Yair Golan Wants Partners Who Won't Name Hamas as the Enemy

THE LIE

The Arab lawmakers whose 19 Knesset seats now decide who forms Israel's next government are peaceful, law-abiding citizens who want what's best for Israel. Yair Golan, leader of the left-wing Democrats party, says keeping them out of power is "racism."

THE TRUTH

Arab lawmakers who won't call Hamas a terrorist organization and identify with Palestinians in Gaza are not loyal to Israel and cannot be trusted to govern the Jewish state.

BACKGROUND

➔ In Israel's October 27, 2026, election, the two Arab-led parties, the Joint List and Ra'am, won a record 19 of the Knesset's 120 seats. That left neither Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's bloc (53 seats) nor opposition leader Gadi Eisenkot's bloc (48 seats) with the 61 seats needed to govern.

➔ At the Joint List's election-night headquarters in Nazareth, Osama Saadi, a veteran Joint List politician and former Knesset member, told the crowd: "We dedicate this victory to our people in Gaza, the West Bank, and occupied Jerusalem."

➔ On November 8, President Isaac Herzog officially gave Eisenkot the mandate to form a government. Eisenkot requires every coalition partner to recognize Israel as a Jewish and democratic state and to publicly call Hamas a terrorist organization that must be destroyed. Naftali Bennett and Avigdor Liberman, both in his bloc, refuse to rely on the Arab parties at all.

➔ On October 28, Golan broke with the rest of his bloc and urged it to govern "in partnership with Israel's Arab citizens," calling the line between Jewish and Arab votes "Netanyahu's racist division." Every other party in the bloc rejected the idea. Times of Israel

TRUTH EXPLAINED

➔ **The Joint List's chairman won't call Hamas a terrorist organization.** Asked repeatedly in a Channel 12 interview after the election, Yousef Jabareen would only say that his party condemns "the massacre in the Israeli communities bordering on Gaza." He added that the Palestinian people "are made up of several movements," treating the terrorists who carried out October 7 as one political faction among others. Jewish Insider

➔ **Saadi accused Israel of "genocide" in the same election-night speech.** After dedicating the victory to Gaza, he promised that when this "fascist government, this government of genocide, this government of ethnic cleansing" falls, "we will send our greetings to our people in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, the occupied territory, and all free people around the world." He didn't say a single word of thanks to Israel. Israel365 News

➔ **Jabareen refused to distance his party from Saadi.** Asked about the speech, he questioned only Saadi's choice of words and praised him in the same answer. When pressed again on Hamas, Jabareen snapped, "My dear, I am not in an interrogation room." His conditions for backing a new government include a commitment to a Palestinian state and an end to home demolitions, including the demolition of convicted terrorists' homes. Times of Israel

➔ **A Joint List lawmaker backed the "genocide" case against Israel at The Hague.** After October 7, Ofer Cassif, of the list's communist Hadash party, supported South Africa's case accusing Israel of genocide at the International Court of Justice and has accused the IDF of carrying out acts of terrorism. Liberman cited Cassif's record when he refused to sit in any government that relies on the Arab parties. Israel National News

➔ **The Joint List's longtime former leader celebrated the release of terrorists.** In January 2025, as Hamas freed three young Israeli women in exchange for Palestinian prisoners, including convicted terrorists, Ayman Odeh wrote that he was "happy about the release of hostages and prisoners," treating kidnapped Israelis and jailed terrorists as equals. A Knesset committee voted 14-2 to advance his impeachment, with opposition lawmakers voting in favor. Jerusalem Post

➔ **Even Ra'am, the party sold as the "moderate" one, describes Hamas as partly a charity.** Weeks before the election, Ra'am lawmaker Yasser Hujirat was asked on i24NEWS whether Hamas is a terrorist organization. He answered that it is "an organization that, in part, engages in charity work, and in part seeks the right to exist and recognition as a state." Three years after October 7, the man Golan calls a partner wouldn't refer to Hamas as a terrorist group. JFeed

QUOTES

"Saadi isn't confused about who he is. He told us exactly which nation he belongs to, and it isn't Israel." - Rabbi Elie Mischel, Israel365 News

"The public in Israel does not want a government that depends on Ra'am and the Joint List." - Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

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TAKEAWAY

The Arab parties showed Israel who they are the moment they won. A veteran Joint List politician dedicated the victory to Gaza and called Israel's government a "government of genocide." The Joint List's chairman still won't call Hamas terrorists, one of its lawmakers backed the genocide case against Israel at The Hague, and even "moderate" Ra'am sent a lawmaker on television to describe Hamas as partly a charity. Israel's Arab citizens deserve leaders who put Israel first, and these leaders told the whole country they won't. Golan isn't fighting racism. He's asking Israelis to hand the fate of their next government to parties that won't name Hamas as the enemy.