



# uruknet.info

## اوروكنت.انفو

informazione dall'iraq occupato  
information from occupied iraq  
أخبار من العراق المحتل

[ home page ] | [ tutte le notizie/all news ] | [ download banner ] | [ ultimo aggiornamento/last update 27/01/2007 11:44 ] 30091

Uruknet receives daily many hacking attempts. To prevent this, we have 10 websites on 6 servers in different places. So, if the website is slow or it does not answer, you can recall one of the other web sites: [www.uruknet.info](http://www.uruknet.info) [www.uruknet.de](http://www.uruknet.de) [www.uruknet.biz](http://www.uruknet.biz) [www.uruknet.org.uk](http://www.uruknet.org.uk) [www.uruknet.com](http://www.uruknet.com) [www.uruknet.org](http://www.uruknet.org) - [www.uruknet.it](http://www.uruknet.it) [www.uruknet.eu](http://www.uruknet.eu) [www.uruknet.net](http://www.uruknet.net) [www.uruknet.web.at.it](http://www.uruknet.web.at.it)



Subscribe our newsletter! - Iscriviti alla nostra newsletter!  
Now it is possible to post comments to the articles. Register here to get the password!

:: Write to Google against removing Uruknet from the news! Click here! (without popup)

### The hidden cost of free congressional trips to Israel

Jim Abourezk, The Electronic Intifada

:: What happened in Kurdish Halabja?



:: contact

:: Uruknet on GoogleNews  
:: Uruknet su GoogleNews Italia

:: Free Download of Uruknet Calendar 2007

uruknet:  
il nostro progetto  
our project

:: Segnala Uruknet agli amici. Clicka qui.

:: Invite your friends to Uruknet. Click here.

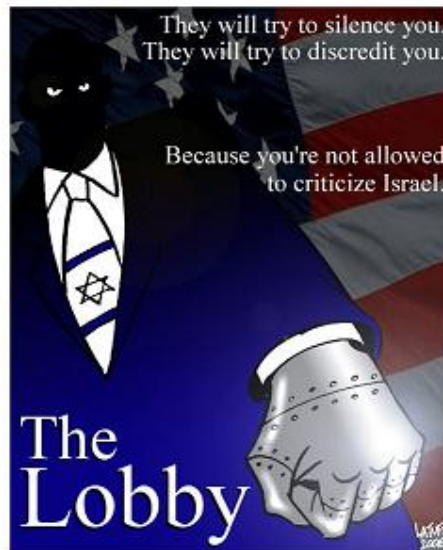
:: links

:: Segnalaci un articolo  
:: Tell us of an article

VIA DALL'IRAQ

[www.beppegrillo.it](http://www.beppegrillo.it)

January 26, 2007



**new!**

:: Lettera del Presidente Saddam Hussein al popolo americano  
:: Letter from President Saddam Hussein to the American People



:: Lynching Saddam by Gabriele Zamparini

The newsletter archive



:: If you find this site informative, please donate - every donation

helps us keep up  
with costs.  
Thanks.



Branded as 'educational,' these trips offer Israeli propagandists an opportunity to expose members of Congress to only their side of the story: Then Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon (L) meets with the U.S. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (R) in Jerusalem, 13 November 2005. ([MaanImages/Inbal Rose](#))



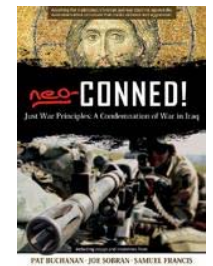
L'Impero si è fermato a Baghdad, by Valeria Poletti

[Modulo per ordini](#)

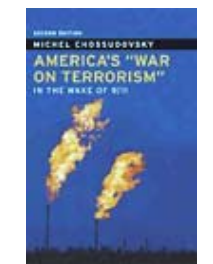


[:: Newsletter](#)

[:: Comments](#)



"Neoconned" and "Neoconned Again", two new collections of essays



America's "War on Terrorism", book by Michel Chossudovsky

:: If you find this site informative, please donate - every donation helps us keep up with costs.  
Thanks.



:: Autodeterminazione e resistenza irakena  
*di Aldo Bernardini, Ordinario di Diritto internazionale all'Università di Teramo*

:: ONU - XX Assemblea Generale (1965):  
La XX Assemblea Generale dell'ONU (1965) dichiara "la legittimità della lotta da parte dei popoli sotto oppressione coloniale, per esercitare il loro diritto all'autodeterminazione e all'indipendenza".  
Inoltre, l'Assemblea invita "tutti gli Stati a fornire assistenza morale e materiale ai movimenti di liberazione nazionale nei territori coloniali".

:: ONU - Risoluzione 1514 "L'Assemblea Generale dichiara che: la soggezione dei popoli a dominio straniero, conquista e asservimento costituisce una negazione dei diritti umani fondamentali, è contraria alla Carta delle Nazioni Unite ed è un impedimento alla promozione della pace e della cooperazione mondiali.  
Tutti i popoli hanno diritto all'autodeterminazione; in virtù di tale diritto essi devono liberamente

SIOUX FALL, S.D. - Democrats in Congress have moved quickly -- and commendably -- to strengthen ethics rules. But truly groundbreaking reform was prevented, in part, because of the efforts of the pro-Israel lobby to preserve one of its most critical functions: taking members of Congress on free "educational" trips to Israel.

The pro-Israel lobby does most of its work without publicity. But every member of Congress and every would-be candidate for Congress comes to quickly understand a basic lesson. Money needed to run for office can come with great ease from supporters of Israel, provided that the candidate makes certain promises, in writing, to vote favorably on issues considered important to Israel. What drives much of congressional support for Israel is fear -- fear that the pro-Israel lobby will either withhold campaign contributions or give money to one's opponent.

In my own experience as a US senator in the 1970s, I saw how the lobby tries to humiliate or embarrass members who do not toe the line.

Pro-Israel groups worked vigorously to ensure that the new reforms would allow them to keep hosting members of Congress on trips to Israel. According to the Jewish *Daily Forward* newspaper, congressional filings show Israel as the top foreign destination for privately sponsored trips. Nearly 10 percent of overseas congressional trips taken between 2000 and 2005 were to Israel. Most are paid for by the American Israel Education Foundation, a sister organization of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the major pro-Israel lobby group.

New rules require all trips to be pre-approved by the House Ethics Committee, but Rep. Barney Frank (D) of Massachusetts says this setup will guarantee that tours of Israel continue. Ron Kampeas of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported consensus among Jewish groups that "the new legislation would be an inconvenience, but wouldn't seriously hamper the trips to Israel that are considered a critical component of congressional support for Israel."

These trips are defended as "educational." In reality, as I know from my many colleagues in the House and Senate who participated in them, they offer Israeli propagandists an opportunity to expose members of Congress to only their side of the story. The Israeli narrative of how the nation was created, and Israeli justifications for its brutal policies omit important truths about the Israeli takeover and occupation of the Palestinian territories.

What the pro-Israel lobby reaps for its investment in these tours is congressional support for Israeli desires. For years, Israel has relied on billions of dollars in US taxpayer money. Shutting off this government funding would seriously impair Israel's harsh occupation.

One wonders what policies Congress might support toward Israel and the Palestinians absent the distorting influence of these Israel trips -- or if more members toured Palestinian lands. America sent troops to Europe to prevent the killing of civilians in the former Yugoslavia. But when it comes to flagrant human rights violations committed by Israel, the US sends more money and shields Israel from criticism.

determinare il loro status politico e liberamente perseguire il loro sviluppo economico, sociale e culturale".

:: Convenzione di Ginevra, Protocollo Addizionale I (1977):  
La lotta armata può essere usata, come ultima risorsa, come mezzo per esercitare il diritto all' autodeterminazione.

:: Tribunale penale internazionale  
In base allo Statuto del Tribunale penale internazionale, sono definiti "crimini di guerra":  
(1) attacchi lanciati intenzionalmente contro popolazione civili in quanto tali o contro civili che non prendano direttamente parte alle ostilità;  
(4) attacchi lanciati intenzionalmente nella consapevolezza che gli stessi avranno come conseguenza la perdita di vite umane tra la popolazione civile, e lesioni a civili o danni a proprietà civili ovvero danni diffusi duraturi e gravi all'ambiente naturale che siano manifestamente eccessivi rispetto all'insieme dei concreti e diretti i vantaggi militari previsti.

:: Iraq anthem  
(click to listen)

Congress regularly passes resolutions lauding Israel, even when its actions are deplorable, providing it political cover. Meanwhile, polls suggest most Americans want the Bush administration to steer a middle course in working for peace between Israelis and the Palestinians.

Consider, too, how the Israel lobby twists US foreign policy into a dangerous double standard regarding nuclear issues. The US rattles its sabers at Iran for its nuclear energy ambitions -- and alleged pursuit of nuclear arms -- while remaining silent about Israel's nuclear-weapons arsenal.

Members of Congress may not be aware just how damaging their automatic support for Israel is to America's interest. At a minimum, US policies toward Israel have cost it valuable allies in the Middle East and other parts of the Muslim world.

If Congress is serious about ethics reform, it should not protect the Israel lobby from the consequences. A totally taxpayer-funded travel budget for members to take foreign fact-finding trips, with authorization to be made by committee heads, would be an important first step toward a foreign policy that genuinely serves America.

*Jim Abourezk is a former Democratic senator from South Dakota. This article was originally published by the Christian Science Monitor and is republished with the author's permission.*

:: Article nr. 30091 sent on 27-jan-2007 10:42 ECT

[www.ুরুnet.info?p=30091](http://www.ুরুnet.info?p=30091)

:: The views expressed in this article are the sole responsibility of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of Uruknet .

### COMMENTS BY REGISTERED READERS OF URUKNET

The COMMENTS of our readers are the sole responsibility of their authors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of URUKNET. If you believe that any COMMENT contains pornographic, racist or otherwise objectionable or offensive content, or if the COMMENT is contrary to law in any way, please let us know. Our legal representatives will review any and all complaints and, if any complaint is deemed to be accurate, the COMMENT will be removed at once.

You can get the password for comments by clicking [HERE](#) (needed only once forever).

Once you have the password, click [HERE](#) to publish your own comment below here.

Still no comments for this article.

Master "Enrico



Uruknet on Alexa

:: Motore di ricerca / Search Engine

[:: search](#)

uruknet  
 the web

powered by 

:: Special reports on the trial of President Saddam Hussein by Dr. Curtis F.J. Doebbler



:: Ego te baptizo carcam: realtà e misiticazione giuridica nella perdurante guerra di aggressione all'Iraq di Aldo Bernardini ( PDF )

Font size Carattere

1  2  3

[cambia](#)

[change](#)

[Accessible](#)

:: News: list + XML

(English) (Italian) (Français)

[:: comunicati](#)

:: Venerdì 26 maggio, ore 21 - Milano -

Presentazione  
del libro di  
Valeria Poletti  
"L'impero si è  
fermato a  
Baghdad" ■

:: Chi vivrà  
IRAQ! - Un  
deserto  
chiamato pace.  
■

:: "Il diario di  
Cindy Sheehan  
Mamma Pace"  
■

:: Iraq,  
confermata per  
domani 18  
marzo la  
marcia ■

:: 4 marzo  
2006:  
"L'informazione?  
In prigione! In  
prigione!" ➔

:: 17 gennaio  
2006: Discorsi  
sulla pace con  
«Mamma  
Cindy» ■

:: Torino, 13  
gennaio 2006  
Iniziativa di  
solidarietà con  
la resistenza  
del Popolo  
Iracheno e per  
il ritiro delle  
truppe italiane  
dall'Iraq  
occupato ➔

:: 7 dicembre  
fiaccolate per  
gli ostaggi  
"Cristian  
Peacemakers  
Team" (CPT) -  
Un appello per  
mobilitarsi in  
tutta Italia... ■

:: Milano 21  
novembre  
2005: Verità e  
giustizia per  
Fallujia ■

:: Bombe al  
fosforo in Iraq:  
sit-in lunedì 14  
e martedì 15  
novembre 2005  
■

:: 8-14 ottobre  
2005 - SAN

:: [uruknet] [clicka qui per una traduzione automatica in italiano](#)

:: [uruknet] [cliquez ici pour une traduction automatique en français](#)

:: [uruknet] [klicken Sie hier für eine automatische Übersetzung in Deutschen](#)

:: [uruknet] [chasque aquí para una traducción automática en español](#)

:: [uruknet] [estale aqui para uma tradução automática no português](#)

:: [uruknet] [χτυπήστε εδώ για μια αυτόματη μετάφραση στα ελληνικά](#)

:: [uruknet] [日本語に自動翻訳のためにここにかちりと鳴らしなさい](#)

:: [uruknet] [點擊這裡為自動翻譯成漢語](#)

:: [uruknet] [щелкните здесь для машинный перевод в русского](#)

:: If you find this  
site informative,  
please donate -  
every donation  
helps us keep up  
with costs.  
Thanks.



LAZZARO - Una  
mostra  
dedicata  
'all'altra faccia'  
dell'Iraq ➡

:: Firenze16  
settembre  
2005:  
Proiezione del  
video "Falluja" ■

:: Milano 16  
settembre  
2005: Incontro  
con  
associazioni  
irachene ■

:: Report e  
proposte  
dell'assemblea  
No War del 10  
settembre  
2005 a Roma ■

:: All events

[ [home page](#) ] | [ [tutte le notizie/all news](#) ] | [ [download banner](#) ] | [ ultimo aggiornamento/last update 27/01/2007 11:44 ]

Vuoi una pagina più leggera di **uruknet.info** in italiano da mettere come tua pagina iniziale? [CLICKA QUI](#).

Would you like a lighter page of **uruknet.info** in english to set as your initial page? [CLICK HERE](#).

Est-ce que vous aimez **uruknet.info** en français comme votre page initiale? [CLIQUEZ ICI](#).

¿Usted quiere **uruknet.info** como su página inicial en español? [CLICK AQUÍ](#).

Você gostam de ter **uruknet.info** como sua página inicial no português? [ESTALE AQUÍ](#).

[You are using a MS operating system! Nothing so wrong with this, but try also others \(Mac, Linux, Unix\)](#)

27-Jan-2007 20:45

W

:: This site contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in our efforts to advance understanding of environmental, political, human rights, economic, democracy, scientific, and social justice issues, etc. We believe this constitutes a 'fair use' of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law. In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, the material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for research and educational purposes. For more info go to: <http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml>. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

:: **We always mention the author and link the original site and page of every article.**

uruknet, uruklink, iraq, uruqlink, iraq, irak, irakeno, iraqi, uruk, uruqlink, saddam hussein, baghdad, mesopotamia, babilonia, uday, qusay, udai, qusai, hussein, feddayn, fedayn saddam, mujaheddin, mojahidin, tarek aziz, chalabi, iraqi, baath, ba'ht, Aljazira, aljazeera, Iraq, Saddam Hussein, Palestina, Sharon, Israele, Nasser, ahram, hayat, sharq awsat, iraqwar, irakwar All pictures

counter not  
found