

Aftonbladet Kultur

[Sök bland 800 000 böcker](#)
[Sök bland 5 000 ljudböcker](#)
 Hitta bästa pris och läs omdömen om tusentals produkter på [Prisjakt.nu](#)

Publicerad: 2009-08-26

Textstorlek: 1 2 3

"Our sons are plundered of their organs"

Palestinians accuse the Israel Defense Forces of taking organs from their victims.

Donald Boström writes about an international organ trafficking scandal – and about the time he saw the cut-up dead body of a nineteen-year old Palestinian.

You could call me a "matchmaker", said **Levy Izhak Rosenbaum**, from Brooklyn, USA, in a secret recording with an FBI-agent whom he believed to be a client. Ten days later, at the end of July this year, Rosenbaum was arrested and a vast, Sopranos-like, imbroglia of money-laundering and illegal organ-trade was revealed in New Jersey: Rabbis, politicians and trusted civil servants had for years bin involved in money laundering and illegal organ-trade.

Rosenbaum's matchmaking had nothing to do with romance. It was all about buying and selling kidneys from Israel on the black market. Rosenbaum says that he buys the kidneys for 10 000 dollars, from poor people. He then proceeds to sell the organs to desperate patients in the States for 160 000 dollars.

The accusations have shaken the American transplantation business. If they are true it means that organ trafficking is documented for the first time in the US, experts tell the *New Jersey Real-Time News*.

On the question of how many organs he has sold Rosenbaum replies: "Quite a lot. And I have never failed," he boasts. The business has been running for quite some time.

Francis Delmonici, professor of transplant surgery at Harvard and member of the National Kidney Foundation's Board of Directors, tells the same newspaper that organ-trafficking, similar to the one reported from Israel, is carried out in other places of the world as well. 5 – 6 000 operations a year, about ten per cent of the world's kidney transplants are carried out illegally, according to Delmonici.

Countries suspected of these activities are Pakistan, the Philippines and China, where the organs are allegedly taken from executed prisoners. But Palestinians also harbor strong suspicions that young men have been siezed, and made to serve as organ reserve, just as in China and Pakistan, before being killed – a very serious accusation, with enough question marks to motivate the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to start an investigation about possible war crimes.

Israel has repeatedly been under fire for its unethical ways of dealing with organs and transplants. France was among the countries that ceased organ collaboration with Israel in the nineties. *Jerusalem Post* wrote that "the rest of the European countries are expected to follow France's example shortly."



Young Palestinian men throwing stones and bottles at Israeli soldiers in the northern West Bank. In this area, Bilal Achmed Ghanan was shot to death and cut up in a hospital. "Our sons are being used as organ reserves," claim the Palestinians. Foto: DONALD BOSTRÖM



Bilal Achmed Ghanan, 19, was shot and taken away by Israeli soldiers. The body was returned stitched together from the belly to the neck. Foto: DONALD BOSTRÖM



Levy Izhak Rosenbaum being led away by FBI agents. Rosenbaum is alleged to have functioned as a middleman in the illegal organ trafficking scheme. Foto: AP



Bokrecensioner



[En islamistisk terrorist möter Sverige](#) Ny roman av **Lena Andersson**. 0

Bokrecensioner



[Sentimental skönhet i grekisk diaspora](#) Roman av **Aris Fioletos**. 0

Kultur



[Skräckfilm om mediernas makt](#) Film om Berlusconi italienska tv-land. 3

Bokrecensioner



[Kärlek, kön och kapitalism](#) Ny roman av Anna Jörgensdotter. 0

Kultur



[Fula bananer från Dole](#) Filmen som bananbolaget stämmer. 2

Kultur



[Hjälp Obama!](#) Samlar berättelser om offentlig sjukvård på nätet. 28

Bokrecensioner



[Medelklasskvinnan som förlorar allt](#) Ny roman av **Sara Kadefors**. 0

Kultur



[Lättsam skröna från Midsommarkransen](#) av **Kjell Johansson**. 0

Kultur



Bokrecensioner

