

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL Digital Network WSJ.com Market Watch BARRON'S All Things Digital. FINIS SmartMoney More ▾

Friday, October 8, 2010 New York 75° | 59

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL **WORLD GET 2 WEEKS FREE** **SUBSCRIBE NOW!** [▶ THE PRINT JOURNAL](#) [▶ THE ONLINE JOURNAL](#)

News, Quotes, Companies, Videos **SEARCH**

Welcome, **Timothy D. Naegle** Logout  
My Account ▾ My Journal ▾ Help

U.S. Edition Home ▾ Today's Paper ▾ Video ▾ Blogs ▾ Journal Community [Log In ▾](#)

[World ▾](#) [U.S. ▾](#) [New York ▾](#) [Business ▾](#) [Markets ▾](#) [Tech ▾](#) [Personal Finance ▾](#) [Life & Culture ▾](#) [Opinion ▾](#) [Careers ▾](#) [Real Estate ▾](#) [Small Business ▾](#)

[Asia](#) [China](#) [Japan](#) [India](#) [Europe](#) [U.K.](#) [Russia](#) [Middle East](#) [Africa](#) [World Markets](#) [The Fight for Iraq](#)

TOP STORIES IN World

1 of 10 **Trio Share Nobel Economics Prize**

2 of 10 **U.S. May Have Killed Aid Worker**

3 of 10 **Miners Head for the Hills as Gold Pri...**

MIDDLE EAST NEWS | OCTOBER 8, 2010

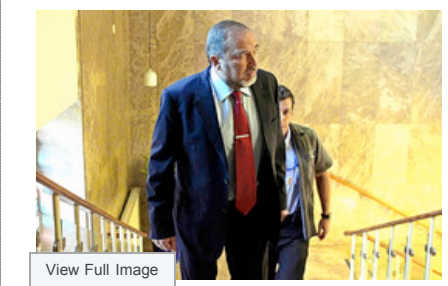
# Netanyahu to Put Loyalty Oath to Vote

**Article** **Comments (60)** [MORE IN WORLD »](#)

[Email](#) [Print](#) [Save This](#) [Like](#) 7 [+ More](#) [Text](#) -

By **CHARLES LEVINSON**

JERUSALEM—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu plans to put a controversial loyalty oath law to a cabinet vote on Sunday, a surprise move that appears to be aimed at securing the support of his coalition for an extension of restrictions on Jewish building in West Bank settlements.



View Full Image European Pressphoto Agency

Israeli Foreign Minister Lieberman is a leading proponent of the citizenship oath, which critics say singles out Palestinians.

month moratorium, which expired last week.



View Full Image European Pressphoto Agency

Palestinians seen passing Jews in Jerusalem this month.

Also on Thursday, U.S. and Israeli defense officials signed a \$2.75 billion deal involving the sale of 20 advanced latest-generation F-35 fighter jets to Israel. The deal has long been in the works, but the timing suggested it may be aimed at swaying Mr. Netanyahu to extend the building restrictions. The U.S. has offered Israel security guarantees and a package of other enticements in exchange for a freeze extension, but Mr. Netanyahu has refused.

The fate of Israeli-Palestinian direct peace talks appears to hang on whether Mr. Netanyahu agrees to extend the partial 10-

The 23-member Arab League is expected to vote on whether to support the talks in a meeting in Libya on Friday. Palestinian officials say the U.S. has lobbied Arab states heavily in recent days. They said they expect the Arab League to stop short of voting to torpedo peace talks altogether and instead to cast a vote that leaves the door open for peace talks to resume if Israel agrees to suspend settlement building down the road.

Palestinian leaders refuse to resume direct peace talks while settlement building

**“Markets are volatile. Pursuing your goals shouldn’t be.”**

**Robert L. Reynolds**  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Putnam Investments

**Putnam Absolute Return Funds can help »**

continues on land they claim for their future state.

Amid the impasse, a top adviser to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas offered another grim prognosis for talks.

"There will be no serious political process while Netanyahu's government pursues settlements," the adviser, Yasser Abed Rabbo, said in an interview with Palestine Radio. "I can go further still and say that there will be no serious political process with Netanyahu's government."

The right-of-center pro-settlement parties that dominate Mr. Netanyahu's coalition say they won't support another building moratorium.

Among the most outspoken opponents of any further restrictions on building is Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman, the leader of the hard-line Yisrael Beitenu Party, which is the second-largest party in Mr. Netanyahu's coalition. Mr. Lieberman is a leading proponent of the bill to amend the citizenship oath.

The proposed law, which is due to be put to a cabinet vote on Sunday, before being sent to the Knesset for a final vote, would require non-Jewish immigrants to swear loyalty to Israel as a "Jewish and Democratic state" as a condition of citizenship.

The Labor Party, which is the lone left-of-center member of Mr. Netanyahu's coalition, human-rights groups and representatives of Israel's Palestinian minority oppose the law. They call it racist and undemocratic and say it singles out Israel's Palestinian citizens and forces them to pledge allegiance to a pro-Zionist ideology that many reject.

"This is another way to impose political Zionist values on the Arab minority who do not have such values," said Sawsan Zaher, an Israeli human-rights lawyer.

Labor Party officials speculated that the move was aimed either at securing Mr. Lieberman's support for a freeze extension, or at shoring up Mr. Netanyahu's support on the right, which appears to have eroded in recent months.

A person close to Mr. Lieberman said Mr. Netanyahu's gambit would fail if indeed it was meant to secure Mr. Lieberman's support for another building moratorium. But this person didn't rule out the possibility that Mr. Lieberman could still come to support such an extension.

"From our point of view, this law is totally irrelevant," this person said. "The foreign minister's position remains not to extend the freeze. If that changes and they work some agreement, it will not be because of this law."

A spokesman for Mr. Netanyahu declined to comment on speculation that the decision to bring the law to a vote was connected to efforts to secure coalition support for an extended building moratorium. The spokesman, Mark Regev, said the bill was instead connected to Mr. Netanyahu's demands that Palestinians recognize Israel as a Jewish state as part of any final peace deal.

Mr. Netanyahu says such recognition is key to ensuring that any peace deal represents the end of Palestinian claims to Israeli territory. Palestinians have rejected the demand, fearing it would harm the status of Palestinians who Israeli citizens.

Write to Charles Levinson at [charles.levinson@wsj.com](mailto:charles.levinson@wsj.com)

MORE IN WORLD »

Email Printer Friendly Order Reprints

Tools Sponsor: Constant Contact TRY EMAIL MARKETING FREE FOR 60 DAYS!

Like 7 people like this.

Share: Facebook Twitter LinkedIn YouTube Instagram RSS



CLICK HERE for Full Article Access - and get TWO WEEKS FREE UPGRADE NOW WSJ.com subscribers enjoy: • Deeper core business, industry and market news • Exclusive newsletters and alerts • Save & share article functionality within the Journal Community

Email Newsletters and Alerts

The latest news and analysis delivered to your in-box. Check the boxes below to sign up.

This Week's Most Popular On the Editorial Page

SIGN UP

Manage Email Preferences

Video >

- An Offer from Netanyahu 1:44 End in Sight for Trapped Miners 1:34 Mandela's Private Writings Released 1:47

More in World

- Trio Share Nobel Economics Prize U.S. May Have Killed Aid Worker Miners Head for the Hills as Gold Prices Soar After Rescue, Miners Face Hospitalization Rebels Pressure Italian Government

Most Popular >

Read Emailed Video Commented Searches

- 1. Opinion: Shutting Up Business 2. Watch Out for ATM Skimming 3. Congress Aides Gain From Stock Trades 4. Microsoft Unveils New Handsets 5. Waiting for Superman No More

SPONSORED LINKS

Super Hot Stock Alerts

Penny Stocks Ready to Run. Huge Gains! #1 Newsletter. Free Join Now www.WallStreetsHottestStocks.com

Cancer Treatment Centers

CTCA Is Recognized For The Best In Cancer Care. Explore Your Options! www.CancerCenter.com

\$37/Hr Part Time Work

\$37/Hr part time jobs. \*Required\* Home computer, basic typing skills. hbwm.com

Add a Comment

JOURNAL COMMUNITY

We welcome your thoughtful comments. Please comply with our Community rules. All comments will display your real name.

Text input field for adding a comment.

Track replies to my comment

Go to Comments tab

CLEAR

POST

Related Stories

Israel Offers Settlement Freeze for Jewish-State Recognition 2 hrs ago

Israeli Cabinet Passes Loyalty Bill 14 hrs ago

Vote Backs Mideast Talks Halt 10/9/2010

U.S. Tries to Avert Mideast Impasse 10/3/2010

Palestinians Seek a Suspension of Negotiations 10/3/2010

Palestinians Keep Talks Alive 9/28/2010

In Global Hunt for Hit Men, Tantalizing Trail Goes Cold 10/8/2010

Netanyahu Vows to Put Any Treaty to a Vote 9/21/2010

Related Videos



10/11/2010 An Offer from Netanyahu



2 hrs ago Israel Offers Conditional Settlement Freeze



10/4/2010 Netanyahu Defends Settlers' Rights

Most Read Articles Feed

Latest Tweets

Follow

"Ireland's Taxes Under Pressure http://on.wsj.com/aMFdh6" 26 min ago from WSJEuropeBiz (WSJ Europe Business)

"Surveys Show U.K. Recovery Flagging http://on.wsj.com/aVCLDY" 34 min ago from WSJUK (WSJ U.K.)

"Ireland's Taxes Under Pressure: Debt-ridden Ireland is under increasing pressure to reverse the policy that he..." http://on.wsj.com/aykYA8" 43 min ago from WSJEurope (WSJ Europe News)

"Bonuses, Banker Bashing Draw Equal Fire http://on.wsj.com/cotpEz" 1 hrs 35 min ago from WSJUK (WSJ U.K.)

"Iconic London Building In Line For Makeover http://on.wsj.com/9W9MuK" 1 hrs 35 min ago from WSJUK (WSJ U.K.)

Latest Headlines

Congress Aides Gain From Stock Trades

Trio Share Nobel Economics Prize

U.S. May Have Killed Aid Worker

Report: College Dropouts Cost Taxpayers Billions

Clinton Puts His Popularity to Work

Alleged Fort Hood Shooter to Face Victims

Explosives Found in N.Y. Cemetery

Railroads Chug Along

Massey Settles Suits Over '06 Fire

Democrats Aim to Curb GOP Donors

More Headlines

CLICK HERE for Full Article Access - and get

TWO WEEKS FREE

UPGRADE NOW

WSJ.com subscribers enjoy:

- Deeper core business, industry and market news
• Exclusive newsletters and alerts
• Save & share article functionality within the Journal Community

Editors' Picks





**Railroads Chug Along**



**McRib Tests Limits of Loyalty**



**'Mad Men,' A Conversation (Season 4, Episode 12)**



**Guinness Makes a U.S. Play**



**Modernizing the Mixtape**

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

[BACK TO TOP](#) ▲

### WSJ.com Account:

- My Account
- Subscriber Billing Info

### Create an Account:

- Register for Free
- Subscribe to WSJ.com
- Sign up for WSJ Professional

### Help & Information Center:

- Help
- Customer Service
- Contact Us
- New on WSJ.com
- Tour the new Journal

### About:

- News Licensing
- Advertising
- Advertise Locally
- Conferences
- About Dow Jones
- Privacy Policy - Updated
- Subscriber Agreement & Terms of Use - Updated
- Copyright Policy
- Jobs at WSJ.com

### WSJ.com:

- Site Map
- Home
- World
- U.S.
- New York
- Business
- Markets
- Market Data
- Tech
- Personal Finance
- Life & Culture
- Opinion
- Autos
- Careers
- Real Estate
- Small Business
- Student Journal
- Corrections

### Tools & Formats:

- Today's Paper
- Video Center
- Graphics
- Columns
- Blogs
- Topics
- Guides
- Alerts
- Newsletters
- Mobile
- iPad
- Podcasts
- RSS Feeds
- Journal Community
- WSJ on Twitter
- WSJ on Facebook
- WSJ on Foursquare
- My Journal
- Portfolio

### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. Digital Network

- WSJ.com
- Marketwatch.com
- Barrons.com
- SmartMoney.com
- AllThingsD.com
- Finance Jobs at FINS
- BigCharts.com
- Virtual Stock Exchange
- ProfessorJournal.com
- WSJ U.S. Edition
- WSJ Asia Edition
- WSJ Europe Edition
- WSJ India Page
- Foreign Language Editions:
  - WSJ Chinese
  - WSJ Japanese
  - WSJ Portuguese
  - WSJ Spanish



Copyright ©2010 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved

