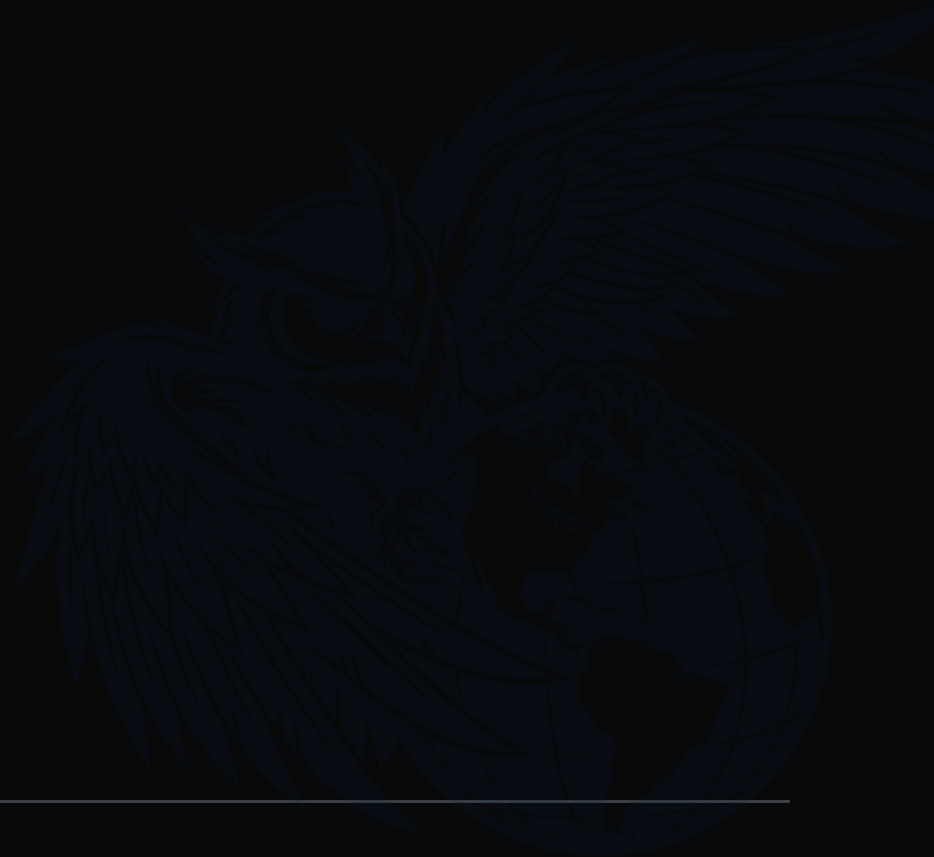

PUBLISHED MARKET RESEARCH

Israel Votes on Schedule: the 27 October Knesset Election

A fixed date, a fragmented field and a long count to a government

AIG-GOV-26-008 · 8 OCTOBER 2026

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Israel Votes on Schedule: the 27 October Knesset Election

A fixed date, a fragmented field and a long count to a government

Israel will vote on its legally fixed date for the first time in a generation, but the ballot is unlikely to settle who governs: neither bloc is on course for a majority, and the decisive contest, likely across the blocs, begins after the count.

Israel will almost certainly vote on its scheduled polling day, the first Knesset in decades to serve out its full term. The vote is unlikely to hand either camp a governing majority, although two pollsters off the house list put the Netanyahu bloc near or above the line. Eisenkot's Yashar leads Likud narrowly in most polls, but the gap has narrowed and finishing first matters less than coalition arithmetic. The restored Arab-majority lists deny both blocs a majority of their own but are unlikely to decide who governs, because the Jewish opposition refuses to count them; the likelier routes to a government cross the blocs, through a unity deal between Yashar and Likud or a Likud that replaces Netanyahu so that Yisrael Beiteinu can join, with an opposition government resting on Ra'am a less likely third. Planning should assume a long coalition count that runs toward the new year, not a quick handover.

HEADLINE INDICATORS

27 October POLLING DAY, THE LAST DATE THE LAW ALLOWS	61 seats NEEDED TO GOVERN IN A KNESSET OF ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY	54 seats NETANYAHU BLOC IN THE CHANNEL 13 POLL OF EARLY OCTOBER
57 seats JEWSH OPPOSITION PARTIES IN THE CHANNEL 12 POLL AFTER THE LISTS CLOSED	14 seats ARAB-MAJORITY LISTS COMBINED IN THE CHANNEL 13 POLL OF EARLY OCTOBER	58 days FROM THE LAST POLLING DAY TO THE SWEARING-IN OF A GOVERNMENT

DOCUMENT CONTROL

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CENTRAL JUDGMENT

The schedule is settled and the outcome is not. Israel's election date is fixed in law and corroborated across independent reporting, so the risk that matters for anyone exposed to Israeli policy is not whether the vote happens but whether it produces a government, and which one. Polls show a fragmented field in which the largest party and the governing majority are different questions: Yashar may finish first while neither Netanyahu's bloc nor the Jewish opposition parties reach a majority, because the opposition will not count the Arab-majority lists toward a government. Those lists therefore deny either bloc a majority but are unlikely to decide between them. The likelier routes to a government cross the blocs: a unity deal between Yashar and Likud, or a Likud that replaces Netanyahu so that Yisrael Beiteinu can join, since Lieberman has ruled out serving under Netanyahu and Bennett runs jointly with Lapid, with an opposition government resting on Ra'am a less likely third. The real hinge after a hung result is therefore whether Likud keeps Netanyahu at its head, and the most likely path is a slow formation in which the outgoing government's late legislation on conscription, the attorney general and the media stays in force.

KEY JUDGMENTS

- | | | |
|-------------|--|-----------------|
| KJ-1 | <p>The election will take place on its legally fixed date, and only an extraordinary security event could plausibly move it. The nearest recent precedent, the local elections pushed back twice at the start of the last war, shows a wartime delay is possible, but it followed the outbreak of a full war and needed a special law, and the residual legal risk is that no source read settles whether the rule on extending the Knesset's term binds a Knesset that has already dissolved. Three separate outlets on the house list report the date as set by law, polling day is less than three weeks away, and Lapid, whose votes any delay would in practice need, has said in the one report read that the vote will be held on time, though Eisenkot, not Lapid, leads the largest opposition list.</p> | HIGH |
| <hr/> | | |
| KJ-2 | <p>No bloc is on course for a governing majority: neither Netanyahu's bloc nor the Jewish opposition parties, counted without the Arab-majority lists, reach one in any poll read from outlets on the house list, and Netanyahu's bloc is more likely to fall short than to reach a majority. A majority stays possible, because the polls for i24NEWS and Channel 14 put the bloc near or above the line, Israeli polls underestimated the right-wing bloc at the last election, and small lists outside the bloc, such as the Reservists list of Hendel and Zelekha, risk falling below the threshold, which would waste their votes and lift the seat share of every list that passes. Every house-list poll since July and the mainstream channels place the bloc short of a majority, and a polling miss as large as at the last election would leave those readings below the line only because the higher off-list readings, carried by one unverified compilation, are discounted.</p> | MODERATE |
| <hr/> | | |
| KJ-3 | <p>Yashar is slightly more likely than Likud to finish as the largest party, but finishing first will not decide who governs. The chance sits only slightly above even because a tie counts against Yashar, the gap has narrowed since September, the off-list polls for i24NEWS and Channel 14 put Likud first, and a new centrist list such as Kadima has finished below its final polls before. Counted by pollster, most recent polls put Yashar ahead by a margin within survey error, two polls of early October have the parties level, and the mandate to form a government follows the party leaders' recommendations rather than rank.</p> | MODERATE |

KJ-4

The Arab-majority lists will be on the ballot and will deny both the Netanyahu bloc and the Jewish opposition a majority of their own, but they are unlikely to decide who governs, because the Jewish opposition refuses to count them. The likelier routes to a government cross the blocs: a unity deal between Yashar and Likud, or a Likud that replaces Netanyahu so that Yisrael Beiteinu can join, with an opposition government resting on Ra'am a less likely third. Ra'am, polling close to the threshold, can still move the arithmetic by falling out or by abstaining in a confidence vote. Confidence is Low because, while the Supreme Court restored both lists and every poll read leaves each bloc short without them, Lieberman's refusal to serve under Netanyahu rests on one unverified report from May, Bennett runs jointly with Lapid, and no party has stated terms for a unity deal or a change of Likud leader.

LOW

KJ-5

A new government is less likely than not to win a Knesset confidence vote before early January. The vote needs only a majority of those voting, so a minority government let through by abstaining opponents is possible in law, but no source read for this text shows any party ready to allow one. Under Basic Law: The Government a first mandate with its full extension could end inside the window while a second mandate would run to about the third week of January, and only a nominee who already holds or nearly holds a majority is likely to finish fast, which this result looks set to deny everyone.

LOW

KEY STATISTICS

120 seats Size of the Knesset, 2026-07-17²	61 seats Majority needed to form a government, 2026-07-17²	3.25 percent National vote share needed to enter the Knesset, 2026-09-26⁴	21 seats Yashar, first place in the Channel 13 poll, 2026-10-01³
19 seats Likud in the Channel 13 poll, 2026-10-01³	54 seats Netanyahu bloc in the Channel 13 poll, 2026-10-01³	57 seats Jewish opposition parties in the Channel 12 poll, 2026-09-08¹²	49 seats Pro-Netanyahu parties in a Reuters polling average, 2026-09-30⁶
64 seats Netanyahu bloc at the last election, 2022-11-03⁵	28 days First mandate to form a government after the last election, 2022-11-11¹⁴		

Scope and method

METHOD

This text reads public reporting on the Israeli election published up to 8 October, from wire-fed international outlets, Israeli and regional newspapers and published opinion polls, and compares the current race with the last election and coalition formation. Poll figures are reported as published by the outlet that carried them: polls by Kan, Channel 12 and Channel 13 are taken from Haaretz and Reuters, on the house list, or from Times of Israel and Jerusalem Post, which are off it. The polls for i24NEWS and Channel 14, which put the Netanyahu bloc highest, are read only through an off-list compilation; they are reported and used to widen the range, but are not given the weight of the mainstream polls carried on the house list. Throughout, the Jewish opposition means the parties opposed to Netanyahu other than the two Arab-majority lists, Ra'am and the Joint List. The parties' coalition terms are read from their leaders' own reported statements; Lieberman's refusal to serve under Netanyahu was found only in an off-list outlet, after a search of Haaretz, Reuters and Al Jazeera found no report of it, and it is marked unverified. The rules on extending the Knesset's term, forming a government and the confidence vote are read from the English translation of the Basic Laws published by the Constitute Project, because the Knesset's own site could not be reached when this text was written; that copy is off the house list and marked unverified. Sources off the house list are marked unverified, are used for range and context only, and carry no judgment alone. Probabilities are the author's own judgment and are not anchored to a base rate. No client-attributable material is used.

SECTION 01 • ASSESSMENT

The Calendar Held

The Knesset dissolved on 17 July 2026 ahead of an election on 27 October 2026, the first time since 1988 that a Knesset has served out its full term.¹

The Knesset announced on 12 July 2026 that the election was already set by law for 27 October, the last date the law allows, so no dissolution law was needed to fix it.⁷

The outgoing government is the first in 50 years to last its full term, with the Knesset dissolving on 17 July 2026 after a final week of legislation.⁸

UNKNOWN: whether the rule on extending the Knesset's term, read in Section 05 from an unverified translation, binds a Knesset that has already dissolved, as this one has, is settled by no source read for this text.

ASSESSMENT • HIGH CONFIDENCE

The vote will be held on its scheduled day. Three independent outlets on the house list agree the date is fixed in law, no party has proposed moving it, and Lapid, in the one report read, has committed to the date, though the residual legal question on the extension rule stays open.

SECTION 02 • ASSESSMENT

A Fragmented Field

A Channel 13 poll published on 1 October 2026, with 1,103 respondents, gave Yashar 21 seats, Likud 19, Together and the Democrats 11 each, and Yisrael Beiteinu 9.³

A Channel 12 poll by Midgam published on 8 September 2026, after the party lists closed, gave Yashar 25 seats and Likud 21, with the Jewish opposition bloc led by Eisenkot at 57 seats and the Netanyahu bloc at 52.¹²

A Reuters polling average reported on 30 September 2026 put Yashar 2 points ahead of Likud, with anti-Netanyahu parties at 64 seats against 49 for pro-Netanyahu parties.⁶

Zman Yisrael polls taken on 30 September and 1 October 2026 put Yashar and Likud level at 21 seats each, with the Netanyahu bloc at 53 and the Jewish opposition at 49.¹⁶

Polls reported on 8 October 2026 diverged: Zman Yisrael put Yashar ahead of Likud by 24 seats to 20, with the Jewish opposition at 55 against 51 for the Netanyahu bloc, while Channel 13 put the two parties level at 20 and the Netanyahu bloc at 55 against 50.¹³

Yashar's lead over Likud in the mainstream channel polls narrowed from 4 seats in the Channel 12 poll of 8 September 2026 to 2 seats in the Channel 13 poll of 1 October and to a tie at 20 seats in the Channel 13 poll reported on 8 October.^{12,3,13}

Five polls compiled on 13 September 2026 put the Netanyahu bloc between 50 and 60 seats, with i24NEWS the high outlier and Kan News the low.¹¹

A compilation of six polls published on 27 September 2026 put the Netanyahu bloc at 60 seats in the i24NEWS poll, with Likud at 27 and Yashar at 22, and at 63 seats in the Channel 14 poll, with Likud at 32, while the Maariv, Channel 12, Channel 13 and Zman Yisrael polls put it between 49 and 53.²⁶

In July 2026 a Channel 12 poll gave Yashar 23 seats, Likud 22 and Together, the joint ticket of Bennett and Lapid, 16 seats.²

A Channel 12 poll reported on 23 September 2026 gave the Reservists list of Hendel and Zelekha 4 seats, clearing the threshold, and described the list as unaligned with either bloc.²¹

In the Channel 13 poll reported on 1 October 2026 the Reservists list fell below the threshold and won no seats.³

Before the last election, the final polling average published on 30 October 2022 gave Netanyahu's bloc 60.3 seats, and 6 of the 15 polls of that final week put it at 61 or more.²⁰

The final results of 3 November 2022 gave Netanyahu's bloc 64 of the 120 seats.⁵

Exit polls on 28 March 2006 gave the new centrist party Kadima 29 to 32 seats, a result correspondents called below expectations.²⁷

With more than 95 percent of votes counted on 29 March 2006, Kadima had won 28 seats, against about 37 predicted by pre-election polls.²⁸

UNKNOWN: whether the i24NEWS pollster came closest to the right-wing result in 2022, as some readers argue, has not been checked against any source read for this text, and no i24NEWS or Channel 14 poll published in October has been read.

ASSESSMENT • MODERATE CONFIDENCE

Neither bloc is on course for a majority, and Yashar and Likud are close enough that either could finish first, with the trend since September running toward Likud. The right-wing bloc has outrun its final polls before, two pollsters off the house list already put it at or above the line, and the wasted votes of a small list outside the bloc that falls below the threshold would raise its share of seats, so the chance of a Netanyahu majority is small but not negligible; a new centrist list has also run below its polls before, which caps the case for Yashar finishing first. Every house-list poll since July leaves both the Netanyahu bloc and the Jewish opposition short, but Israeli polls have moved quickly in this campaign, have missed the right-wing bloc before, and the off-list i24NEWS and Channel 14 readings, discounted here as single unverified reports at the edge of the field, show how wide the honest range is.

SECTION 03 • ASSESSMENT

The Arab Lists and the Arithmetic

The Central Elections Committee, in a decision published on 26 September 2026, voted 18 to 5 to disqualify Ra'am and the Joint List and 31 to 4 to disqualify Balad head Sami Abu Shehadeh.⁴

On 2 October 2026 the Supreme Court unanimously overturned the disqualification of Ra'am and the Joint List and reinstated MK Ofer Cassif by 7 to 2, after Abu Shehadeh withdrew.⁹

Arab citizens make up about 20 percent of Israel's population, and Ra'am became the first Arab party to join an Israeli government after the 2021 election.⁹

In the outgoing Knesset Ra'am holds 5 seats and Hadash-Ta'al 5, and a list needs 3.25 percent of the national vote to enter.⁴

In the Channel 13 poll of 1 October 2026 the Netanyahu bloc held 54 seats, the Jewish opposition 52 and the two Arab-majority lists 14, so the parties other than the Arab lists held 106 of the 120 seats.³

In the Channel 12 poll of 8 September 2026 the Jewish opposition held 57 seats, the Netanyahu bloc 52 and the Arab lists 11, of which Ra'am held 4, leaving 109 seats to the other parties.¹²

The Reuters average of 30 September 2026 gave anti-Netanyahu parties 64 seats against 49; with the Arab lists at 11 to 14 seats in the polls read, the Jewish opposition in that average would sit at about 50 to 53 seats, level with or ahead of Netanyahu's parties.^{6,3,12}

Polls reported on 8 October 2026 put Ra'am at 5 and 6 seats, close to the smallest number of seats a list that clears the threshold can win.¹³

A survey of Arab citizens published in May 2026 projected Arab turnout of 53 percent, against 53.2 percent in November 2022, rising to 67 percent if the Arab parties ran on one joint list.¹⁷

On 17 July 2026, after the Knesset dissolved, Yisrael Beiteinu leader Avigdor Lieberman posted that his side would win on 27 October and replace the government.¹

On 26 April 2026 Bennett and Lapid announced that their parties would merge to run together as Together, led by Bennett, to oust Netanyahu's coalition.²³

On 26 September 2026 Lieberman, Bennett, Lapid, Eisenkot and Golan met in Tel Aviv to coordinate strategy, and Bennett said they had agreed to cooperate fully until the election, on election day and after it.²²

On 25 May 2026 Lieberman said he could not sit in a government with Netanyahu, ruled out Shas and United Torah Judaism, and said a Likud without Netanyahu could be a partner if it accepted term limits for a prime minister, a bar on indicted candidates, a state commission of inquiry and public transport on the Sabbath.²⁴

An opinion article carried by Al Jazeera on 5 September 2026 reported that Lieberman, who sat in government with Ra'am leader Mansour Abbas in 2021, has said Ra'am cannot be a coalition partner this time.²⁵

UNKNOWN: no report of Lieberman ruling out Netanyahu was found in Haaretz, Reuters or Al Jazeera, the firmest wording read is from his May campaign launch in an off-list outlet, no statement by him dated October was found, and no source read shows any Likud figure proposing to replace Netanyahu after a hung result.

UNKNOWN: how Arab turnout has moved since the disqualification fight and the court's ruling has not been measured in any poll read for this text, and the only turnout projection read comes from one survey off the house list.

ASSESSMENT • LOW CONFIDENCE

The restored Arab lists deny both the Netanyahu bloc and the Jewish opposition a majority of their own, but they are unlikely to decide who governs, because the Jewish opposition will not count them. The likelier routes to a government cross the blocs: a unity deal between Yashar and Likud, or a Likud that replaces Netanyahu so that Yisrael Beiteinu can join on its stated terms, with an opposition government resting on Ra'am a less likely third, made harder by Lieberman's refusal to count Ra'am as a partner. Ra'am, polling close to the threshold, can still move the arithmetic by falling out, which would shift seats toward the larger bloc, or by abstaining in a confidence vote, a lower bar than joining a government. Confidence is Low because the lists' blocking role shows in every poll read, but the ranking of routes rests on positions that may shift after the count, and Lieberman's refusal to serve under Netanyahu is sourced only to an unverified report from May, though the house-list reporting of his and Bennett's commitments to the opposition points the same way.

SECTION 04 • ASSESSMENT

What the Outgoing Knesset Left Behind

In its final week before dissolving on 17 July 2026, the Knesset passed a law temporarily halting the enlistment of ultra-Orthodox men, a law letting the government reject binding rulings of the attorney general and a media bill, and extended male conscript service from 30 to 32 months.⁸

The Communications Law, which moves broadcast oversight from independent regulators to a government-supervised authority, passed 53 to 48.¹

In the same week the security cabinet allocated more than USD 430 million to establish 34 new settlements in the occupied West Bank.⁸

ASSESSMENT • MODERATE CONFIDENCE

These laws make the election a vote on governance as much as on war, and they stay in force through any long formation. A successor coalition would need a working majority to reverse them, which the polls do not yet show for any camp.

SECTION 05 • ASSESSMENT

Security, Mood and the Postponement Rule

On 30 September 2026, 28 days before the vote, Netanyahu warned of indications that enemies would try to attack Israel ahead of the elections; Lapid called the warning fear-mongering and said the election would take place on time.⁶

Support for Netanyahu's premiership fell from 40.5 percent in early March 2026 to 29.4 percent in June, in a Hebrew University of Jerusalem poll taken after the war with Iran that began in late February.⁷

Basic Law: The Knesset, in the English translation read for this text, lets the Knesset extend its term only by a law passed by a majority of 80 members, and only where special circumstances prevent elections on their scheduled date.¹⁸

The only postponement of a Knesset election came in 1973, when the vote set for 30 October was moved to the end of December after the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War, by a special law of the Knesset.¹⁵

Local elections set for 31 October 2023 were postponed after the outbreak of war with Hamas in Gaza, first to 30 January 2024 and then again, to 27 February 2024.¹⁹

UNKNOWN: whether the warning of 30 September rests on specific intelligence has not been shown in any public source read for this text.

UNKNOWN: the translation read for the extension rule is a revision of 2013, and whether later amendments changed that rule has not been checked against the Knesset's own text.

ASSESSMENT • MODERATE CONFIDENCE

A security incident before polling day is the main risk to the campaign's course, but it is more likely to shift votes than to move the date, and the incumbent's security agenda may weigh more with voters than his personal standing. The wartime delays to the local elections show the mechanism exists, but they followed the outbreak of a full war, and a Knesset delay would by the translation read here need a supermajority that only opposition votes could supply. Lapid has publicly committed to the date in the one report read, the only Knesset precedent and the nearest local one both followed the start of a full war, and the reading of Netanyahu's personal standing rests on a single university poll carried by one outlet.

SECTION 06 • ASSESSMENT

After the Count

The last election, held on 1 November 2022, was the fifth since 2019; final results on 3 November gave Netanyahu's bloc 64 of 120 seats, with 32 for Likud.⁵

The government was sworn in on 29 December 2022 after a confidence vote of 63 to 54, 58 days after polling day.^{5,10}

After an election the president asks the politician best placed to form a government to assemble a coalition.²

In 2022 the president announced on 11 November that Netanyahu, recommended by 64 of the 120 members, would receive the mandate on the following Sunday, with 28 days to form a government and an extension of up to 14 days if needed.¹⁴

Basic Law: The Government, in the English translation read for this text, gives the president 7 days from publication of the results to assign the task, gives the nominee 28 days with extensions of up to 14 more, and then lets the president assign the task within 3 days to another member, who has 28 days.¹⁸

If the second nominee also fails, a majority of members may within 21 days ask the president to assign the task to a named member, who then has 14 days, and if no government is formed the Knesset is deemed to have decided to dissolve and a new election follows.¹⁸

A government is constituted once the Knesset expresses confidence in it, and Basic Law: The Knesset provides that, unless a law says otherwise, the Knesset decides by a majority of those taking part in a vote, with abstentions not counted as taking part.¹⁸

Set against this election, the same interval of 12 days from polling day to the mandate seen in 2022 would start a first mandate around 8 November 2026; with its full extension of 14 days it would end around 20 December 2026, and a second mandate of 28 days assigned within 3 days would run to around 20 January 2027, after 6 January 2027.^{14,18}

UNKNOWN: the translation read for the formation deadlines is a revision of 2013, and whether later amendments changed them has not been checked against the Knesset's own text.

ASSESSMENT • MODERATE CONFIDENCE

Coalition formation after this vote is likely to take longer than in 2022 and may need a second mandate. A government could still win a confidence vote before early January through a fast first mandate, a second nominee who finishes within the first half of that mandate, or a minority government passed because some opponents abstain, but each route needs a nominee who holds or quickly assembles enough support, which no poll read shows. The deadlines leave room inside the window only for a nominee who already commands a majority or near one, and the confidence vote's simple-majority rule widens the routes without showing that any party will abstain to open one.

SECTION 07 • DECISION

Decision

Decision	Owner	Trigger	Pre-authorized action
Keep Israel exposure plans on the scheduled polling day	Country risk lead	Any official move to postpone the vote	Re-run the Israel scenario set and raise the watch level within one working day
Plan for a long formation period	Country risk lead	Final results leave both blocs short of a majority	Extend the policy-continuity assumption for the outgoing government's laws to the new year
Track cross-bloc routes to a government	Country risk lead	Yashar and Likud open unity talks, Likud moves to replace Netanyahu as leader, or Ra'am signals support or abstention for an opposition government	Re-weight the scenario set toward a unity, post-Netanyahu Likud or opposition-led coalition within one working day
Watch for a minority government	Country risk lead	A party signals it will abstain in a confidence vote	Re-run the formation timeline and the probability of a government before early January
Review exposure to conscription, judicial and media policy	Policy analyst	A coalition agreement is signed	Brief on which late laws the new coalition commits to keep or repeal

SECTION 08 • OUTLOOK

Outlook

Baseline. The vote is held on schedule, neither the Netanyahu bloc nor the Jewish opposition reaches a majority, the Arab lists deny both a majority without deciding between them, the president gives the first mandate to the leader with the most recommendations, and formation runs long, with the outgoing government in caretaker office and its late laws in force. If a government forms in this period, the likelier route crosses the blocs rather than coming from an outright bloc win: a unity deal between Yashar and Likud, or a Likud that replaces Netanyahu so that Yisrael Beiteinu can join on its stated terms, with an opposition government resting on Ra'am's support or abstention a less likely third.

Deterioration. A serious security incident in the final weeks shifts the campaign toward the incumbent, polls again understate the right-wing bloc, small lists outside the bloc or one of the Arab lists fall below the threshold, or Arab turnout drops, the Netanyahu bloc edges toward a majority or the opposition fractures, and a deadlocked count with Netanyahu still at the head of Likud raises talk of a repeat election.

Stabilization. Yashar finishes clearly first, a broad Zionist coalition from the centre and moderate right forms without the Arab lists, through a unity deal or with a Likud under new leadership, and a government wins a confidence vote before the new year with a programme to revisit conscription.

Claim C-1. Israel holds its Knesset election on 27 October 2026. Probability 0.93. Resolves on 2026-11-07 from Haaretz: YES if Haaretz reports that nationwide voting in the general election for the 26th Knesset took place on 27 October 2026; NO if the vote was postponed to any later date. Horizon 30 days. The date is fixed in law and corroborated by three outlets, and a postponement would need a special law with opposition votes, while Lapid has said the vote will be held on time. The residual risk is an extraordinary security event before polling day, of the kind that delayed local elections at the start of the last war, and the unsettled question of whether the extension rule binds a dissolved Knesset.

Claim C-2. The Netanyahu bloc, meaning Likud, Shas, United Torah Judaism, Religious Zionism, Otzma Yehudit and Amcha Yisrael with any list running jointly with them, wins at least 61 of the 120 seats in the 27 October 2026 Knesset election. Probability 0.20. Resolves on 2026-11-07 from Haaretz: YES if the seat allocation reported by Haaretz once the count of all votes is complete gives those lists together at least 61 seats, as first reported, whatever later corrections; NO otherwise. Horizon 30 days. Every house-list poll read since July puts the bloc short of a majority, and only off-list polls for i24NEWS and Channel 14 show it near or above the line. The figure is not lower because those polls exist, because polls understated the bloc by three to four seats at the last election, and because small lists outside it may fall below the threshold and lift its share of seats.

Claim C-3. The number of seats won by the Netanyahu bloc, as defined in Claim C-2, in the 27 October 2026 Knesset election. Point and interval: lo 47, central 53, hi 60, unit seats, level 80. Resolves on 2026-11-07 from Haaretz: the combined seats of those lists in the seat allocation reported by Haaretz once the count of all votes is complete, as first reported, whatever later corrections. Horizon 30 days. The central value sits near the middle of polls from outlets on the house list, which range from the high forties to the mid fifties of seats, with only off-list polls reaching sixty or more. The width allows for poll error, including a repeat of the last election's understatement of the bloc, and threshold effects on small lists.

Claim C-4. Yashar wins more seats than Likud in the 27 October 2026 Knesset election. Probability 0.55. Resolves on 2026-11-07 from Haaretz: YES if, in the seat allocation reported by Haaretz once the count of all votes is complete, Yashar's seats exceed Likud's, as first reported; NO if Likud's seats equal or exceed Yashar's. Horizon 30 days. Counted by pollster, most recent polls put Yashar narrowly ahead, but the gap has narrowed, two polls of early October have the parties level, and off-list polls put Likud first. The figure is only slightly above even because a tie resolves NO, the right-wing camp Likud leads outran its final polls at the last election, and a new centrist list has run below its polls before.

Claim C-5. A new Israeli government wins a Knesset confidence vote on or before 6 January 2027. Probability 0.35. Resolves on 2027-01-06 from Haaretz: YES if Haaretz reports that a government formed after the 27 October 2026 election won a Knesset confidence vote on or before 6 January 2027; NO otherwise. Horizon 90 days. A first mandate with its full extension could end around 20 December, inside the window, and a confidence vote needs only a majority of those voting, so a fast unity deal or a minority government let through by abstentions could pass in time. But this vote is likely to leave no bloc with a majority, no party has been shown ready to abstain, a change of Likud leader would take time, and a second mandate would run to around 20 January.

Indicators.

- Any official proposal or security cabinet move touching the polling date
- The final week of published polls on the size of the Netanyahu bloc and the Jewish opposition, including the off-list i24NEWS and Channel 14 series
- Turnout among Arab citizens and whether both Arab-majority lists clear the threshold
- Whether small lists near the threshold, such as the Reservists list of Hendel and Zelekha, clear it, withdraw or merge
- Recommendations made by party leaders to the president after the results
- Statements by Lieberman, Bennett and Eisenkot on their terms for sitting with a Likud led by Netanyahu or by a successor, on a unity government, and on relying on Ra'am's support or abstention
- Any move within Likud to replace Netanyahu as leader after a hung result, or any opening of unity talks between Yashar and Likud

- Any party signalling it would abstain to let a minority government win a confidence vote

SECTION 09 • SCORECARD

Scorecard

No earlier firm claim is resolved or advanced by this draft.

SOURCE REGISTRY

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3. Haaretz, Opposition Bloc's Boycott of Arab Parties Hands Netanyahu's Bloc Edge, New Poll Shows, 2026-10-01, [haaretz.com](#), read 2026-10-08.
4. Al Jazeera, Israel bans Arab parties from election: Who they are, why it matters, 2026-09-26, [aljazeera.com](#), read 2026-10-08.
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