



Dear Sir or Madam

Dear friends

Today's newsletter looks at the economic ties between Israel and its Arab neighbours, the Western left's unconscious paternalism towards the Palestinians, and the upcoming elections in the city of Zurich.

Today's topics

Money doesn't stink. "Pecunia non olet" — money doesn't stink, as the Romans used to say. This wisdom also applies to Israel and its Arab neighbours. The Jewish state and the Arab countries may often not see eye to eye politically. But that does not stop them from doing extensive business with one another. Arab political scientist Mohamed Diwan takes a behind-the-scenes look for FokusIsrael at the close commercial ties between Israel and the Arab world. [The economic ties between the Arab world and Israel - FokusIsrael](#)

Selective perception. In the West, especially among left-wing parties, the Middle East narrative is shaped by a one-sided view rooted in a lack of historical knowledge, coupled with a sense of supposed moral superiority. This leads to the paradoxical situation in which Palestinians are, on the one hand, infantilised as helpless and incapable victims, while on the other hand the worldview of their terrorist organisation Hamas is uncritically adopted. You can read Part 2 of Jan Kapusnak's

analysis of the West's approach to the Palestinians here: [When the West Treats Palestinians as Minors, Part 2 - FokusIsrael](#)

Elections in the city of Zurich. On 8 March, Switzerland's largest city will elect its municipal parliament and city government. This is also important for the Jewish population. The past four years with red-green majorities in both the legislature and the executive have not only been bad for the city as a whole, but also for its Jewish community. [The city of Zurich is facing important elections – also for the Jewish community - FokusIsrael](#)

More up-to-date coverage on Israel, the Middle East and antisemitism can be found here:

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I hope you find our information of interest.



Verein Fokus Israel und Nahost

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You received this email because at some point you expressed interest in the topics of "Israel and the Middle East" and/or "antisemitism", or because you hold a position of importance in politics, research and academia, or your professional field.

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