

# Israel's judicial reform plan

Israel's parliament has ratified an initial step to limit the power of the Supreme Court. The bill will prevent Israel's top court overruling government decisions deemed as "unreasonable"



■ **Jan 4:** Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu's** new government unveils three bills to reduce powers of unelected judges. Critics say overhaul is power grab that will push Israel towards autocracy

■ **Jan-onwards:** Hundreds of thousands of Israelis – including military reservists – demonstrate against judicial plans

■ **Mar 27:** Weekly protests and falling shekel force Netanyahu to suspend overhaul to allow compromise talks with opposition

■ **Jun 29:** Talks falter – Netanyahu relaunches legislation saying he has thrown out highly-disputed **"override clause."** Clause grants authority to overturn Supreme Court rulings with simple majority of 61 votes in 120-seat Knesset

■ **Jul 2:** Netanyahu tells cabinet members that override clause is still in judicial reform plan

■ **Jul 24:** Knesset ratifies first bill limiting **"reasonable"** standard by 64-to-0 vote after opposition boycotts final vote. Night of mass protests sweeps Israel

■ **Torah-study bill:** Aimed at preventing Supreme Court from striking down proposed law that will exempt ultra-orthodox Jews from military service

■ **Additional bill:** Will give Knesset final say in selecting judges