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ANALYSIS

A triumphant Trump basks in praise



President Donald Trump gestures as he addresses the Israeli legislature in Jerusalem on Oct. 13. EVELYN HOCKSTEIN/REUTERS

‘Peace president’ receives warm reception in Israel

Susan Page
USA TODAY

The path to a durable peace between the Israelis and the Palestinians that President Donald Trump is pursuing will surely face hurdles and setbacks ahead, and success in that long struggle is hardly guaranteed. But on Oct. 13, there was joy in the morning.

“After so many years of unceasing war and endless danger, today, the skies are calm, the guns are silent, the sirens are still, and the sun rises on a Holy Land that is finally at peace,” Trump told the Knesset, Israel’s legislature, in a triumphant 65-minute address marked by asides and interrupted by applause. “Generations from now, this will be remembered as the moment that everything began to change.”

There was jubilation on the streets of Tel Aviv and Gaza, and Trump, who is both praised and derided in his homeland, was greeted almost everywhere as a hero. After two years, the brutal war that started with Hamas’ attack on Israel and seizure of hostages that then led to Israel’s bombardment of Gaza was

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ODOT says roundabouts save lives

Jane Imbody
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COLUMBUS — Roundabouts are proving to be a safer alternative to traditional intersections, according to an analysis by the Ohio Department of Transportation. The study, which examined 76 intersections that were converted to roundabouts, found that single-lane roundabouts decreased injury crashes by 69% while multi-lane roundabouts saw a 25% decline, according to a community announcement. “Safety is the driving force behind every decision we make, and the results are clear, roundabouts are very effective at reducing crashes and saving lives,” ODOT Director Pamela Boratyn said in the announcement. “Our goal is to continue to support our local, county and state partners by providing funding for roundabouts.”

Roundabouts part of larger safety initiative

In July, Gov. Mike DeWine announced an additional \$137 million for 55 traffic safety projects across the state, with 25 of those projects including the installation of roundabouts. One of the most notable success stories comes from Clark County, where the intersection of Ohio 41 and Ohio 235 had a long history of serious crashes. Despite several countermeasures, including rumble strips, multiple stop signs and flashing beacons, deadly and serious injury crashes continued to occur. In 2014, a roundabout was installed, and in the 11 years since, there has not been a single fatal crash. The lone serious injury crash occurred in 2023 and involved a motorcycle with the rider impaired by drugs and without a helmet or motorcycle endorsement on their license.

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4 dead, at least 20 hurt in shooting at bar in SC

Karissa Waddick
USA TODAY

Four people were killed and at least 20 others injured in a shooting at a busy South Carolina bar on Oct. 12, authorities say. The shooting occurred shortly before 1 a.m. at Willie’s Bar and Grill on St. Helena Island, about an hour north of Hilton Head, according to the Beaufort County Sheriff’s Office. Multiple victims were transported to area hospitals. Among those injured, at least four were in critical condition. The office declined to release the names of those killed pending notification of family members. “Multiple victims and witnesses ran to the nearby businesses and properties seeking shelter from the gunshots,” the

sheriff’s office said in a statement. Hundreds of people were at the scene when police arrived. Authorities said they were looking into persons of interest in the shooting but did not immediately provide further details. USA TODAY has reached out for additional information. “This is a tragic and difficult incident for everyone,” the sheriff’s office said. “We ask for your patience as we continue to investigate this incident. Our thoughts are with all of the victims and their loved ones.” Willie Turrall, the owner of the bar, told WJCL the shooting happened during an alumni party for Battery Creek High School. The night showed no indication of becoming violent and he had taken greater security precautions than normal, including armed security

guards, he said. “Things happened so fast, just bodies on the ground, people just trying to duck for cover,” Turrall told the television station. “It was mayhem, tragedy outside. It’s unreal.” Mass shootings, which the Gun Violence Archive defines as incidents where four or more people are shot, have become more common in the United States in the past decade. As of Oct. 12, there have been 336 mass shootings in the United States, according to the archive. St. Helena Island is known as the epicenter of a culture of people descended from African slaves known as Gullah Geechee. The bar and grill where the shooting occurred describes itself as

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Willie’s Bar and Grill is seen Oct. 12 after an early-morning shooting at the bar on St. Helena Island, South Carolina, that left at least four dead. SEAN RAYFORD/GETTY IMAGES

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