

## Israeli Military Chief Arrives in Ankara

By [Global Research](#)

Region: [Europe](#), [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Global Research, March 16, 2010

[Hürriyet Daily News](#) 15 March 2010

Israeli Chief of Staff Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi arrived in Ankara on Monday to take part in a NATO conference on terrorism and international cooperation.

Ashkenazi, who is the first Israeli military chief to visit Turkey since 2005, will be welcomed in an official ceremony at the military headquarters before meeting with his Turkish counterpart, Gen. İlker Başbuğ, at 2:30 p.m.

Ashkenazi is set to visit Anıtkabir, the mausoleum of modern Turkey's founder, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, and hold talks with Defense Minister Vecdi Gönül as part of his one-day trip.

He will attend the official NATO conference dinner hosted by the chief of the Turkish military before his departure for Israel on Monday night on a military plane.

In January, Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak traveled to Turkey in an effort to ease tensions and to secure continued military cooperation between the once-close allies.

His visit came after deputy foreign minister Danny Ayalon, backed by his boss, the ultra-nationalist Avigdor Lieberman, deliberately seated Turkish envoy Oğuz Çelikkol in a low chair and removed the Turkish flag from a table during a diplomatic meeting to protest a Turkish television series that showed Israel in a bad light. Ankara was angered by the public dressing down that triggered a major diplomatic row.

Turkey has long been Israel's ally in the region and meditated peace negotiations with Syria. The countries' bilateral relations, however, deteriorated after Israel's assault on the Gaza Strip in 2008.

The original source of this article is [Hürriyet Daily News](#)  
Copyright © [Global Research](#), [Hürriyet Daily News](#), 2010

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Global Research](#)

not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)