

on Shadi a law, and...
 head Dr. Moshe Kantor said in a statement on Monday.
 "The fact that specifically Jewish targets have been attacked in growing numbers demonstrates that the perpetrators are seeking to ignite a religious war on the continent and in some cases the authorities have been slow to act, further emboldening the extremists. The level of violence and rhetoric has only increased and it is clear that terrorist groups like Islamic State, whose

many attacks."
 Earlier this year, following a report by the European Union's Fundamental Rights Agency citing Jews' increased contemplation of emigration from several countries, Kantor told reporters that unless the level of fear felt by European Jews can be lessened, the future of their communities will be in doubt.
 Anti-Semitic incidents have continued spiking in parallel with the IDF operation in Gaza, with daily reports of attacks on Jews

The EJC is an affiliate of the World Jewish Congress, whose head Ronald Lauder recently warned that should European leaders fail to protect local Jewish communities "Jews will ultimately turn their back on your countries."
 While European immigration to Israel has risen significantly, no mass exodus on par with that seen from Eastern Europe following the fall of communism is currently expected.

Local private sector can attract high-tech aliya, says French businessman

• By SAM SOKOL

The Israeli private sector can do a great deal to encourage Western immigration to the country, especially from Europe, according to French-Israeli businessman Edouard Cukierman.

The chairman of the Tel-Aviv based investment house Cukierman & Co. and the founder of Catalyst Funds, Edouard is the son of Roger Cukierman, the president of the French communal umbrella organization CRIF.

As European immigration to Israel steadily rises and public figures such as Natan Sharansky issue statements predicting the "beginning of the end of Jewish history in Europe," Cukierman believes that Israel now has an important opportunity to attract an educated and professional

class that would serve as a boon to the local economy.

Emigration from France has been attributed to several factors, including increased anti-Semitism, a stagnant European economy and high youth unemployment rates.

Recent findings by the European Union's Fundamental Rights Agency indicated that a third of Jews from several Western European countries were considering emigration due to anti-Semitism, though it was not indicated that Israel was the only destination they were considering.

According to Cukierman, European immigrants with high levels of academic and technical training could serve as an economic catalyst, in a situation similar to the boom experienced

with the arrival of massive waves of post-Soviet immigration from Eastern Europe.

The Jewish Agency for Israel "does a good job for the average immigrant," but does not know how to address the needs of educated classes from affluent Western nations as well as it deals with mass aliya, Cukierman said, adding that "they have very different needs from the standard immigrant."

Citing his work with immigrant entrepreneurs through his startup incubator The Hub, Cukierman said that Western immigrants "are very talented people who have a huge impact on the economy and society."

The private sector, both for reasons of self-interest and Zionism, should play a bigger role in promoting immigration from

Europe, he said.

Israel lacks around 5,000 engineers, he said, adding that the most efficient route for local firms to attract European employees may be to hire headhunters in France and elsewhere on the Continent to search out Jews with the requisite talents who are looking for employment in Europe's stagnant economic climate.

While Cukierman admitted that Israeli firms may not always be able to match salaries and benefits offered by European companies, he said that there are many intangible benefits, and that local firms are relatively competitive.

"We need to address their special needs and the business community is very favorable" in attracting foreign talent, he said.

During combat and after, lone soldiers lo

• By BEN SALES

TEL AVIV (JTA) — When Shir Kleyman, an infantry instructor for the Israel Defense Forces and a Los Angeles native, found out that someone named Sean had died fighting in Gaza, she knew the army had lost a fellow lone soldier.

The official announcement came soon afterward as Kleyman, 19, was sitting in a Tel Aviv cafe on furlough: The fallen soldier was her friend, Texas native Sean Carnell.

"I asked Sean's last name and said 'please don't be Carmeli,'" Kleyman said. "You find this

out and don't know what to do with yourself. I didn't know how to handle it. You feel it because you know that you're one of them."

Kleyman, who joined the IDF in January, knew both Carnelli and fellow Californian Max Steinberg, who died alongside each other in Gaza on July 20. Though Steinberg and Kleyman grew up in the same Los Angeles neighborhood, they only met when serving kitchen duty together in the army.

At Steinberg's funeral, Kleyman stood in the honor guard across from his parents. She said it was "the hardest thing I've ever had to deal with in my life."

About 2,800 soldiers serve in the Israeli military despite not growing up in the country, according to the Lone Soldiers Program, which provides them with social and other services. Three have died in the current conflict with Hannas: French immigrant Jordan, Benssemoun was killed along with Car-

al obligation and a rite of passage, have networks of family and friends who served before them to help handle the deaths of comrades in war. But military volunteers whose families remain abroad say their strongest support is each other.

"They become your second family," said Ron Gordon, who joined the IDF in 2012 after stints growing up in Europe, Atlanta and east Asia. "You don't have anyone else here. You live with your friends."

Because of the shared experience of joining an army while struggling with a new language and culture, lone soldiers say they relate to each other even if they never served or lived together. For those who join the army soon after moving to Israel, fellow lone soldiers are often their first friends in the country. Infantry instructor Tal-Ori Cohen joined the IDF five years ago after growing up in Maryland. When she was called to reserve duty during the current

The G Cinema City complex in Rishon Lezion presents pirate week, during which children will become real pirates and undertake legendary activities.
 During this unique activity, a huge pirate ship will dock on the complex's balcony.
 The activity will take place between 21 and 28 of August.
 The price of tickets will be NIS 25, tickets may be purchased at the Cinema City box office in the complex.



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