

Israel wins 5 medals in Physics Olympiad

Students return with one gold medal, three silver and one bronze from International competition held in Denmark. Israel ranked 13th out of 83 participating countries, up 12 places from last year's event

Shahar Chai

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Israeli students won five medals – one gold, three silver and one bronze – in IPhO 2013, the 44th International Physics Olympiad, which concluded in Denmark on Monday.

The gold medal was won by Dan Karliner from Hakfar Hayarok High School. The silver medals were won by Offer Kopelevitch from Haemek Hamaaravi High School, Guy Segal from the Hebrew Reali High School in Haifa and Gil-Ad Kishony of Haifa's Leo Baeck High School. Shoham Jacoby from the WIZO Nahalal Youth Village took home a bronze medal.

Last Week

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Impressive accomplishment for Israeli youth at prestigious global competition which ended Wednesday in Australia: One gold medal, two silvers, one bronze. 'I was not expecting it,' says Gold medal winner Daniel Hadas. Eighth place overall is best finish ever for Jewish state

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"Before the competition I expected a silver medal, so I am very satisfied," said Dan Karliner, who won the gold. "The exam was long, but not too difficult."

Fellow team member Offer Kopelevitch, who won a silver medal, said "the competition was harder than I expected, but I really enjoyed it and I am glad I managed to win."

At the end of the eight-day International Physics Olympiad, [Israel](#) ranked 13th out of the 83 participating countries, up 12 places from last year's competition. This achievement comes several days after Israeli students won four medals in the International Olympiad in Informatics held in Brisbane, Australia.

Climate research, solar cells

On the first day of the competition, the teams answered a theoretical exam with three questions: One dealing with the effects of an asteroid hitting earth, the second dealing with a new water evaporation method, and the third dealing with climate research.

On the second day, the students entered a lab and were asked to examine the injection of a laser beam into an optical fiber. In another experiment they examined characteristics of solar cells and the output received from them.

"The most exciting moment in the Olympiad is seeing the students' reactions when we informed them of the competition's results," said the Israeli team's coach, Eli Raz. "The happiness appears on their faces after months of constant efforts."

Dr. Ofer Rimon, head of the Education Ministry's Science and Technology Administration, added: "It's a wonderful feeling and we feel the hard work is bearing fruit. The students work hard and I believe that if we continue in the road we have been taking in recent years, we'll continue to climb up."

Education Minister Shai Piron congratulated the delegation: "Our students have proved once again, within four days, that dedication, diligence and love of the subject lead to impressive achievements, which make an entire country proud."