

FROM THE OFFICE OF  
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## **Governor Ron DeSantis Applauds MOU Signings on Agriculture and Emergency Management**

**Tel Aviv, Israel** – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis participated in the ceremonial signings of two additional Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) to establish innovative and collaborative approaches to agricultural research and emergency management, harnessing the expertise and technologies of leading Israeli and Floridian stakeholders.

“I am thrilled to announce the official signing of these two important Memorandums of Understanding,” **said Governor DeSantis**. “The expertise, resources and innovations of the signers and their respective organizations, when combined, will lead to incredible new opportunities to strengthen both private industries and our ability to perform our public duties. Whether it is working on bold and cutting-edge approaches to agriculture technologies or developing new methods of emergency management, the unique skills and knowledge shared between our Floridian and Israeli partners will generate unprecedented successes.”

At the Peres Center for Peace and Innovation, Governor DeSantis participated in an MOU signing between the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) and the Israeli National Emergency Management Authority, outlining a cooperative and systematic exchange of knowledge, personnel and information regarding best emergency management practices in order to bolster the emergency management capabilities of both Israel and Florida. Governor DeSantis was joined by Jacob Wimisberg, Director of Strategy and Cooperation for the Israel National Emergency Management Authority and Lior Haiat, Consul General of Israel to Florida. The MOU was signed by FDEM Director Jared Moskowitz and Zeev Tsuk-Ram, Head of the Israel National Emergency Management Authority, with the Governor as witness.

“Over the past few years, the state of Florida has been impacted by not only natural disasters, but cyber security attacks, school shootings and terrorist events,” **said FDEM Director Jared Moskowitz**. “Israel faces unique security challenges every day, and sharing their experience allows us to make Florida safer and better prepared.”



*Photo Credit: Governor's Press Office*

Governor DeSantis also participated in an MOU signing between Florida Atlantic University (FAU) and the Agricultural Research Organization – Volcani Center, outlining a shared goal of the two institutions to develop advanced technologies to improve monitoring, communications, data analytics and machine learning in the agricultural industry. The Governor was joined by FAU President, Dr. John Kelly, Victor Alchanatis, Senior Research Scientist at the Institute of Agricultural Engineering at the Agricultural Research Organization – Volcani Center, and Dr. Shmuel Assouline, the Associate Director for International Cooperation at the Agricultural Research Organization – Volcani Center, to witness the signing ceremony. The MOU was signed by FAU Vice President for Research, Dr. Dan Flynn and Professor Eli Feinerman, Head of the Agricultural Research Organization – Volcani Center, with the Governor as witness.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to attend Governor DeSantis’ Business Development to Israel,” **said FAU President John Kelly.** “As one of two sponsors of the Florida–Israel Institute, FAU has long established ties with several Israeli universities that already are benefitting education and innovation in business, engineering, marine science, medicine, agriculture and more. I look forward to further strengthening those relationships during this trip, and building on previously-signed MOUs to provide additional research and educational opportunities for students, both here at FAU and in Israel.”



*Photo Credit: Governor's Press Office*

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