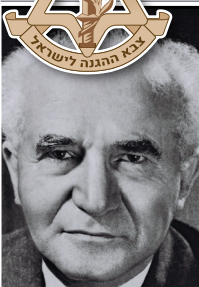


# Israel Haredi conscription

Benjamin Netanyahu's war cabinet and most Israelis oppose his draft bill to perpetuate or even extend historic exemptions from military service to ultra-Orthodox Haredi men



■ **Military service:** Most Jewish men are required to serve in **Israel Defense Forces (IDF)** for 32 months from age 18, followed by reserve duty. Jewish women serve two years

■ **1948:** Israel's founder, **David Ben Gurion** (left), allows some 400 young **Haredi** strictly-Orthodox men to avoid conscription if they attend **yeshiva**, or religious school

■ **1999:** Supreme Court determines that exemption is illegal

■ **2002:** Knesset passes **Tal Law**, exempting yeshiva students from IDF service

■ **2012:** Supreme Court declares Tal Law unconstitutional

■ **2014:** Netanyahu-led government passes controversial law to draft small number of Haredi men into military

■ **2015:** Netanyahu reverses 2014 law in deal to bring ultra-Orthodox **United Torah Judaism** and **Shas** parties into coalition

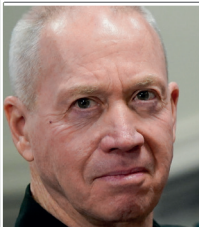


■ **2018:** Defence minister **Avigdor Lieberman** (left) plans to reduce state funding for yeshivas if **Haredim** don't meet conscription quotas.

Ultra-Orthodox parties oppose plan

■ **Oct 7, 2023:** Following Hamas attacks, Israel activates 360,000 reservists.

**Out of 13,000 eligible candidates, only 1,200 Haredim join IDF each year**



■ **War cabinet:** Made up of defence minister **Yoav Gallant** (above left), **Benny Gantz** (right) and Netanyahu, plus observers. **Both Gallant and Gantz oppose bill**

**Should exemption from military service be changed?**

All Israelis\*

**YES** 64%

**NO** 22%

Ultra-Orthodox

**YES** 19%

**NO** 69%

\*Poll by Institute for National Security Studies of 750 adults, Feb 28-Mar 4. Margin of error:  $\pm 3.7\%$