



Position Paper | U.S.-Israeli Relations

I support the State of Israel as a sovereign country in the community of nations and pledge to work to further strengthen the bond between our two countries. I recognize the need for the U.S. to continue to bolster Israel's security while also encouraging policies to move toward a peaceful resolution of conflict with its Palestinian neighbors.

U.S. Security Assistance

I support Israel's right to self-defense, and believe that Israelis, like citizens of all countries, have the right to live in safety and peace, free from terrorist threats and attacks. I recognize and support Israel's effort to maintain a qualitative military edge (QME) in the region, and I recognize that U.S. security assistance to Israel is a critical part of this equation. As such, I support continued funding for the Iron Dome Missile Defense System, which has saved Israeli lives, as well as continued foreign military aid to Israel to ensure maintenance of the QME. I am committed to honoring the language and intent of the 2016 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on military assistance negotiated between the Obama Administration and the government of Israel.

Israeli-Palestinian Relations

I reaffirm the position of the United States over the last four presidential administrations that a just and lasting peace will be best brought about by a two-state solution with a capital in Jerusalem for both states. Only good-faith and sincere negotiations from both sides can bring this about, and ultimately, Israeli and the Palestinian people have to find their own way to a resolution. However, the United States and other benevolent nations and international non-governmental organizations can help to lay the groundwork for an eventual solution, and we should encourage constructive attempts in this endeavor.

A just and lasting peace is ultimately the best way to ensure the long-term security of Israel and a future State of Palestine. The Palestinians and Israelis must acknowledge the legitimate right of the other State to exist. I support foreign aid to the Palestinian Authority which enables state-building activities, has fostered cooperation between Israeli and Palestinian security officials in the West Bank, and supports the stability and security of the Palestinian people. I also support the resumption of humanitarian aid and other forms of economic assistance to the Palestinian Authorities as well as to the United Nations agencies that serve Palestinian refugees. I also recognize and support measures that prohibit the use of US aid for payments to terrorists and their families.

Finally, the United States should not put itself in the position of undermining the long-term resolution of this conflict through needlessly provocative and partial actions such as the Trump Administration's recent initiative to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. I would oppose further expansion or the encouragement or support of the expansion of Israeli



settlements in the West Bank. This makes a peaceful resolution more difficult, ultimately undermining Israel's long-term security and coexistence with a future Palestinian state.

Iran

I believe that Iran's efforts to acquire nuclear weapons present an existential threat to Israel and undermines peace and stability in the region and in the world. Further, the Iranian Regime is the world's largest state supporter of terrorism, exporting violence through organizations like Hezbollah and Hamas and the Iranian Revolutionary Guard. These organizations have been involved in direct action against U.S. forces in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria. They have engaged in direct action against Israel from southern Lebanon, Gaza, and the West Bank. Iran refuses to accept Israel's right to exist, and Iran's former President and military generals have called for Israel to be "wiped off the map."

I am committed to ensuring Iran cannot acquire nuclear weapons. I believe that the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) provides the best opportunity for that shared U.S./Israeli/wider-Middle East vision. The U.S. Department of State, even under the Trump administration, certified Iranian compliance every quarter until the President, for political reasons that endanger both U.S. and Israeli security, decided to pull out of an agreement supported by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, Germany, and the European Union.

Re-entry into the JCPOA, where the U.S. voice can be heard, with improvements that can be made where necessary, and a united front against possible Iranian backsliding is maintained, is the best means to achieve a diplomatic solution.

Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions

I support the first Amendment right of all Americans to participate in boycotts in pursuit of civil and human rights at home and abroad. I oppose the Global Anti-Israel Boycott Divestment Sanctions Campaign launched by the Palestinian Authority, which does not recognize Israel's right to exist, does not support a peaceful two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and only harms the prospects for peace and mutual understanding.