

A strong health system is crucial to Israel's national security

Opinion: Pandemic taught us a valuable lesson in the importance of having a capable health system; with an approved state budget, the country can now improve it to function properly not only day-to-day, but also during emergencies

Moshe Bar-Siman-Tov / Nov. 16, 2021

The successful passing of the 2021-2022 state budget earlier this month has opened a window of opportunities to hold a serious debate on Israel's long-term strategic challenges.

Obviously, and justly so, the first thing that comes to mind is the matter of security.

Over the years, the country has become accustomed to seeing security as the most critical tool for its continued survival.

But now it might be time to divert our attention to other issues, since the coronavirus pandemic proved there are other matters that are just as crucial, if not more so, as security. Israel must widen its definition of national security to include other potential threats that could endanger our well-being and way of life.

The pandemic taught us a valuable lesson in the importance of having a strong and stable health system, which faces an array of other threats besides coronavirus, such as an aging population, an increase in chronic illness, cyber-attacks and natural disasters.

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