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Jerusalem. No more embassies Photo: Yaakov Saar, GPO



Costa Rica Embassy. Also leaving Photo: Sebastian Scheiner



- Weekly Israel news summary
- This week's news from Israel

El Salvador to move embassy from Jerusalem

In move bound to upset Israel, please Arab country's Foreign Ministry announces it will move its embassy in Israel to Tel Aviv. Last week Costa Rica announced it would pull its diplomatic mission out of capital

Reuters
Published: 08.25.06, 22:43

El Salvador will move its embassy in [Israel](#) from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv, the Foreign Ministry said on Friday, in a move bound to upset Israel and please Arab nations.

El Salvador would have been the only country in the world with an embassy in Jerusalem after neighboring Costa Rica [announced](#) on August 16 it would pull its diplomatic mission out of the city.

A US ally which has a small contingent of troops in Iraq, El Salvador is governed by conservative President Tony Saca, who is of Palestinian Christian descent.

"Considering the current situation in the Middle East, El Salvador has decided to move its diplomatic representation in the state of Israel," The ministry said in a statement.

Israel regards East Jerusalem as part of its "undivided and eternal capital." It captured the eastern part of Jerusalem in the 1967 Middle East war and annexed it in a move not recognized internationally.

The 200,000 Arab residents of East Jerusalem are caught between Israel and an emerging Palestinian state which wants the eastern part of Jerusalem as its future capital.

Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, a former Nobel Peace Prize winner, said earlier this month he made the decision to change the embassy's location to win more friends in the Middle East and comply with UN resolutions.



Public opinion

The UN Security Council's resolution is:

- A defeat for Israel
- A triumph for Israel
- Under the circumstances, it's the lesser evil

Choose one and vote



results

Lexicon

- The State of Israel
- PM Ehud Olmert
- Israel's defense minister, Amir Peretz
- Chief of Staff, Dan Halutz
- Lebanon
- The Lebanon War
- Hizbullah, the "Party of God"
- Hizbullah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah
- The Shiites
- Iran
- Syria
- Syrian President Bashar al-Assad
- Sabra and Shatila Massacre
- Operation Accountability
- Operation Grapes of Wrath

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1. And in Bigger News...
Ryan, Canada (08.25.06)
2. Jerusalem is Israel "capital" indeed...
(08.25.06)
3. **Good Israel does not need friends anyway (End)**
Vince, USA (08.25.06)
4. **Who is behind this? Hugo Chavez**
Mark, USA (08.25.06)
5. Why did they have them in Jerusalem?
Mark, USA (08.25.06)
6. #3 We never had any friends. **(End)**
Mark, USA (08.25.06)
7. Back To Tel Aviv, Israel
George W. Arbusto, Washington, DC (08.25.06)
8. Re-open Embassies
George, Lebanon (08.25.06)
9. they are ALL RATS **(End)**
(08.25.06)
10. #2 and #3
Al, Salt Lake City (08.25.06)
11. BREAK RELATIONS WITH EL SALVADOR
Sam Weinstein, USA (08.25.06)
12. #11 Arab, Iranian or Venezuelan money
Mark, USA (08.25.06)
13. #8 Will Israel be allowed to still exist?
Mark, USA (08.25.06)
14. Jerusalem Israel's Capital No Matter What
Adina Kutnicki, US (08.25.06)
15. To AI: Demand a Comprehensive Peace
Mark, USA (08.26.06)
16. #10 So you would rather have a
Allan (08.25.06)
17. #7 Will you allow Israel to exist?
Mark, USA (08.26.06)
18. A good step forward by Latin America.
Rami, East Jerusalem (08.26.06)
19. **The answer is simply**
Arie, Afula (08.26.06)
20. embassies
jj, montreal canada (08.26.06)
21. to 10#
israeli, haifa (08.26.06)
22. If Israel ever gives up Jerusalem I'll convert to Islam
RA (08.26.06)
23. #19 Great Idea
(08.26.06)
24. Venezuela gets a little oil&suddenly think they are the shit
RA (08.26.06)
25. Response to Arie post 19
Ari, Jerusalem (08.26.06)
26. Saca should take a lesson
Arie, Afula (08.26.06)
27. Change of Embassy
Aldo Manginelli, NY (08.26.06)
28. Where is Israeli foreign mission?
bernard ross, St. Anns Bay Jamaica (08.26.06)
29. OPEN YOUR EYES-NO PEACE WITHOUT EJERUSALEM AS OUR CAPITAL **(End)**
KAMAL, JENIN PALESTINE (08.26.06)

- ...ria, East Jerusalem Files (08.26.06)
31. Again, Tzipi where are you?
Jonathan S, Frankfurt, Germany (08.26.06)
 32. About Jerusalem, the capital of Israel
Larry, Eastbourne, UK (08.26.06)
 33. bit of el salvador history.
TONY SACA, BETHLEHEM/ PALESTINE (08.26.06)
 34. Adina Kutnicki
(08.26.06)
 35. #2 Indeed you are right.
Amnon, Israel (08.26.06)
 36. Thanks El Salvador
Arab, somewhere (08.26.06)
 37. A gentle rebuke to Mark (15): peace kills!
sk, USA (08.26.06)
 38. Shame!!
Chambita, ES (08.26.06)
 39. Good step
Jeff, Canada (08.26.06)
 40. Question
Ari, Montreal (08.26.06)
 41. Doesn't matter what ANYONE thinks- Jerusalem is our capital
Elle Sabu, Los Angeles, CA (08.26.06)
 42. #29 East Jerusalem is an Arab City
(08.26.06)
 43. #16
Al, Salt Lake City (08.26.06)
 44. IN 20 YEARS: 1 COUNTRY CALLED JERUSALEM - NOT TWO STATES
ANDREW, MIAMI,FL (08.26.06)
 45. When will Jerusalem become an International City?
Mark, Florida, USA (08.26.06)
 46. Since when is Brussels a divided city?
Lisa, NYC (08.26.06)
 47. Jerusalem belongs to the Jews not the Arab occupiers!
Palestiniansareamyth, USA (08.26.06)
 48. West-Jerusalem was recognized as ours before 67!
sharon, Israel (08.26.06)
 49. Jerusalem under international laws..
ayam (08.26.06)
 50. Doesn't matter
Elisabeth, Netherlands (08.26.06)
 51. 18 Actually with the way christians
freedom, canada (08.26.06)
 52. 24 The wheels are already in motion
freedom, canada (08.26.06)
 53. 29 After what the Palestinian Authority
freedom, canada (08.26.06)
 54. 35 Bush you disappoint me.... **(End)**
freedom, canada (08.26.06)
 55. 39 If that is your thesis Jeff, then when
freedom, canada (08.26.06)
 56. 42 . If you believe east jerusalem is
freedom, canada (08.26.06)
 57. 44 Nice idea... uh.. where does Hizbullah
freedom, canada (08.26.06)
 58. Does it matter, Arabs also say Spain belongs to them
(08.26.06)
 59. TO ARIE # 26
GEORGES YOUNIS, LEBANON. (08.26.06)
 60. to # 22
Wissam, Beirut (08.26.06)
 61. Against the world
Human (08.26.06)
 62. Detroit,Paris
Gil, ashkelon (08.26.06)
 63. #44: dhimmi attitude
Raphael, Paris France (08.26.06)
 64. One Embassy is still there...
Laura, London (08.26.06)
 65. we Love Jerusalem as must as the jews do


66. ETERNAL CITY-JERUSALEM-THE HEART & SOUL OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE
Linda Rivera, New York (08.26.06)
67. #32 - It was Jew-HATE and malice
Linda Rivera, New York (08.26.06)
68. To #59
Adam, ALLJERUSALEM, ISRAEL (08.26.06)
69. Jerusalem has no connection with Islam nor 'Arabs'
Adam, ALLJERUSALEM, ISRAEL (08.26.06)
70. To #22 Wissam
Adam, ALLJERUSALEM, ISRAEL (08.26.06)
71. More Olmert-Livni successes
Ignacio, Zaragoza, Spain (08.26.06)
72. our attachement as muslim to jerusalem is as stong as yours
Lama, Ejerusalem Palestine (08.26.06)
73. Ejerusalem Eternal capital of Palestine **(End)**
Ayman, Ejerusalem Palestine (08.26.06)
74. Embassy moe
Ron, Victoria Canda (08.26.06)
75. #16
ron, victoria canada (08.26.06)
76. to #1
Kirk, NY, USA (08.26.06)
77. #76
Ron, Victoria, Canada (08.26.06)

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