing. They've also been one of giving legitimacy to the two big lies about Israel in this war. The two big lies about Israel in this war are, number one, that there's not enough humanitarian aid going in, which is not true.

[00:16:45] **Pesach Wolicki:** There's well over the amount of calories per day that are needed for the people of the Gaza Strip. Israel is allowing tremendous amounts of humanitarian aid in, but they continue to claim that Israel is not allowing enough humanitarian aid in. And the second one is [00:17:00] this, this canard against Israel, that that the that the civilian casualties have been have been disproportionately high, which is demonstrably false. It's been it's been it's been debunked by many, by many credible sources. But these two lies, which are used to demonize Israel on the international stage with significant damaging results in the international arena and, and, and the source of a lot of negative pressure on Israel are really are promoted every time. Biden administration officials talk about the war. They bring up these two issues, both of which are false. Rather than defending Israel against these false blood libels, they go along with them. And lastly, there it's been it's been revealed over the last few months that there are critical arms and equipment that have been withheld from Israel by the Biden administration. Weapons and also other certain, you know, the D9 bulldozers that are needed to clear areas to prevent [00:18:00] booby traps and mines from killing our soldiers and other things. There's other things that are used for, but they've been preventing the delivery of these of this equipment that Israel has already

paid for. So I'm going to leave it there because there's a lot more we want to hear about here.

[00:18:15] **Pesach Wolicki:** But let's just understand that with all that, at the same time as the Biden administration will speak out of one side of its mouth, saying that, you know, we're we support Israel's right to defend itself. We're going to give Israel whatever it needs, the trajectory of the of the policies. If you if you pay close attention to what's been happening here is to give Israel enough to keep the, you know, to keep people, you know, to have plausible deniability and show that they're still supporting the ally, Israel. And there's certain agreements that they have to keep with Israel as well. But really, the trajectory of the policy is to prevent Israel from actually defeating her enemies. And this is really coming to a head right now in the final week of the Biden administration. And this is a very [00:19:00] perilous week for Israel. And right now, with the twisting of Israel's arm to go into a hostage deal, a cease fire deal right now I'm going to leave that for Doctor Wurmser to address in his remarks, which are really more about the current situation and what we're facing right now. But I think it was very important to lay the lay the narrative out so that we really do understand that this isn't even really about being two faced. It's about being anti-Israel, with a facade of being pro-Israel as cover. I'll leave it there, Frank.

[00:19:33] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you. Rabbi. This is very powerful and very much needed, I think, as you say, level setting for all of the conversations to follow. We're watching momentarily as we speak here. President Biden going to the State Department to make remarks about the success of his presidency's foreign policies. I've taken the view that this should be a short speech. [00:20:00] But you can bet that it will be long and it will be highly selective and frankly, dishonest. In part because of the kind of stealth agenda that you've just I think very powerfully documented. Rabbi, one of the things that is evidently being cooked up in the State Department at this very moment is a plan for. Yes. Intensifying the pressure on Israel to make a very, very dangerous cease fire with the terrorists of Hamas. It will feature some more of this kind of double game duality, if you will. Frankly, the scam of the Biden presidency towards Israel. But it will also, I'm afraid, involve lasting damage, both, of [00:21:00] course, to Israel and to its strategic posture and also very much infringe upon the latitude that incoming President Donald Trump needs to make very, very much desired course corrections with respect to U.S. Middle East policy to discuss all of this. I can't think of anyone

better than our next presenter. His name is Doctor David Wurmser. He is these days senior analyst at the center for Security Policy, where he runs its Mideast program. He is also a man of very considerable experience at the highest levels of the United States government, having worked closely with Undersecretary of state and national Security advisor and a vice president of the United States. He's a naval intelligence [00:22:00] officer as well, now retired as a lieutenant commander and a truly extraordinarily insightful and impactful thought leader on what is taking place in the Middle East at the moment. We've asked David to address the possibility that there may be a parting shot by President Biden's team as they go into their retirement. David Wurmser, welcome. It's good to have you with us, sir.

[00:22:31] **David Wurmser:** It's good to be here. Thank you. Yeah, I think we can still expect a parting shot. It's really a very late hour, seven hour, seven days from inauguration. So, you know, one would think already that by now, things are wrapped up and things are more or less just shifting over to the new administration slowly. But I think this administration has it in it. And there are indications it thinks of that, that it really wants to have some parting shots. And the parting shots, they're not just leverage. I think that there's more to it than that. First of all, [00:23:00] they are leverage first, and the leverage is to ensure that Israel ends the war in a specific way. Ends the war in Lebanon, which we already have a cease fire in this Gaza war in a specific way. And they the idea of it is twofold. First of all and with this outgoing administration. I think two themes are always there. One is how to structurally trap the world into your vision so that even if President Trump wants to change things, it's very difficult to do so. And the second thing is to politically drive wedges and problems to both the Trump administration within it and between Israel and the Trump administration. Now, what do I mean by that? So first of all, this morning we had a sign that of what? What's to come? You had a United States issued a [00:24:00] list of controls on graphics and high tech equipment, and Israel was exempt, was left off that list, which meant that it is now in a bad category in terms of tech sharing with the United States unlike all European countries and so forth, which is stunning because Israel's high tech industry is deeply integrated with ours.

[00:24:22] **David Wurmser:** So this is devastating for Israel, devastating for the United States. Now you say, okay, it's an executive order. It can be reversed in a week. But here's where you get exactly the sort of thing they're trying to do. The Trump



administration is going to face a problem if on one side, they're literally pitting their pro-Israeli sentiment against their economic nationalist sentiment. So if they stick with if they stick with Israel and they put Israel on the list that is exempt from these restrictions, then you will hear them working with certain people in [00:25:00] their camp and maybe even some in the other camp, basically saying, you see, Trump is willing to send jobs abroad if it's to help Israel and the Zionists. He's not really about jobs in American industries being protected. If, on the other hand, Trump sticks with his economic nationalism, they'll say, you see, he's not really pro-Israeli. So it's this is just the sort of minefields that this administration is laying in front of the incoming administration. I think the cease fires, we already have the one in Lebanon, and the potential one now with Hamas are also to be seen somewhat in terms of this, which is here.

[00:25:46] **David Wurmser:** The ceasefire terms are one thing, but both cease fires, the Lebanon one and the Hamas one essentially gave Israel the ability to restart the war if the implementation of the cease fire was [00:26:00] inadequate. But the timelines always put the end of that period of test into the Trump administration. So and same now what's emerging with the with the ceasefire with Hamas. So essentially it puts the administration in a difficult place. The outgoing administration can say, look, we brought a cease fire. We brought about peace. And then the incoming administration, if there are violations, again, they are faced with a Hobson's choice. Do the Israelis go ahead and act on the violation of the cease fire, and they break down either in Lebanon or and then all of a sudden, the Trump administration took a situation of cease fire and, quote, peace and presided over the resumption of war by their own ally. Or do they ignore the cease fires, in which case Israel emerges not as victorious and not as strong [00:27:00] as it should from this war? So that's sort of constantly look for the minefields that are being planted and wedging Israel from the US and wedging the administration against itself and its own sentiments and values. The second thing is the strategic.

[00:27:17] **David Wurmser:** This administration leaving has operated under a strategic conception set in the Obama administration, and that was that. The United States can come to terms with Iran. Obstacle to that or some of the issues lingering in the region, like the peace process with between Israel and the Palestinians and Israel's the problem with the Palestinians. So Israel stands in the way of a proper condominium with Iran, which will guarantee a moderate government there, control the nuclear program and essentially move the region to a peaceful state. So Obama gave actually spoke

[00:28:00] with the in a teleconference with the presidents of the Conference of Major American Jewish Organizations back around 2012, 2011, something like that. And he quite stunningly said outright that he sees the central problem in the Middle East is that Israel is too strong because Israel is too strong. Israel is not willing to concede on the Palestinians. And as long as Israel doesn't concede to the Palestinians what they want, that problem will remain unresolved, which causes regional tension, regional extremism, whether it's ISIS on one side or Iranian hardliners controlling the government on the other, which prevent America's ability to come to terms with Iran and establish a condominium and strategic cooperation and integration of Iran. And that for them, that's the fundamental problem. And that has guided their policy on the war ever since. And that's why from day one, the [00:29:00] policy of the administration was to ensure Israel not emerge from this war strong.

[00:29:05] **David Wurmser:** Hamas survives. Hezbollah survives and Iran remains untouched. And one can say, well, there was kind of a mixed signal. We sent weapons. I worked in the State Department and I one learns the modus operandi, one learns the culture, the ethos of the State Department very quickly. And one of the things they do is if they lose control of a situation, they pretend to adopt the policy of the people who now control the policy. Let's say they lose on a policy issue. They really want to talk. Let's say they want. Madagascar is about to go nuclear. They really don't want to punish Madagascar, but they lose that policy flight, fight, fight. And in the interagency, the decision has been made. Madagascar cannot go nuclear. They're going to turn around. They're going to say, you know what? We want Madagascar [00:30:00] not to go nuclear, but let us control the policy. And therefore and then they slowly bend that policy back to where they want in disregard of the policy decision that's been made. So they often go along with something to co-opt it and bring it back to where they want to go. Which takes us back to October 7th, 2023. The Israelis were wounded. They were horrified. And their view of their peaceful state or their ability to deter their deter their enemies had collapsed. Israel understood it was in a big war and it had to win that war.

[00:30:40] **David Wurmser:** Israel was out of control, given what the State Department wanted. The State Department wanted Israel to treat this as another round of escalation, maybe a big round of escalation, but another round of escalation that doesn't change the paradigm. So Israel, you know, bombs harder, hits harder, [00:31:00] but it doesn't break the dishes. So to do that, they realize they had to pretend to be Israel's

friend, hold its hand and reel it back into a position where they could establish control and influence over Israeli policy. And that very rapidly became the weapons and the aid, the humanitarian aid for the Palestinians. And we have seen in the year and a half since those two those two elements, first, the weapons were to get the Israelis to hold their hand, and then it became the hammer or the sword of Damocles over their head. The humanitarian aid also came over their head. And this is now the second issue of why we could face a January surprise in the last week, because at the end of the day, the administration has set it up so that the humanitarian aid can continue to be used as a weapon. Or [00:32:00] even if Israel agrees to the cease fire, by the way, it can still be still be used as a weapon against Israel. To put Israel in a terrible position internationally and weaken it and make sure Israel ends the war without a proper victory and weakened so I think that they may still use this humanitarian issue to drive a UN resolution that puts Israel in a very difficult place.

[00:32:29] **David Wurmser:** A UN resolution can only be reversed by a UN Security Council resolution, which, of course, the Russians and Chinese and others can veto. So it's very difficult to reverse a UN Security Council resolution. I think we're still very much in danger of that, because the objective of this administration is to save their paradigm and lock the future administration into that paradigm. And that means that Israel does not win this war decisively, and Hamas survives in Gaza. [00:33:00] And the mechanism to do that is to lock them in through a through a UN resolution, through the humanitarian aid, because the humanitarian aid is the mechanism by which Hamas survives. It is its lifeline. It gets supplies that way. It controls the population by being the one who distributes this aid, and it makes the money it needs to get. We're seeing how it's already working out. In the last two months, the Israelis have found Hamas is recruiting more people than it's losing. Hamas is reconstituting. It's reconstituting because it has the humanitarian aid. So I would still expect somewhat of a resolution in the UN to make sure that that aid is protected from the Trump administration and from Israel after January 20th. Strategically, I think also Hamas, we have to shift our mind here.

[00:33:56] **David Wurmser:** Iran really is to some extent defeated. It [00:34:00] is a cobra that's wounded. And I would never leave. I would never turn my back on a wounded cobra. You really need to kill it first before you turn your back on it. The same way we couldn't have left a rump Nazi state in March April 1945, and then start dealing with the Soviets. We needed. We needed to finish the job. Israel needs to finish the job

on Iran. And perhaps this is where I really think the incoming administration is very is really what the Israelis are hoping for. And I think the administration's fairly much in lockstep with them. The incoming administration is in lockstep with Israel, but Hamas isn't looking at Iran anymore. It's looking at Turkey, and it's looking at the rise of this Sunni Islamist threat. And it's now the new deus ex machina. It's the new patron, it's the new salvation. So Hamas is playing now for the long run. It's not playing anymore to survive as the proxy of Iran. It's playing to become the proxy of, of, of Turkey and [00:35:00] of the Islamist government arising in, in in Damascus. And the same is happening in in Lebanon, where Hezbollah really is. Desperately weakened. And it is a moment for the Christians to rise up and retake their country. The structure of Lebanon is really still a big problem. It is a multi-confessional structure rather than truly what it was meant to be originally, which is essentially a Christian nation.

[00:35:31] **David Wurmser:** It is a multi-confessional structure. What you're seeing is the Sunnis are very rapidly under the influence of Erdogan and Turkey and Julani. The al Qaeda graduate in, in Damascus and his neo Umayyad caliphate. The Umayyad was the first Sunni caliphate 1400 years ago. This neo Umayyad project. You're seeing the Sunnis in Sunnis in Lebanon now organize, like [00:36:00] Hamas and Gaza to align with this new rising star of Sunni extremism, that jihadism, the supremacism, which is always the more dangerous one because they're the majority and they're the ones who are mostly the ones in the West and so forth. So Israel has again, the same problem in Lebanon as it has in Hamas. It will face a major challenge now from this new constellation, this new axis of evil that is arising. And this is going to be dumped on the new administration, the Trump administration. And unfortunately, Israel wasn't given the chance to fully win and allow the Christians in Lebanon to reestablish themselves fully in control without giving in to the Sunnis and in Ankara and Damascus, and to finish off Hamas once and for all in Gaza. Fortunately, these problems will linger going into the new administration, and [00:37:00] the new administration is going to find itself having to deal with it in the first year, which is not what its preference would have been.

[00:37:07] **Frank Gaffney:** Terrific. Fairly succinct, considering the complexities that you've addressed synthesis of so many different elements of this story. Thank you. We look forward to doing some Q&A with you as well. We're going to hear next from Karen Siegemund. Doctor Siegemund is the president of the American Freedom Alliance. She has been struggling of late. And our heart goes out to her and others in her community

in Los Angeles with the fires. And we appreciate, appreciate very much her taking the time to talk with us about another conflagration half a world away namely, what we propose to call well, the struggle between good and evil with the Judeo-Christian [00:38:00] civilization. Really now very much in the crosshairs of the Sharia supremacists as a way of understanding the common agenda they share, irrespective of their sectarian beliefs. Karen has been doing extraordinarily important work at the American Freedom Alliance on many of these topics particularly the sort of cultural warfare that is very much in the throes of this spiritual war. And we are delighted to have her with us, to give us a sense of whether it is, in fact, overstating the case to believe that nothing less than the survival of the Judeo-Christian civilization is on the line considerably more [00:39:00] than just Israel's prospects and those of its enemies. Karen, welcome. Glad to have you with us.

[00:39:08] **Karen Siegemund:** Thank you so much, Frank. It's. Yeah. As you noted, I am here in California, the center of a conflagration. It's been a trying time, but it's terrific to be with you. And it's really an honor to be among these amazing minds and to be part of the Victory Coalition. Thank you for including me. We've been hearing about what the Biden administration has been doing. We also heard a little bit about how the Obama administration treated Israel, in particular in its final days. In 2016, hamstringing Israel with UN resolution 2334 An indictment of Israel and turning back of borders and so on. And now we've been sort of expecting something similar to [00:40:00] come from the Biden administration. But just one major difference between now and 2016 is the events of October 7th, 2023. Israel has always been at risk. It's always been fighting for its very existence. But since October 7th, it's literally been in one of the hottest wars. The violence, the assaults, the rapes, the kidnappings, just in every way the various violence act, violent acts that have been perpetrated on it. And so anything that the Biden administration would do is subsequent to that already in itself is pure evil. But let me take a step back. Israel talking about Israel. Israel is a nation sui generis. This is not just another country that needs this or that. Israel really is at the forefront.

[00:40:58] **Karen Siegemund:** It is the tip of the spear of Western [00:41:00] civilization. It is literally it contains the DNA of our Judeo-Christian values. It is everything. It is. It is the core. It is the foundation, the structural underpinnings of everything that we are. So for those very reasons, of course, it's targeted by all those who loathe freedom, who loathe Western civilization, who loathe Western civilization, Judeo-Christian values. And

to find that this administration is among those who hate all of that is kind of an appalling thing. And I'm listening to Doctor Wormser and the rabbi speaking about what's going on. And I just, I sit here and, and I'm perennially outraged at, at what is going on. The United States has always stood for these important values. Israel is being loathed for these very values. One doesn't defend [00:42:00] Israel simply because it's a nation like any other, but because it is at literally the forefront. It is the epicenter of all that we believe in. It is the center, I would say, of good and all the fronts that we've been talking about Iran, Syria, Turkey you name it. Obviously, the Gaza Strip, obviously Hamas. These are all representatives of pure evil Sharia supremacy. These are not our friends. The United States of America has always stood for good. And to find that, in fact, this current regime, as was the Obama regime, standing on the side of evil, doing everything they can, as you all have said to support those who hate us and who hate Israel.

[00:42:53] **Karen Siegemund:** Words fail. That this is the situation that the United States finds itself in. Would this have happened? Would. October 7th [00:43:00] have happened under President Trump? Of course not. And how do we know that? Because it didn't. And peace through strength is the way to fight this. And the contrapositive of peace through strength is war and violence through weakness. And that we currently have regime that sides with evil, that sides with America last, that sides with those seeking to destroy the epicenter of all that we believe in. It is it's completely surreal that we even have to have this conversation. And I find myself saying this all the time, we ought not be needing to have this conversation. But the fact of the matter is, with the media completely Covering for every left wing, Sharia supremacist, communist entity that seeks to destroy us. The media does a brilliant job of whitewashing all of this. Our education system says nothing about any of this. In fact, [00:44:00] you know, it has been mentioned about Qatar. Qatar and Beijing provide the biggest budgets to our universities. Is it any surprise that there's hatred of Israel and of Western civilization fomented throughout our education system? Of course not. They've been seeding all of this for years and years, which is why, as a result of, as a result of or subsequent to October 7th all these pro-Palestinian grassroots protests were arising, which is completely preposterous.

[00:44:36] **Karen Siegemund:** One of the most evil things that they've done on the cultural level, as Frank pointed out, the left does this brilliantly is they hijack compassion. Our young people, our middle aged people, our elderly people. We, we are

steeped in compassion. We want to support those who need support. We love the underdog. [00:45:00] Our hearts go out. But when that entire narrative is flipped on its head and we're living in an upside down world where somehow the Palestinians are more worthy of compassion than Israel is, they've been extremely successful at this, at this front of this war. And again, I purport that that is completely evil. Americans are not evil. We are good people. We are a good nation. To see that all this is happening is, is unbelievable. And as has been pointed out, this isn't only a war against Israel. This is not only seeking to undermine Israel, it's a force to do everything to hamstring the incoming president, Donald Trump. I just want to. We were talking the other day about the Berlin Airlift. Why was that so important? The Soviets had blockaded West Berlin trying to squeeze this one little tiny outpost in [00:46:00] a sea of Soviet East Germany. They did everything they can to just squeeze that and try to completely suffocate it and have it capitulate.

[00:46:10] **Karen Siegemund:** At that time, the United States understood the importance of doing everything possible to support an outpost of freedom in a sea of totalitarian hate. And again, evil. We understood it, and we rose to the occasion. And there was the will to conduct the Berlin Airlift, which saved West Berlin, which remained an outpost right up until when the wall fell. Where we have a will, we can do it. I don't think we. It's a matter of not understanding right now in Washington. I think there's a complete comprehension of the outcomes of what they're attempting to do, which is even more horrifying. Golda Meir had said in 1957, almost 70 years ago, that peace will [00:47:00] come when the Arabs will love their children more than they hate us. Clearly, they continue to hate us more than they hate, more than they love their children. Elie Wiesel had said, I'm a big fan. We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. With the Biden regime pretending, on the one hand, to be pro-Israel, we know they're not pretending, on the other hand, to be neutral. And while all the time sowing the seeds of continuing to weaken Israel, what we keep seeing is we need to stand strong for good and do everything possible to combat evil. Thank you.

[00:47:43] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you, Doctor Siegemund. Powerful words and a message that I think can't be impressed upon us often enough that this is not simply a local dispute. This is part of a vastly larger conflict, and our equities are very much on the [00:48:00] line, which makes all the more alarming what has been done in our name by the Biden team and what may yet be in the offing, as David Wurmser has talked

about. I want to also just mention that Michael Doran, I think, has gone on and mentioned so far. Doctor Doran was a source of insight into this particular gambit by senior members of the Biden State Department, National Security Council, white House teams. And I very much agree with his injunction. We'll talk more about it in questions here in a moment. That we need to actually actively resist this behavior. We have one final presenter. I know he's right up against the stops in terms of when he has to jump off the call. So we're going to go next to Peter McIlvenna one of our dear [00:49:00] friends and great resources across the pond, as they say, from the United Kingdom. He's the a member of the staff of Lord Malcolm Pearson in the House of Lords in works with Malcolm on a project entitled Hearts of Oak. Also the name of a podcast that they do. It is a pleasure to have him with us to talk a bit about a European perspective on how this war being waged by the Sharia supremacists has not just Israel not just America, but indeed, Europe and the free world more generally in its crosshairs. We've asked him to talk a bit about Turkey, the Muslim Brotherhood and Iran in this regard. And we're delighted to do that now. [00:50:00]

[00:50:00] **Peter McIlvenna:** Honor to join you. And the European perspective is always confusing, as is the UK perspective with a, a strange new government full of amateurs who do not understand the political scene. I give you the UK's foreign minister, David Lammy, as a great example of that, that sadly the US will have to be engaging with in some shape or form. But yeah, the tensions that we have in the Middle East obviously are much closer to us here in our backyard. And that's why the issue of Syria, especially with what has happened recently and Turkey, which is an ongoing debate within the EU, those are particular concern, I think, to our politicians. But let me just pick up on a few of those and give you a little bit of a flavor. Of the chaotic state of [00:51:00] the EU and how he engages with these countries. One thing they have come together on is Syria. And four days ago, it came out that Germany has been pushing the EU to ease sanctions on Syria. Of course, sanctions from back in Assad's rule. And they have said the relief would come. This is, according to British newspapers, gradually and would coincide with safeguarding minority and women's rights. I'm not sure what our British press know what know what they're talking about in that relation. And it would come with restrictions supposedly on arms sales.

[00:51:39] **Peter McIlvenna:** I think these reports come just a day after the US issued the Syria general license with the aim of expanding the authorization for activities and



transactions in Syria for a six month period. Now, we have six European states have called for [00:52:00] sanctions to be lifted with Germany that are heading this up. France, the Netherlands, Spain, Finland and Denmark. And they've all signed a paper. This is looking at the end of the month for this call on the EU to lift sanctions. So you have all of that the, the EU meeting on the 27th of January where I expect that to be signed off and delivered then. But of course, a lot of that is political. A lot of that is because of the weakness in the European Union. The EU has always been on a Franco-German axis. France and Germany, they've been the powerhouses of the EU. France, the government have collapsed. They've got general elections coming up. And Angela Merkel said come, come and has flooded Germany with migrants. And the people are quite angry about that. That's why I'll turn it for Deutschland are doing so well. The AfD are doing so well. [00:53:00] And because of Elon Musk's few pushes in that direction. But people are angry at the mass immigration, and this is Europe deciding what it thinks about that.

[00:53:11] **Peter McIlvenna:** After the US decided again on the issue of immigration, immigration, economy and immigration is going to be key for those German elections. So we have that. We have a weak German government and we have a weak French government. We have Macron. Macron. Extremely weak position. Having done disastrously in the French elections. And having to sack his last PM. Bernier brought in a new PM, but he is in a very, very weak position. And that's why it's an interesting time to see how the EU respond to Syria, because they would like to send back any Syrian supposedly, who came in. That's the line from the governments who those individuals [00:54:00] they send back are, whether they're the law abiding in Germany tries to keep the less deserving within Germany. I think that's how it's going to work out. But that is the debate in Germany right up to the elections in a month. And then, of course, you've got you've got Turkey. I know back in October that Berlin approved a large scale package of arms to Ankara and modernization of submarines and frigates, and then in November again, Berlin removed its veto against the sale of Euro fighter jets to Turkey. So that's also been an interesting where you've got a number of EU countries obviously being very much against Turkey joining the European Union. And of course Turkey have had discussions with the BRICs countries of joining them, hoping to force this through.

[00:54:56] **Peter McIlvenna:** But still, there's a lot of anger in parts [00:55:00] of Europe, especially Southeast Europe, especially in terms of the Ottoman Empire. And that's why Bulgaria and Greece will be key in those accession talks. So that is happening at the moment. And then, of course you've got the position of Israel, and I've seen the initial support for Israel when the attack happened that has been weakening slowly and the UK have said many things against Israel. And I think Macron back in October said, well, the EU should stop sending any arms to Israel. France doesn't really send any to Israel, so it's fairly easy for him to say it's Germany. I think the US, two thirds of the weapons that go to Israel from abroad or Germany, and around a third are Germans, which Germany and Germany are keeping strangely silent on this call to cut [00:56:00] back. That hasn't happened. I know in September the US cut back some of their arms licenses. But it was a very, I think, 30 odd to 350 that we have so yet to see how that is going to move ahead. But the whole UN and of course, on top of all this, looking at the at the Middle East, you've always got the mass immigration of Islam into the EU.

[00:56:29] **Peter McIlvenna:** Brussels being 30% Muslim. You've got Paris being 15% and London being 12, 13%. So you've got those tensions that are always there. And of course, you've got Sweden that have fallen completely to Islam. So you've got those tensions there. But on the other side, it's interesting watching the EU very weak position with that German, German Franco alliance collapsed and a lot of the rise of populist parties who don't want [00:57:00] closer EU alliance, who want that to be much loosened. And that's why these debates the EU cannot sanction every single one of those countries. It's gone after Orban, of course. It's criticized other countries going after Poland, but it can't be attacking all of its members. And it's interesting to see the rise of those populist parties and how that changes EU policy too, especially towards Turkey and to Syria and Israel. Those especially so that that's really what I want to bring and just that European perspective, which is very fragmented. And then you put the EU, the, the UK on the side. We've got a government led by amateurs. I don't really know what to do, but the, the labor government know that they do not like Israel. And the whole issue of the war in Israel, in Gaza, that that was a key point in the UK elections. And that's why we have I think it's 12 [00:58:00] or 15 independent Muslim MPs.

[00:58:03] **Peter McIlvenna:** So we have seen a big change in the UK system in terms of independence, and all of them under an Islamic banner, and that's going to cause problems for labor. Well, it would if it didn't have a massive majority. But labor seem to

be at odds with Keir Starmer actually wanting to try and play a game and maybe look as though he's more pro-Israel. But a lot of the grassroots of labor, a lot of the activists hit Israel with a passion and would 100% be behind Hamas. And therefore, it's interesting to see that tension with the Labor Party that hasn't boiled over yet, because the Labor Party have enough issues to deal with in the UK, but that will boil over at some point. So that's where we are with a fragmented European Union and a very confused UK government not really knowing how to act on a number of these issues, but wanting [00:59:00] to be the big man on the stage and wanting to capitalize, I think, on French and German weaknesses. So we I'm sure we'll see. David Lammy, the UK foreign minister, pushing a UK position. He is not someone to be trusted and therefore I think what the what the UK are going to come out with in terms of a number of these countries is very negative.

[00:59:21] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you so much for making these important points. Could I just ask you to drill down just a little bit further on Turkey. I think you mentioned it kind of in passing the populist parties and their response to Turkey's rise. Could you just embellish that point, please?

[00:59:38] **Peter McIlvenna:** You have absolute hatred on Turkey from certainly Bulgaria and Greece because the Ottoman Empire. So you've got that. But there is a, a huge concern that if Turkey was brought in to the European Union, then Europe lose all control of their border. Now you don't really have much control of [01:00:00] their border. The, the Bulgarian and Greek borders are not really the securest in the world. It's not really like over in Poland or Hungary. But despite that this is where the tension that there is there's anger at the population. At what? Germany, especially Angela Merkel, has allowed to happen, and that's been forced on Italy. It's been forced on Bulgaria. It's been forced on Greece. And those kind of said enough is enough. So you've had that massive clash, and the feeling is certainly amongst the population that if you let turkey in, this is not a concern of human rights. This is a concern of mass amount of people that will change the whole makeup of Europe and have changed the whole makeup of Europe. And it probably is too late for a lot of those countries. But it is that Turkey opening itself up and then being a pass through route and not being a trusted partner, that's really what I think fills a lot [01:01:00] of the populist parties and the population, I think, with dread. And that's why many of the countries, I think, and a lot of population

would want that border to remain at the Turkish Bulgarian, the Turkish Greek border for that remain in Turkey not to have a part within the EU.

[01:01:19] **Frank Gaffney:** That's very helpful. Peter. Thank you. Rabbi, you have spoken elsewhere about an interesting insight into what is taking place in Syria at the moment, at the hands of some of these European foreign ministers as well as the Biden administration. Could you elaborate on how specifically Turkey's role in Syria at the moment and the seeming installation now of a jihadist like Abu Mohammad al-Julani in Damascus, with putative control of the [01:02:00] entire country, is being justified in European circles and what the implications of it might be.

[01:02:07] **Pesach Wolicki:** There's a few things here in what you just and what you just raised. There's Let's start with the last thing, which is Peter was mentioning these European nations that are looking to legitimize the Syrian government and lift and, and lift sanctions on them, etc. So just about two weeks ago, maybe a little more, the foreign minister of Israel, Gideon Saar, on a live TV interview said that in conversations that he's been having with European foreign ministers, they're telling him that the reason that they are being so quick to grant legitimacy to al-Julani and to basically declare that they that they that they're in support of the territorial integrity of Syria, which is nonsense [01:03:00] if you think about history. And that they're looking to, again, to give this legitimacy and stability or, or declare it stable, even though it though it isn't is because of this. Because they want to return their Syrians. Over the last over the years of the Syrian civil war it's upwards of 50% of all Syrian citizens were displaced. Many of them are in Europe, millions of them are in Europe. And the European nations want to return them to Syria. And they can only legally justify extraditing them back to Syria if the if the war, if the civil war is over and it's a stable nation that isn't run by terrorists, because obviously you can't extradite people back to their country, you can't deport them back to their country if their country is still a war zone, if they're refugees.

[01:03:52] **Pesach Wolicki:** So that there. So basically what he said was that even though like they're declaring legitimacy on al-Julani [01:04:00] in order to justify this. Now, obviously, this is I think this is a fool's errand on their part. If you could just imagine German or French police rounding up Syrians to deport them back to Syria, many of whom have lived in in their country in those countries for a decade or more. The concept is absurd. There will be blood in the streets. And if you can imagine that

going on while Tom Homan is looking to deport millions of illegals from America, you can only imagine the unrest. But that's one of the dynamics regarding Turkey. We always have to remember that when the Muslim Brotherhood was thrown out of Egypt in 2013, they relocated their headquarters to Ankara, and they are based in Turkey and Turkey. And Erdogan speaks openly about wanting to reestablish the Ottoman Empire. Westerners Americans tend to think in terms of modern history in a in their consciousness and distance themselves from these connections to historical narratives in a way that is not true in this part of the world. When Erdogan talks about reestablishing the [01:05:00] Ottoman Empire, or when jihadists talk about, you know, reestablishing a caliphate, they are dead serious. They're thinking in terms of old narratives between, you know, the battles between the Christians and the Muslims in the Middle Ages over Jerusalem.

[01:05:15] **Pesach Wolicki:** To them are like they happened yesterday. These are relevant points to these people. And we have to bear that in mind. And with the with the decrease in Iranian influence through the, through the, through the terrible blows that they suffered at the hands of the Israelis to Hezbollah and to and to Iran themselves, Turkey found an opening to have their proxies, which is al-Julani in the same way that Hamas and Hezbollah are Iranian proxies. It is no different. These terrorists have taken over Syria, are Turkish proxies. They're funded by them. They're trained by them. The Turkish help them. And they are Sunni Muslim Brotherhood offshoots. The Muslim Brotherhood is the founder of ISIS, is the founder of Hamas, al Qaeda [01:06:00] as well. That's where they come from. That's they all come from that same from that same root. Route and that's who's running Syria now. At the same time, the Muslim Brotherhood is growing in influence in Jordan. They did better than they ever have in history in the last Jordanian parliamentary elections. And the Turkish are interested in stabilizing things there so that they can start establishing their they're basically replacing Iran, and they're looking to establish their own little empire of terrorist groups that are, you know, that have their sourcing and, and their and their and their equipment and, and being equipped by and funded by a Turkish empire there. And that's really what we have to keep our eye on.

[01:06:44] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you. In the context of your presentation, I was really struck by something David Wurmser said, and I wanted to get your reaction to it that Barack Obama back, I believe, in 2011, actually said the proverbial quiet part [01:07:00]

out loud, telling a conference of presidents of major Jewish organizations that the problem was Israel is too strong and therefore was not prepared to make the sorts of concessions for peace. And this would preclude the kind of new world that they were trying to conjure up with Iran as a moderate and constructive partner in the region and so on. I'm not sure I know of another instance in history when a major power wanted its allies or even one of them to be weak and not simply for the purposes of having them depend on, you know, the major country. But because they thought that was a good thing. What are your thoughts on this? And how does it factor [01:08:00] into the Proposition you've put to us that we're in a world war and having weak allies is a liability, not an asset.

[01:08:12] **Karen Siegemund:** I think the context is not only do we want our allies to be weak, but we want us to be weak. Obama's entire proposition was that America was too strong, and we needed to be sort of brought down in order to facilitate the new world order. That was under the thumb of globalists, however they were framed. And the one impediment to and we're seeing this now, we've been seeing this with World War three, as you noted, the main impediment to globalist dictatorship, totalitarianism, in whatever guise of the red green axis, the Chinese Communist Party, Sharia, Sharia supremacy, the major impediment to all of that, to global domination one way or another, is the United [01:09:00] States. So yes, take down Israel. Yes, we can Israel, but absolutely take down the United States. I mean, his entire world tour from the very beginning was right. We called it the apology tour that the United States, you know, we really ought not have that kind of strength as the one world superpower now that we were the only one left and the only way there will be peace in the world is to get rid of the United States. So Israel was a proxy for that same exact kind of mentality. But everything Obama did it. We I remember we people, people not in the know would say, oh my gosh, doesn't he know this is not a good idea? Doesn't he know this will weaken us? Doesn't he know that this, you know, gives our enemies the upper hand? You bet they knew the whole Arab Spring lie was completely There was a 100% awareness of what they were doing.

[01:09:59] **Karen Siegemund:** Did [01:10:00] they let us know that? No. But you knew. And I knew that that's exactly what was happening. So if the goal is world domination by either the red or the green or, you know, anybody, the United States has to be weakened. Our allies have to be weakened. And I would say that all of that really is Western civilization has to be brought down. Judeo-Christian values have to be brought

down. The left's long march through the institutions is to weaken every single institution, including our military, our education, our media, our, you name it all, to bring us down, to make us weak so that those seeking global dominance have a much easier time just marching into a completely weakened entity, which is us. And to have a president, the president who put his hand on the Bible and swear to uphold the Constitution and so on. Protect and defend us. This [01:11:00] is it's an astounding lie. And to watch this happen deliberately and with malice aforethought has been a breathtaking thing. We saw it with Obama. We've seen it even more so with Biden. And just thank God this election went the way that it did, or we'd all be done.

[01:11:18] **Frank Gaffney:** I personally concur very strongly. But David, that brings me to something that you've again touched on, and I think it's important to tease out a little bit further here. We've made, I think, a pretty compelling case between the four of you that one of those who will be very badly served by what the Biden administration is doing, has been doing towards Israel, has been doing towards her enemies and ours. But what may be in the offing, as you've described it with this sort of replay of UN Security Council? Two. Three. Three. Four. The Biden. Excuse me, the Obama era [01:12:00] to today's. Could you just drill down a little bit further? President Trump has been principal feature apparently in some of the current diplomacy with a statement he made to the effect that I think the way he put it was all hell will break loose if the hostages are not returned to Israel before he takes office. Could you walk us through what you believe the meaning is of that statement? And it's, well, I guess weaponization whether that was the intent or not, but the weaponization of it by the Biden team against Israel and its government at the moment.

[01:12:56] **David Wurmser:** First of all, the all hell will break loose really was the big threat [01:13:00] that was received with credibility in the region. It isn't the Obama don't. Again, the key thing is keeping Israel weak. That's the objective of the Biden administration, the objective of the Trump administration, which the Biden administration obviously opposes, along with the Obama people, was we don't want to invest as much in the region. We are focusing on Asia. We have a lot of global commitments. We have a lot internally we have to focus on. We don't want more major wars. We don't want burdens. So we want strong allies in the region to help us carry the water for that region so that we can minimize our footprint, so we can minimize how much we have to deploy, how much we have to fight, how much we have to send our kids there, and how

much we have to invest in terms of aid and so forth. So, of course, who's our strongest ally and our most loyal ally is Israel. But there's also Saudi Arabia and the UAE. So we really want to see Israel win this war so that those [01:14:00] form an alliance with Israel, and we anchor our position in the region to minimize our print there. So the two world views couldn't be different about the current negotiation for the cease fire. This is what concerns me a little bit. The Biden administration was trying to use the cease fire to lock the Trump administration into Israel's position and lock Israel into a position of weakness and irresolution of the war, which guarantees a weaker Israel and guarantees deeper and more complex and messy American involvement in the long run. I think that the more war and more war and the Trump administration's threats, the apocalypse essentially to Hamas, I think really were in the framework of an ultimatum.

[01:14:53] **David Wurmser:** I think the Hamas really understood that there was going to be a full cutoff of humanitarian aid. The Israelis [01:15:00] will go in heavy and reoccupy all of all of Gaza and re and it's over. And then eventually they'll find all the hostages as well as people will come out of the woodwork and say, there's one over there, please let me be free. So I think we were at the verge of victory, and they're trying to pull this, this out of the hat in the last minute to handcuff the incoming administration. If I have one criticism of the incoming administration is, I think they misstepped by allowing Ambassador Whitcomb. He's not ambassador yet, but I'll preemptively promote him. Ambassador Witcoff, the American representative for the incoming administration, to participate in these cease fire talks, because what they're doing is they're leveraging the Trump credibility and threat and an ultimatum to deliver Biden's result. And I'm a bit afraid that that's I think it will all be fixed because the Trump administration does roughly know what [01:16:00] it's doing, and it knows that Israel has to win. So when Hamas goes back on terms of this agreement and the second phase or so forth stall, I think that's where the real difference comes. The Trump administration will not handcuff Israel and will appreciate Israel doing what it needs to do and allow Israel to win and emerge strong. Same in Lebanon, I think. I think the same dynamic will take place, but it will come at the cost of what would have been otherwise a calmer situation in the first months or year of the administration.

[01:16:36] **Frank Gaffney:** I think what you're saying, David, if I understand you correctly, is that you will find the Trump administration hamstrung in part in terms of doing the sorts of things you've just described that it would want to do. And, and I think



that it did do in the previous, you know, administration. But that's the concern here is that [01:17:00] we will find Trump implicated in the present policies. And as I think you laid out in your remarks you know, essentially jujitsu into ownership of a cease fire that may be simply a formula for more war. And certainly the perpetuation of these Sharia supremacist threats to Israel and to us. David, while you were gone, I was pivoting to Rabbi Wolicki on a country that I know you're following closely, Rabbi. And I did want to ask you about it in, again, this context of the Biden legacy and particularly what is developing in terms of Turkey and the Muslim Brotherhood and maybe even Iran as it relates to the future direction of a nation that has at least nominally [01:18:00] been at peace with Israel. And we sure don't want to see go back to war with it namely Egypt.

[01:18:06] **Pesach Wolicki:** We have to remember that Egypt is an extremely populous and large Arab country. We forget about how big it is and how populous it is, because it's at peace with Israel, and it's basically been a benign actor for a long time. So we forget about what it could mean if it falls into the wrong hands.

[01:18:28] **Frank Gaffney:** And benign actor, apart from that nasty business about the tunnels under Gaza.

[01:18:31] **Pesach Wolicki:** Yeah. I mean, I said, like, for the most part, I mean, like, for the last few decades, like, since signing the peace deal with Israel, they haven't, you know, they've kind of been reined in by the fact that they're in the American orbit from being you know, from being to you know, to active in enemy but right now, there's, there's a lot of instability in Egypt. There's a number of things happening simultaneously. Number one, the Egyptian military has been in gross violation of its long standing peace agreement with Israel that demilitarized, [01:19:00] for the most part, most of the Sinai desert, the Sinai, according to that deal, divided into sections. And the sections closer to Israel are supposed to be pretty much demilitarized. But now they've moved larger and larger numbers of forces in there, including logistics, building logistical bases and air and air bases there. And if you think about the geography and who surrounds Egypt, who could they possibly be planning to go to war with? It's very disturbing. At the same time, because of what the Houthis are doing at the Bab el Mandeb strait, which lead into the which is the opening of the Red Sea that leads up to the Suez Canal. Egypt's economy is collapsing because the revenues from the Suez Canal crossing, which is a major source of source of revenue for the Egyptian economy

is drying up, and the Egyptian and the Egyptian government is struggling here. To the extent that it's been reported that Prime Minister Netanyahu actually had a conversation with Donald Trump recently talking to him about this problem and basically asking him to help bail Egypt out [01:20:00] so that there or so that they could stabilize the Egyptian regime.

[01:20:04] **Pesach Wolicki:** And it doesn't fall. At the same time, in the southern part of Egypt, there's increasing influence and money pouring in from the Iranians, who have a very strong base of operation in North Sudan, which is the country that borders Egypt to the south. So, you know, just when we think we're out of the woods there, there is when we see what the Houthis are doing by disrupting international trade, which has been a head scratcher for a lot of people. It's becoming clearer and clearer that the reason they're doing it is in order to destabilize the Egyptian regime, because Egypt is seen again for all their bad actions, you know, helping out Hamas and some of the other things they've been doing. They are still within the Western orbit, within the American orbit. And the Iranians are trying to destabilize them, which adds, again, it's a very volatile situation there. And the Turks have been involved as well. They recently [01:21:00] hosted there was a conference of Muslim nations which included the Palestinian Authority there, where the Turks were, were involved. That took place in Cairo just last month. And, you know, right after the Syrian government fell, right after the Assad regime fell, which is clearly a play by Turkey to, you know, to come along and let everyone know that they're that they're going to be the big kids on the block. So Egypt is becoming a more worrisome place for, for Israel and for this whole question of, of will, the will the Sharia supremacists, whether the Shiite ones or the Sunni ones regain power in Egypt? This is this is one more thing for us to worry about and pray about.

[01:21:42] **Frank Gaffney:** Amen. I think we're going to wrap it with that. Karen Sigman, I wanted to just commend you for your analogy about the Berlin Airlift and how important the resolve that was demonstrated in that moment to stand [01:22:00] with an isolated and essentially beleaguered city state, really was a shining moment for the United States and how we need to rise again to very different circumstances in some respects. But we certainly see in Israel a nation that is surrounded now by increasingly aggressive Sharia supremacist forces and some that, you know, are still nominally ruled by more secular governments, but under increasing pressure. I think it's fair to say from

the people who wish to put us all quite literally to the sword. I'm, I'm reminded as well about this issue of ideology and the extent to which we have generally [01:23:00] ignored the fact that that is operating here. And I did want to close with this thought. On August 15th, 2016 Donald J. Trump made an address in Youngstown, Ohio, as part of his campaign for the presidency that year as the Republican nominee. It was a remarkable speech. And it really, I think, for the first time, certainly anyone of his stature, for anyone in political life that close to becoming the president of the United States, especially spoke about the ideology. He called it radical Islamic terrorism rather than Sharia supremacism. It goes by various names. But I happen to think this idea of what [01:24:00] joins all of these forces without regard to their sectarian preferences is this idea that Sharia must rule and they will be using jihad to try to bring that about. But his agenda which became somewhat notorious because it was pilloried as a Muslim ban which was not so, but an effort on his part to try to make sure that people who sought to do violence to this country, to do violence to us, because, as Karen I think said, we are the impediment to the realization of this particular totalitarian agenda, but others as well.

[01:24:50] **Frank Gaffney:** Those are the Chinese communists. Those are the world government globalists. These folks are, I think, quite set [01:25:00] on bringing us down. And Donald Trump is quite set on preventing that from happening. And I think we could do worse where he and his administration to revert to the agenda that he laid out so powerfully in August of 2016. And we at the Victory Coalition will certainly be arguing as strongly as we can that that is indeed what is needed, to secure our country from enemies, foreign and domestic, including many who embrace this Sharia supremacist program. So we want to thank our audience for joining us for this first briefing by the Victory Coalition. We anticipate there will be many more to come. I want to thank this powerful panel of Rabbi Doctor David [01:26:00] Wurmser, Doctor Karen Sigman, and Peter McIlvenna for your insights, as well as the courage with which you are speaking about these issues. At a time such as this, it could not be more important, in my judgment. And we are very much hopeful that with God's grace our country will prevail over these forces, and we will play a role as a coalition in helping assure that outcome. Thank you for joining us. Please pass this briefing out to your friends, family, neighbors and so on. When it becomes available in the next day or so, and I thank our, our colleagues, Dede and Oleg Kashin for helping make that possible. With that, Dede back to you. Thank you.

[01:26:51] **Dede Laugesen:** Thank you. Frank. A video of this briefing will be posted to VictoryCo.org within a day of the conclusion of our program. [01:27:00] Please share this and our other programs with your elected representatives, colleagues and other networks. And follow us on X at @Co4victory for updates. Thanks for joining us today and goodbye.