

A New Year...A New Administration...A New Approach to Peace in the Middle East

No matter who wins the presidential election in November, the leader of the United States for the next four years will face an Israeli-Palestinian conflict that has produced more Israeli casualties from terrorism in the last four years alone than in the preceding 53 years of Israel's existence. As American Jews who care deeply about Israel's security and future as a Jewish, democratic state, we want the next president to redouble U.S. efforts to bring peace to Israel and her Palestinian neighbors.

Americans for Peace Now is proud to be supporting an effort to collect as many American Jewish signatures as possible for the letter below, which will be sent after the election to encourage the United States to become more engaged in the pursuit of Israeli-Palestinian peace. We firmly believe that a US president dedicated to holding both Palestinians and Israelis accountable for fulfilling their commitments—Palestinians to stopping terror, disarming terror groups and carrying out political reforms, Israelis to freezing settlements, removing outposts and disengaging from settlements in Gaza and the West Bank—can help create the confidence necessary for achieving progress towards peace. Such steps can pave the way for a return to a negotiated two-state solution.

Please go on the web to www.peacenow.org/lettertonextpresident.html to add your name to this letter. Or send us a note indicating your support to: **Americans for Peace Now, 1101 14th Street, NW Sixth Floor Washington, D.C. 20005**

Dear Mr. President,

As the newly elected President of the United States, you assume the leadership of our nation at a critical time in our history. As American Jews who strongly support Israel, we call on you to commit our nation to vigorous and persistent engagement in the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We ask that within the first hundred days of your administration you appoint an internationally respected envoy at the highest level to signal your intentions to pursue full implementation of the disengagement plan and a renewal of negotiations leading to a final status accord.

After four years of unrelenting violence and bloodletting, the current stalemate is unspeakably tragic for both peoples and serves as a lightning rod for international terrorism and threats to our nation's security. Moreover, the demographic reality in Israel makes clear the urgency of a two-state solution, the key to preserving Israel as both a Jewish and democratic state. In the past, American presidents have succeeded in bringing about lasting peace agreements between Israel and her Arab neighbors. They did so by maintaining a steadfast commitment in the face of numerous obstacles.

We believe that Israeli and Palestinian leaders can be brought back to the negotiating table through your committed and persistent leadership in support of a negotiated two-state solution. Meeting this challenge would be an unparalleled achievement for your presidency. We strongly urge you to take all steps necessary to renew the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and thus advance America's historic contribution to regional stability, global security, and international peace.

To learn more about how you can help promote *Shalom Achshav* and Americans for Peace Now's efforts here in Chicago, across the US, with our elected officials in Washington, and in Israel, see our local web site at

www.chicagopeacenow.org

or contact

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