

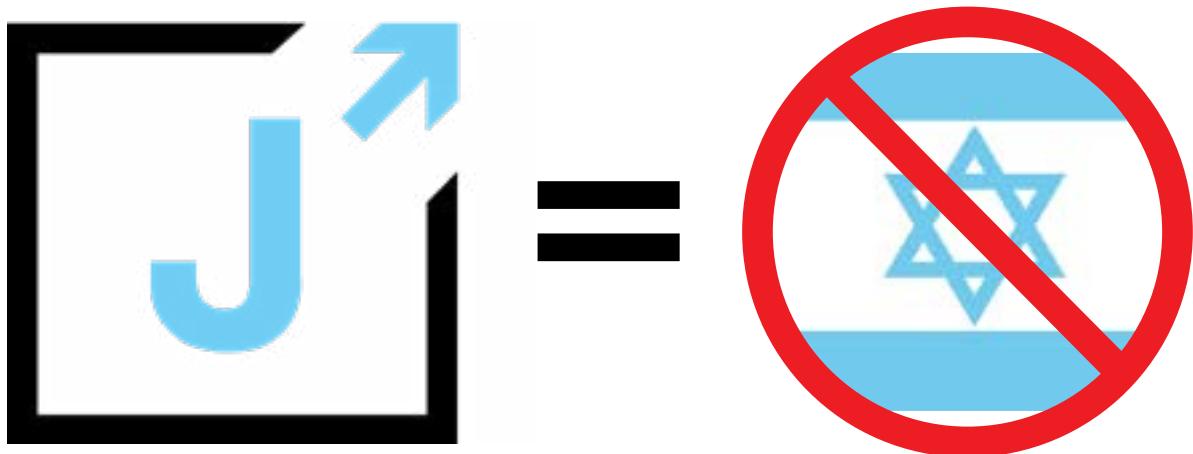


ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

# J Street Sides With Israel's Enemies & Works to Destroy Support for Israel

**Special Report Including Executive Summary by  
The Zionist Organization of America**

by Morton A. Klein,  
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*"J Street is one of the most virulent anti-Israel organizations in the history of Zionism and Judaism."*

- Prof. Alan Dershowitz, Harvard Law School

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# **J Street Sides With Israel's Enemies & Works to Destroy Support for Israel**

## **Executive Summary**

Liberal Democratic Harvard Law School  
Professor Alan Dershowitz summed it up:

"J Street has been the most damaging organization in American history against Israel . . . J Street has done more to turn young people against Israel than any organization in the whole of history. It will go down in history as one of the most virulent, anti-Israel organizations in the history of Zionism and Judaism. It has given cover to anti-Israel attitudes on campus and particularly its approach to Israel's self defense."<sup>1</sup>

And Jerusalem Post Senior Editor  
Caroline Glick explained:

"J Street is an anti-Israel, pro-Iranian and pro-Palestinian lobby run by American Jews. . . . J Street's . . . goal is to destroy the power and influence of the American Jewish community. . . . The tools it employs are demoralization and deceit. . . . Israel is the most extraordinary collective achievement of the Jewish people in thousands of years. It is the embodiment of the dreams, faith, blood, sweat and tears of the Jewish people today and throughout time in both spiritual and physical terms. Israel is something that every Jew should celebrate and be thankful [for] not only on Yom Ha'atzma'ut, but every day of the year. . . . It is J Street's purpose to hide this truth from the American Jewish community. So it is the task of American Jews to build on the decision of the Conference of Presidents [overwhelmingly rejecting J Street] and ensure . . . that J Street goes down in time as the great failure it deserves to be."<sup>2</sup>

## Executive Summary

**I**n J Street's Orwellian world, being "pro-Israel" means promoting policies on every front that endanger Israel's existence, and damage American support for the Jewish State. This executive summary outlines the extraordinary breadth and extent of J Street's hostile-to-Israel statements and activities.

### Anti-Israel & Muslim Donors

**J Street has numerous anti-Israel, foreign and Muslim donors – and lies about this.** For years, J Street falsely denied that anti-Zionist billionaire George Soros was a major J Street funder. Soros and his children continue to be major J Street donors, and Soros's foundations work closely with J Street. Other significant J Street donors include a board member of NIAC (Iranian lobbyist); an attorney who had represented the Saudi Embassy and whose husband was a major Saudi lobbyist; leaders of Muslim student groups; Saudi- and Iranian-born Americans; Palestinian- and Arab-American businessmen who also give to Arab-oriented anti-Israel PACs; the Turkish producer of a virulently anti-American, anti-Semitic Turkish film which depicts a Jewish American doctor harvesting organs from prisoners; a Muslim professor who writes about alleged Israeli "repression of the Palestinian people"; and many others of this ilk. If J Street is so "pro-Israel," then why do so many Israel-haters support J Street?

### Even Opposes Israel's Existence

**J Street officials have spoken against Israel's very existence:** At J Street's 2010 national conference, J Street co-founder Daniel Levy called Israel's rebirth in 1948 "an act that was wrong." J Street's Advisory Council member Marcia Freedman told the 2015 J Street conference: "Israelis should not have a state." The 2017 president of the J Street U student group sent a letter to Congress saying it was unfair to label as anti-Semites those who oppose Israel's existence.

"J Street? They are just smug advocates of Israel's destruction delivered from the comfort of their secure American sofas – it's hard to imagine anyone worse."

*- U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman<sup>3</sup>*

### Promotes Anti-Israel UN Resolutions

**J Street lobbies for anti-Israel UN Security Council resolutions** that condemn Israel, demand that Israel to retreat to indefensible pre-1967 "Auschwitz" lines, seek to cut off the Jewish people from their holiest sites, and unilaterally create a Palestinian Arab terrorist state that does not recognize Israel. J Street urged former President Obama to support or to not veto notorious anti-Israel UN Security Council Resolution 2334 (which absurdly and falsely labeled Judaism's holiest places such as the Temple Mount and the Western Wall, and Judea and Samaria, the Jewish Quarter in Jerusalem, Hebrew University, Hadassah Hospital and the Mt. of Olives – the site of the oldest Jewish cemetery in the world – as "occupied Arab land"). J Street then took out major ads thanking and praising former President Obama for doing so. J Street then lobbied against the bipartisan Congressional resolution condemning UNSC Resolution 2334. When anti-Israel NGO B'tselem denounced Israel at the UN and urged the UN to take action against Israel, J Street supported B'tselem over Israel. J Street conferences call for "pressure without limits" on Israel, including not protecting Israel with UN vetoes.

## Supports Anti-Israel Boycotts

**J Street promotes anti-Israel boycotts, divestment and sanctions** (BDS) and U.S. & EU anti-Jewish labeling regulations – another form of BDS. J Street urged then-President Obama to enforce discriminatory US Customs regulations prohibiting “Made in Israel” labels on products made in Judea/Samaria, and lobbied against a bipartisan Congressional amendment to make rejection of anti-Israel BDS a principal trade objective in Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations with the European Union. J Street conferences have featured and honored leading advocates of anti-Israel BDS, “lawfare” and “courtroom Intifada” (bringing abusive, groundless legal cases to attack and harass Israel and Israeli leaders, in courts throughout the world).

J Street officials have openly supported full BDS (BDS against all of Israel), although J Street (falsely) claims that this is not J Street policy. Notably, J Street’s “official” BDS policy does not oppose “targeted” anti-Semitic BDS. (“Targeted BDS” is discriminatory boycotts of Jews and Jewish businesses and institutions located in Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria past the artificial “green line.”) J Street also conducts “Green Line” campaigns that are actually “targeted BDS” campaigns. J Street also absurdly claims that the only way to “combat BDS” is to agree with the lies that fuel the BDS movement, and to promote the BDS movement’s anti-Israel goals (to “end the occupation,” etc.) J Street condemns the mainstream pro-Israel groups that truly combat BDS as “fringe voices” and “liars.”

“[J Street, JVP and APN] is . . . a bunch of anti-Israel groups criticizing a pro-Israel amendment. While a broad bipartisan, bicameral group of Members of Congress are focused on strengthening the mutually beneficial U.S.-Israel economic relationship, this small handful of outside organizations are more interested in defending destructive efforts to delegitimize Israel.”

*- Congressman Pete Roskam (R-IL), criticizing J Street (and its partners Americans for Peace Now and Jewish Voice for Peace) for lobbying against an amendment requiring U.S. trade negotiators to make rejecting anti-Israel BDS a principal trade objective in Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations with the European Union<sup>4</sup>*

## Promotes Disastrous Iran Deal & Opposes Sanctions on Iran

**J Street supports anti-Israel, anti-U.S. Iran over Israel and the U.S.** J Street was a leading lobbyist for the catastrophic Iran deal (which gave Iran \$150 billion in sanctions relief, severely limits inspections, has “sunset” clauses on Iran’s restrictions, enables Iran to continue enriching uranium, and paves Iran’s path to a nuclear bomb). J Street also lobbies against sanctions on Iran, including both pre-deal and post-deal sanctions targeting Iran’s terrorism and missile test violations. J Street also lobbies against imposing timetables for imposing sanctions; against even laying the groundwork for a credible military option; and against keeping any military option on the table – even as a last resort. These J Street positions are identical to the Iran regime lobby’s positions. From its earliest days, J Street collaborated with and had financial and overlapping directorship ties with the Iranian regime’s lobbyist, the National Iranian American Council (NIAC).

J Street engaged in numerous deceptive Orwellian practices while lobbying for the Iran deal and lobbying against sanctions on Iran. J Street falsely characterized nuclear Iran’s opponents (people who opposed the Iran deal and who sought to sanction Iran) as warmongers, and as against a nuclear-free Iran. J Street also ran phony polls using hypotheticals that were vastly different from the actual Iran deal, and falsely claimed that American Jews and the Israeli security establishment supported the deal. J Street also worked to stop scheduled major public speeches by prominent officials about Iran’s genocidal ambitions and the need for strong action to stop Iran, including speeches by then-Vice Presidential candidate Governor Sarah Palin, and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu. And J Street PAC finances and runs ad campaigns for pro-Iran deal Congressional candidates, and targets Iran deal opponents for defeat.

“J-Street (Pro-Palestinian Jewish Organization) representatives. . . . have recognized me and wanted to chat. I just have to shake my head when these citizens ask me to believe in Iran and support a two-state solution. . . . When I ask them how does one negotiate with leaders who do not even recognize your existence, they respond with, you have to believe in them. Well, looks like I will have to save these people from themselves. I take a man at his word when he says he wants to kill me, I ain’t suicidal.”

- *Then-Congressman Allen West (R-FL)*<sup>5</sup>

"At a time when a million Israeli citizens have been living in bomb shelters for four days and four nights, have not gone to school or work and anxiously await the next siren, the terrorists firing on them are getting encouragement and support, not just from Iran and Hezbollah, but also from the [from Gaza] left-wing Jewish American organization J Street . . . The anti-Israel and anti-ethical statement of J Street should serve as a warning for Israeli politicians and left-wing activists, including members of my party, against supporting and identifying with J Street, as they have done in the past."

- *Knesset Member Otniel Schneller, of the left-wing Kadima Party*<sup>6</sup>

"J Street's appalling missive [during Israel's war with Hamas] concludes: 'This is our moment to show that there is real political support for shedding a narrow us-versus-them approach to the Middle East' [But] What if you shed an us-versus-them approach to Hamas, but Hamas doesn't shed its us-versus-them approach to you? J Street['s] . . . treatment of the Gaza crisis is simply contemptible. Are there any limits to the group's capacity for self-delusion about the nature of Hamas? May we now conclude that J Street is incapable of recognizing when it is staring genocidal fanatics in the face? It is time that thinking people started calling J Street what it actually is — an anti-Israel group."

- *Noah Pollak, Executive Director of the Emergency Committee for Israel*<sup>7</sup>

## Undermines & Endangers Israel's Defense

**J Street lobbies against increasing military aid to Israel** to counter increased Iranian threats, but lobbies for sending American funds to the Palestinian Authority – which uses almost \$400 million per year of these funds to pay Palestinian Arabs to murder Jews! J Street says that aid to Israel to counter Iranian threats ignores American financial needs. Yet, J Street PAC requires candidates receiving its campaign contributions to support U.S. aid to the Palestinian Authority. J Street is lobbying against the Taylor Force Act – the legislation to reduce U.S. aid to the PA if the PA continues to pay Palestinian Arabs to murder Jews and Americans.

**J Street condemns Israel for defending herself from Hamas** rocket attacks and terror tunnels, and makes pro-Hamas demands on Israel. When Israel defends herself from terror attacks, J Street viciously condemns Israel and Israel's supporters, and demands immediate ceasefires to stop the IDF from destroying Hamas's terror infrastructure. J Street also equated Hamas rocket attacks on innocent Israeli civilians to Israel's defensive targeted action to destroy Hamas's rockets, and equated the IDF to Hamas. After operation "Cast Lead" (Israel's Dec. 2009 to Jan. 2009 operation in Gaza to stop Hamas rockets constantly being launched at Israeli citizens), J Street championed the "Goldstone Report" that falsely maligned Israel's actions in Gaza. (Goldstone later retracted his accusations against Israel.) In 2010, J Street lobbied Congress members to sign the infamous "Gaza 54 letter" (a/k/a "Hamas 54 letter") that condemned Israel, and urged then-President Obama to pressure Israel to lift the weapons blockade of Gaza. J Street also attacked pro-Israel groups that opposed this anti-Israel letter. J Street continues to demand that Israel must lift the Gaza weapons blockade. J Street falsely accused Israel of killing Palestinian Arab civilians in Gaza in a 2012 anti-terrorism action in which no civilians were killed – and J Street's purported "correction" still failed to acknowledge that no Palestinian Arab civilians were killed.

During the 2014 Gaza War, J Street called for an early ceasefire before Israel could begin to destroy Hamas's terror tunnels, and again condemned Israel. J Street's campus arm, J Street U's recent former (Muslim) president Amna Farooqi praised Gazan (Hamas) "resistance" and falsely accused Israel of inflicting horror on Gaza. J Street also supports engaging with Hamas.

"[J Street] could find no moral difference between the actions of Hamas and other Palestinian militants, who have launched more than 5,000 rockets and mortar shells at Israeli civilians in the past three years, and the long-delayed response of Israel, which finally lost patience and responded to the pleas of its battered citizens in the south. . . . [J Street's] words are deeply distressing because they are morally deficient, profoundly out of touch with Jewish sentiment and also appallingly naïve."

- *Rabbi Eric Yoffie, then-President of the Union for Reform Judaism<sup>8</sup>*

## Justifies & Legitimizes Arab Terror

J Street blames Israel for and justifies Palestinian-Arab terror, other Islamist terror (including Al Qaeda), and the Palestinian Authority's promotion of anti-Israel hatred and violence. For instance, J Street President Ben-Ami accused Israel of "treating them [Palestinian Arabs] in a way that forces them essentially to become terrorists," and asserted that "the situation in Israel and Palestine [sic] is directly related to recruitment by extremist forces, by Al Qaeda, of the terrorists who then come here [to the U.S.]".

### J Street falsely claims that PA leaders dedicated to anti-Israel terror are "peace partners."

J Street continues to call PA dictator Mahmoud Abbas "peace partner" despite his payments to Palestinian Arab terrorists to murder Jews; his glorification of Jew-killers by naming schools, streets and sports teams after them; his long, continuing history of inciting terror and murderous intifadas against Israelis in PA official media, mosques, schools and textbooks; his replacement of all of Israel with "Palestine" in the PA's official maps, emblems, stamps, stationary and schoolbooks; and his rejection of extraordinarily generous offers for territory and a Palestinian state.

J Street conferences also feature PA officials such as Arafat-loyalist, PLO official, propagandist and chief negotiator Saeb Erekat, who had infamously fabricated the gigantic lie that Israel perpetrated a massacre and murdered thousands of Arabs at Jenin – when in fact no massacre occurred. Erekat was the chief PA negotiator who rejected over-generous Israeli offers for Palestinian statehood, and rejected former U.S. Secretary of State Kerry's requests to extend peace negotiations. Yet, at J Street, Erekat pretended to want "peace" while hurling accusations at Israel.

"J-Street is not an organization with which I wish to be associated. . . . The [J-Street] decision to endorse the Palestinian and Arab effort to condemn Israel in the U.N. Security Council is not the choice of a concerned friend trying to help. It is rather the befuddled choice of an organization so open-minded about what constitutes support for Israel that its brains have fallen out. . . . [The Palestinian Authority] sent peace talks into a dead end. But astonishingly, it is Israel that J-Street would put in the stocks in the public square."

- *Liberal Democrat former Congressman and Mideast Subcommittee Chairman Gary Ackerman (D-NY), explaining why he cut ties with J Street*<sup>9</sup>

## Opposes US Embassy Move

**J Street campaigns against moving the U.S. Embassy** to Israel's capital Jerusalem and for dividing Jerusalem. As soon as Donald Trump was elected, J Street launched a campaign against moving the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem, asserting that the move would be "inflammatory" and a "danger to U.S. interests." At J Street's 2017 national conference, featured panelist Ziad Abu Zayyad (a BDS advocate and former PA Minister) threatened that a move would have "dangerous implications" and falsely claimed that an embassy move would violate UN Resolution 181. (In fact, UN Res. 181 merely recommended making Jerusalem a separate international entity. It never became binding international law, because the Arabs rejected Res. 181 and instead invaded and tried to destroy Israel. Jerusalem thus legally remained an area designated for Jewish settlement and the Jewish homeland under binding international law, including the League of Nations Mandate and San Remo resolution.) Another J Street panelist insisted that Israel's capital should be Tel Aviv.

## Supports Ethnic Cleansing of Jews

**J Street supports ethnic cleansing of Jews and condemns "settlements" as "illegal."** J Street promotes uprooting Jews from their homes and preventing Jewish building in the Jewish homeland past the 1949 Armistice Lines (a/k/a the "green line" or "1967 lines" or "Auschwitz lines"). The 1949 Armistice lines are simply where the fighting stopped after six Arab nations invaded Israel in 1948-1949, and seized historic Jewish territory legally designated for the Jewish homeland (eastern Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria).

J Street's website promotes plans to evacuate 100,000 Jews from their homes. J Street repeatedly features speeches by the PLO's chief Washington representative Maen Areikat, who advocates ethnic cleansing of Jews from Judea/Samaria and from Jerusalem's Jewish quarter and holy sites. J Street President Ben-Ami likewise makes the racist, anti-Semitic statement that he does not see how "Israelis and Jews continue to live over the Green Line" (where 700,000 Jews live) and falsely and viciously portrays "settlements" (Jewish communities in the historic Jewish areas of Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria) as an "obstacle to peace" and as part of an "unfolding darkness" and "assault" against "core Jewish values."

J Street also supported the Obama administration's settlement freeze demands; promotes ending tax exemptions for charities with operations beyond the "green line"; promotes declaring Jewish communities past the green line "illegal" in UN resolutions and elsewhere; and supports the suicidal-for-Israel "Arab Peace Initiative" that demands Israel's retreat to the 1949 Armistice lines and that Israel must make other dangerous concessions in return for a mere possibility of some sort of vague "normalization."

**J-Street is an organization giving cover to those "inherently opposed to Israel's existence."**

- *Caroline Glick, Jerusalem Post senior editor and columnist<sup>10</sup>*

## Demonizes Israel on College Campuses

**J Street U promotes Israel's enemies on campus and elsewhere.** J Street's campus arm, J Street U, partners with anti-Israel groups and brings anti-Israel speakers to campuses and conferences to demonize, defame and delegitimize Israel and the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). J Street U has even partnered with: "Students for Justice in Palestine" (SJP) – an extreme, Hamas-supported, virulently anti-Israel group that holds violent demonstrations on college campuses screaming for "Death to the Jews"; notorious extremist NGOs such as "Breaking the Silence" and B'tselem that specialize in creating and disseminating vicious anti-Israel fabrications; and the radical Sheikh Jarrah Solidarity Movement, which opposes the idea of Israel as a Jewish homeland, defames Israel as a "fascist state," and talks about victories over "cowardly Zionists who are perpetrating an apartheid state and ethnic cleansing in Jerusalem." At a J Street U sponsored campus event, Sheikh Jarrah's founder declared "Jerusalem is a symbol of evil."

J Street makes phony excuses for bringing anti-Israel speakers to college campuses, such as claiming that it does so to hear "diverse perspectives" and "to argue against them." In fact, J Street honors and agrees with what its anti-Israel speakers say, and does not "argue against them." For instance, at the "MPAC-J Street Peacemaking Forum" at Georgetown University in April 2010 (a collaboration between the extremist radical anti-Israel Muslim Public Affairs Council and J Street, featuring J Street President Ben-Ami and MPAC's Salam Al-Marayati – who has called for Israel's destruction and defended the "right" of people to claim that the Holocaust never occurred). Al-Marayati repeatedly falsely accused Israel of "war crimes," "atrocities," "a history of injustice," etc. Ben-Ami failed to correct any of al-Marayati's falsehoods, and, instead, piled on more anti-Israel mistruths, such as allegations about "how we [Jews] treat another people that are oppressed [Palestinian Arabs]."

J Street U also targets campus Hillel houses, and demands that Hillel open its doors to anti-Israel speakers and groups.

J Street U's 2015-2016 foul-mouthed Muslim president Amna Farooqi bluntly said: "We are not here to talk about the pro-Israel conversation on campus." (Farooqi's public tweets include words such as "f—ing" and called Israeli Prime Minister a "douchebag.") Efforts initiated at that J Street conference included "targeted BDS." Farooqi also candidly admitted that she has "Muslim solidarity with Palestinians" and was using a "Jewish" organization to pressure Israel because Muslim groups cannot do the job as effectively. J Street U also incubated the openly anti-Zionist, lawless "If Not Now" group.

J Street also encourages Jewish students to travel to Israel to join anti-Israel Palestinian Arab protests, which are often violent, and involve throwing lethal projectiles at Israelis. J Street U also attempts to subvert pro-Israel "Birthright" trips. J Street brings college students on anti-Israel trips, which include paying homage at terrorist Yasser Arafat's memorial in Ramallah, and participating in propaganda sessions with anti-Israel NGOs in Israel.

## Demonizes Pro-Israel Groups

J Street demonizes mainstream pro-Israel Jewish and Christian groups and leaders as "far right" extremists; as not "true friends" of Israel; and as holding U.S.-Israel policy "hostage." J Street's introductory video attacked Jewish and Christian pro-Israel groups' leaders. J Street's targets include AIPAC, ZOA, the Emergency Committee for Israel and others. J Street viciously condemns Christian Zionists (as supporting Israel only for nefarious purposes), to try to drive a wedge between Christian Zionists and Jews. J Street also promotes and expands on vicious anti-Israel academics Mearsheimer & Walt's canards. While Mearsheimer & Walt "only" said that Jewish pro-Israel lobby groups hold American policy "hostage," J Street says that both Jewish and Christian pro-Israel groups hold American policy "hostage."

"My message to J Street is this: if you are truly pro-Israel, stop patronizing us. Stop lecturing us, publicly defaming us, and using a foreign government to pressure our democratically elected government from thousands of miles away.... And every once in a while, since you profess to be 'pro-Israel,' perhaps you can say something nice about my country."

- *Hen Mazzig, a self-described "leftist Israeli" about being confronted by J Street on American campuses<sup>11</sup>*

"J Street [is] a virulently anti-Israel and anti-Zionist propaganda machine, founded by Jeremy Ben-Ami with money from virulently anti-Israel George Soros. . . . Having come to Israel in the '90s to help Peace Now realize its delusions, [Ben-Ami] saw instead an era of bloodshed and civilian deaths. Finding these ideas now totally unsellable to Israelis, [Ben-Ami] repackaged the shoddy goods . . . in bright new colors to sell in America to gullible, liberal young Jews who are only too eager [to] be sold. And what exactly is J Street selling? 1. That if Israel moves back to the pre-1967 borders (called the Lines of Auschwitz) there will be peace. (Hello, were you awake in the last decade?) 2. That Israel is totally to blame for the Arab hatred against it, which will completely dissipate by giving up land. 3. And that if the Israeli government won't do what Ben-Ami and his leftist cabal want, then maybe American Jews can elect enough anti-Israel congressman to pressure the US government into forcing the tiny Jewish state, besieged on all sides by homicidal maniacs, to indefensible borders that will usher in its demise."

- *Naomi Ragen, author and Jerusalem Post columnist<sup>12</sup>*

## Turns Officials, Politicians & Platforms Against Israel

**J Street PAC raises millions of dollars and uses deceptive practices to elect hostile-to-Israel U.S. Congresspersons and to defeat Israel's best friends in Congress.** J Street PAC deceives voters by misleadingly branding anti-Israel Congresspersons "pro-Israel" and vice versa. For instance, J Street PAC glowingly describes a hostile-to-Israel Senator who accused Israel of war crimes as "a strong supporter of Israel and two-state peace." J Street PAC gushes that a J Street PAC endorsee "is a true champion of the pro-Israel, pro-peace movement" – when that endorsee in fact co-authored a Congressional letter falsely portraying as a "moderate" Iran's new president, who was implicated in blowing up the AMIA Jewish Center in Argentina. J Street also ran Orwellian campaigns falsely accusing Israel's best friends in Congress of "endorsing policies that are not pro-Israel," and calls pro-Israel opponents of the disastrous-to-Israel-and-America Iran deal "obstructionists."

**J Street promotes U.S. pressure on Israel to adopt J Street's agenda:** Israel's retreat to the indefensible 1949 Armistice Lines, dividing Jerusalem, and a "right of return" for millions of supposed descendants of Palestinian Arabs to move in to Israel to overrun and destroy the Jewish State. (In fact, there are only about 30,000 Palestinian Arab refugees today. Further, there would not have been a single Arab refugee if six Arab nations had not invaded Israel in 1948-1949 and told the Arab civilians to leave the area.) J Street calls for U.S. "intervention" – for the U.S. to "take away Israel's car keys," for the U.S. president to "close the door with the Israeli prime minister," etc. – to force Israel to adopt J Street policies that the Israeli public wisely rejects.

**J Street supports anti-Israel appointments,** such as Israel-basher and Farrakhan-supporter Keith Ellison's bid for Chair of the Democratic National Committee.

**J Street opposes pro-Israel appointments.** J Street lobbied vigorously against the pro-Israel David Friedman's confirmation as Ambassador to Israel.

**J Street advocates for anti-Israel political party platforms;** and condemned the 2016 pro-Israel Republican Party platform. J Street Pres. Ben-Ami called for rejecting supposedly "outdated notions of what it means to be pro-Israel," and demanded that the 2016 Democratic platform committee rewrite the platform to include: "opposition to [Israeli] settlements"; opposition to "occupation over the Green Line in the territory Israel has occupied since the 1967 War"; and affirmation of a Palestinian "right to dignity and self-determination" in their own state. Thus Ben-Ami wanted the Democratic platform to support ejecting Jews from their homeland – even from the Jewish quarter in the old city of Jerusalem – in favor of creating a Palestinian Arab terrorist state – a betrayal of Democratic party champions of Israel. The 2016 Democratic Party platform moved in J Street's direction, and specifically called for a Palestinian state, and deleted the 2012 Democratic platform provision that had stated: "We will insist that any Palestinian partner must recognize Israel's right to exist, reject violence, and adhere to existing agreements." However, this was insufficient for J Street. J Street's Ben-Ami praised the direction in which the Democratic party was moving, but demanded that the Democratic platform must go even further next time, and must add planks to oppose settlement expansion and "call out the ongoing occupation." Ben-Ami also called the Republican platform "extreme" because the Republican platform did not call for the creation of a Palestinian state, and refused to label Israel an "occupier" of her tiny own land.

J Street is "a left-wing lobbying group that also claims to be pro-Israel even while promoting positions that treat Israel as the cause of the Middle East's problems."

- *William McGurn, Wall Street Journal columnist*<sup>13</sup>

## Web of Anti-Israel Organizations

**J Street is also part of an interconnected web of extremist organizations working to delegitimize Israel**, founded by and/or coordinated by J Street President Ben-Ami's consulting firm, Ben Or Consulting. J Street is also part of an overlapping Soros-funded web of anti-Israel organizations. Leaked Soros documents show Soros's foundations' involvement, and the coordination among these groups.

## Opposes Palestinian Recognition of Jewish State

**J Street opposes requiring a Palestinian state to recognize Israel as a Jewish state.** J Street's position means no real PA recognition of the Jewish State's right to exist. The PA's maps, official emblem, official stationary, textbooks, etc. will all continue to show "Palestine" replacing all of Israel.

"[J Street is] a unique problem in that it not only opposes one policy of one Israeli government, it opposes all policies of all Israeli governments. It's significantly out of the mainstream. . . . This is not a matter of settlements here [or] there. We understand there are differences of opinion. But when it comes to the survival of the Jewish state, there should be no differences of opinion. You are fooling around with the lives of 7 million people. This is no joke!"

- *Then-Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. Michael Oren*<sup>14</sup>

## Deceptive Polling

J Street lies with push polls and statistics to create the false impression that American Jews support J Street's agenda. J Street's own vice president conducts J Street polls, destroying their credibility.

J Street repeatedly misrepresents polls. For instance, J Street falsely claimed that a June 2009 showed that 56% of Israelis supported a settlement construction freeze – when the actual question was a hypothetical choice between Israel agreeing to a settlement freeze and Obama placing sanctions on Israel. (In other words, Israelis only agreed to a settlement freeze if a gun was held to their head.) J Street ignored that another question in the same poll found that Israelis (including Israeli Arabs) "opposed the American demand for a halt to construction in Judea and Samaria" by almost a 2 to 1 margin.

J Street ignores the polling data showing that J Street's constantly-touted so-called "two-state solution" will not bring peace. J Street also conducted a phony Iran deal poll that asked about a hypothetical good Iran deal. Then J Street falsely claimed that the poll showed that American Jews favored the actual Iran deal (which was far worse than the hypothetical that the J Street poll asked about).

J Street also falsely and misleadingly stated that a Gallup poll "showed that just 24% of American Jews would support the move" of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. The Gallup poll was of all Americans – not just American Jews, as J Street falsely claimed. Moreover, the majority of the respondents who had an opinion supported the embassy move. (56% had no opinion; 24% supported the embassy move, and only 20% opposed the move.)

## Subverts Jewish Values

J Street subverts Jewish traditions and values. J Street ignores the real, basic Jewish value of self-defense; and falsely turns appeasement into a "Jewish value." J Street has even subverted the Holocaust, for instance, by supporting a program featuring a play that promoted the blood libel that Israel's treatment of Palestinian Arabs is analogous to the Nazis' treatment of the Jews. J Street also subverts the traditions and meaning of Jewish holidays – turning holidays such as Passover and Hanukkah – that celebrate the Jewish people's freedom to live in their own land, Israel – into occasions to demand that Israel must separate from her own land.

"As [J Street president] Ben-Ami himself explains . . .  
J Street is about redefining the meaning of pro-Israel. . . .  
[F]or J Street, 'pro-Israel' simply means 'Palestine Now'"

- Lori Lowenthal Marcus, Jewish Press journalist & attorney<sup>15</sup>

## Endnotes

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The full ZOA report on J Street, documenting all items outlined in this Executive Summary, begins on the next page.

# FULL REPORT

## INTRODUCTION

In J Street's Orwellian world, being "pro-Israel" means promoting policies on every front that endanger Israel's existence, damage American support for the Jewish state, and poison young vulnerable minds against their Jewish brethren. Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz indeed summed it up when he stated: "*J Street is one of the most virulent anti-Israel organizations in the history of Zionism and Judaism.*"

In this report, the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) – a leading voice for the defense of Israel and the Jewish people – describes and speaks out against J Street's wide-ranging falsehoods and nefarious anti-Israel activities.

### I. **J STREET'S ANTI-ISRAEL, FOREIGN & MUSLIM DONORS, & ITS LIES ABOUT THEM**

*If J Street is so "pro-Israel," why do so many Israel haters support J Street?*

#### **(1) For Years, J Street Falsely Denied that Anti-Zionist Billionaire George Soros Was A Major J Street Funder**

For years, J Street director Jeremy Ben Ami consistently falsely denied that self-professed "anti-Zionist" Jewish billionaire George Soros was a major funder or founder of or engaged with J Street. (Soros proclaimed "*I am not a Zionist*"; said he enjoyed assisting the Nazi confiscation of Jewish property in Hungary in 1944; said that Jews and Israel cause antisemitism; and condemned Israel for refusing to recognize a Palestinian government run by U.S. designated terrorist organization Hamas<sup>1</sup>.) Until about September 2016, J Street's website included a "*Myths and Facts*" posting entitled "*George Soros Did Not Found J Street*" (oddly dated "November 30TH, -0001"), which asserted that:

*"George Soros did not found J Street. In fact, George Soros very publicly stated his decision not to be engaged in J Street when it was launched -- precisely out of fear that his involvement would be used against the organization. J Street's Executive Director stated many times that he would in fact be very pleased to have funding from Mr. Soros and the offer remained open to him to be a funder."*<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See ZOA Release, "Soros: 1944 (Nazi Occupation) "Was Happiest Time of My Life . . . Adventure . . . Fun," Nov. 16, 2010, at <https://zoa.org/2010/11/102827-zoa-its-troubling-to-see-jewish-leaders-defend-israeli-ls-basher-george-soros-against-glenn-becks-criticism/> and citations therein.

<sup>2</sup> "George Soros Did Not Found J Street," formerly posted at [http://jstreet.org/blog/post/george-soros-did-not-found-j-street\\_1](http://jstreet.org/blog/post/george-soros-did-not-found-j-street_1). J Street's former posting quoted above is also quoted in "J Street Owns Up To Soros Funding," by Ron Kampeas, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Sept. 26, 2010, at <http://www.jta.org/2010/09/26/news-opinion/united-states/j-street-owns-up-to-soros-funding>, and elsewhere. J Street's website now (since approximately September 2016) contains a "Myths and Facts" posting entitled "MYTH: George Soros Founded and is the Primary Funder of J Street," which repeats the first two sentences of the former posting denying that Soros founded J Street, and finally changed the last sentence to read: "Soros has provided

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In a profile of J Street president Ben-Ami in *Moment Magazine's* March/April 2010 issue, Ben-Ami continued to falsely assert that Soros was **not** funding J Street. Ben-Ami claimed that, at an October 25, 2006 meeting (when Ben-Ami was “incubating” J Street’s launch):

*“[Soros] walked into the room with a prepared statement that announced that he would not be a part of the project [J Street] because he felt his involvement would be counter-productive. . . . We [J Street] got tagged as having his [Soros’s] support without the benefit of actually getting funded!”<sup>3</sup>*

J Street also *omitted* Soros and Soros’ children from J Street’s 2010 Annual Report donor lists on J Street’s website.<sup>4</sup> (J Street’s 2010 Annual Report lists 26 donors who “contribute a minimum of \$25,000 annually in general operating support; and 56 donors who contribute at least \$10,000 annually, split between J Street PAC and J Street.)

In September 2010, the *Washington Times* obtained an un-redacted copy of a J Street IRS Form 990 filing, which revealed that J Street had secretly received \$245,000 from George Soros and his two children during the July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 fiscal year. These Soros contributions were one-third of J Street’s contributions from all U.S. sources during the fiscal year.<sup>5</sup>

Ben Ami was then forced to admit to an additional half million dollars of Soros contributions; Ben-Ami admitted “*that the \$245,000 was part of a \$750,000 gift from the Soros family to his [J Street] organization made over three years.*”

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency noted that the disclosure of Soros’ involvement and Ben-Ami’s admissions of Soros’s additional contributions “*revers[ed] years of claims by the group [J Street] that it had nothing to do with the liberal financier [Soros].*”<sup>6</sup>

Yet, even after this exposure, Ben-Ami still misleadingly attempted to minimize Soros’ involvement, and falsely denied that he and J Street had lied. Ben Ami claimed that altogether, donations from the Soros family amounted to about 7% percent of \$11 million that Ben-Ami claimed J Street and *J Street PAC* received during the three-year period since J Street’s founding in 2008. The inclusion of J Street PAC contributions (which likely passed through J Street and went to candidates) in the denominator misleadingly made the Soros’s percentage of the actual monies going to J Street look less than it was. Moreover, as *The Washington Times* had

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regular annual donations to J Street, that comprise just over seven percent of its funding.” <http://jstreet.org/about-us/myths-facts-about-j-street/our-contributors/#.WVfoqFKZNYh>

3 “*The Man on J Street: The Story of Jeremy Ben Ami,*” *Moment Magazine*, April/May 2010, at <http://www.momentmag.com/the-man-on-j-street-the-story-of-jeremy-ben-ami/5/>

4 J Street 2010 Annual Report, at [http://annualreport.s3.amazonaws.com/2010%20JStreet\\_AR\\_FINAL%20Small.pdf](http://annualreport.s3.amazonaws.com/2010%20JStreet_AR_FINAL%20Small.pdf) “*Soros Revealed as Funder of Liberal Jewish-American Lobby,*” by Eli Lake, *Washington Times*, Sept. 24, 2010, at <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/sep/24/soros-funder-liberal-jewish-american-lobby/>

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indicated, J Street's 2008-2009 FY filing revealed that that the Soros percentage (and especially the Soros percentage of U.S. contributions) was significantly higher during J Street's critical start-up year.

Two days after the *Washington Times* article, Ben-Ami posted a statement on J Street's blog (which has since then been removed) that tried to recast his blatant lies about Soros into being just a bit "*less than clear*." Ben-Ami's statement also still tried to characterize Soros as "not providing initial funding" – despite the fact that Soros began funding J Street almost immediately after J Street's inception. Ben-Ami wrote:

*"I accept responsibility personally for being less than clear about Mr. Soros' support once he did become a donor. I said Mr. Soros did not help launch J Street or provide its initial funding, and that is true. I also said we would be happy to take his support. But I did not go the extra step to add that he did in fact start providing support in the fall of 2008, six months after our launch."*<sup>7</sup>

The Washington Times reported regarding Ben-Ami's above blog post:

*"James Besser, Washington correspondent for New York Jewish Week, wrote Sunday that J Street deceived him about receiving support from Mr. Soros. 'I was one of the many journalists who asked the question and received in return **something significantly less than the truth**,' Mr. Besser wrote. '**Okay, it was a lie.**'"<sup>8</sup>*

Soros and his children have continued to be major J Street donors, at double their initial annual rate. *The Weekly Standard* reported that Soros contributes \$500,000 per year to J Street.<sup>9</sup> J Street President Ben-Ami also publicly admitted during a December 2015 speech that George Soros "remains a significant funder of J Street to this day,"<sup>10</sup> and privately admitted to a ZOA representative after the same speech that Soros donates \$500,000 per year to J Street. George Soros and his son Alex Soros are each separately listed in J Street's highest categories of donors in J Street's 2011 through 2016 Annual Reports on J Street's website.<sup>11</sup> (2016 is the last report on the site.)

Avowed anti-Zionists George and Alex Soros's major donations to J Street further evidences that J Street is **not** a genuine pro-Israel organization.

Why did J Street conceal Soros's funding of J Street for so long? Perhaps it's because J Street's policies mirror Soros's well-known abhorrent anti-Israel views. For instance, in 2003, Soros

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<sup>7</sup> E.g., Id. (quoting Ben-Ami's statement on J Street's since removed blog). Ben-Ami's blog statement was widely quoted throughout Jewish news media.

<sup>8</sup> "Jewish Lobby Group Admits Soros Support," by Eli Lake, *The Washington Times*, Sept. 26, 2010, at <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/sep/26/jewish-lobby-group-admits-soros-support/>

<sup>9</sup> "Soros Empire Concealed Ties to WH-Linked Liberal Jewish Lobby, Hacked Documents Show," by Jenna Lifhits, *The Weekly Standard*, Aug. 18, 2016, at <http://www.weeklystandard.com/print/soros-empire-concealed-ties-to-wh-linked-liberal-jewish-lobby-hacked-documents-show/article/2003890>

<sup>10</sup> "ZOA: JStreet's Ben-Ami Pushes Dangerous '67 Borders, Praises Arafat as Peacemaker at Westchester Reform Temple," Dec. 21, 2015, at <http://zoa.org/2015/12/10307872-zoa-j-streets-ben-amis-pushes-dangerous-67-borders-praises-arafat-as-peacemaker-at-westchester-reform-temple/>

<sup>11</sup> J Street Annual Reports, at <http://jstreet.org/about/annual-reports>

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blamed the United States and Israel— “[t]he policies of the Bush administration and the Sharon administration” for “a resurgence of anti-Semitism in Europe,” and stated he would support the “Geneva accords” – a “peace plan” that created a Palestinian Arab state on the (indefensible-and-suicidal for-Israel) 1949 Armistice lines (a/k/a the “green line”) and a Palestinian Arab “right of return” (to overrun Israel within the “green line”)<sup>12</sup>. J Street tries to pressure Israel into adopting the same suicidal-for-Israel policies that Soros stated he supports.

In a 2011 op-ed, Soros accused Israel of being the “main stumbling block” to democracy in the Middle East; and Soros claimed there was a “hopeful sign” in the Muslim Brotherhood’s likely ascendance in Egypt. Soros ignored the fact that the Muslim Brotherhood is a terrorist organization responsible for murdering scores of Egyptian Christian Copts, and that the Muslim Brotherhood is allied with Hamas and is the father of al Qaeda and other terrorist groups. Soros also patronizingly declared in the same op-ed that “*Israel is unlikely to recognize its own best interests*”; that “*some U.S. supporters of Israel are more rigid and ideological than Israelis themselves*”; and that AIPAC “*is longer monolithic or the sole representative of the Jewish community*.”<sup>13</sup> All of Soros’ statements are mirrored in the J Street playbook.

Moreover, as the next section explains, Soros’s involvement with J Street went way beyond Soros’ generous annual financial contributions and Soros’ and J Street’s shared anti-Israel ideology. Soros’s Open Society Foundations (“OSF”) worked closely with J Street and a web of anti-Israel organizations to damage and attempt to destroy Israel.

### (2) J Street’s Arab, Muslim and Foreign Donors:

In a September 2009 interview, Mr. Ben Ami said that J Street has “about five” Arab and Muslim donors and that “*These are individuals, not organizations, corporations or foreign countries. Well over 90 percent of our money comes from Jewish Americans and Christians.*”<sup>14</sup>

Ben-Ami’s statement was blatantly false. *The Washington Times* revealed that:

“*Nearly half of J Street’s revenue during the [July 2008 to June 2009] timeframe — a total of \$811,697 — . . . came from a single donor in Happy Valley, Hong Kong, named Consolacion Esdicul.*”<sup>15</sup>

Moreover, U.S. Federal Election Commission (“FEC”) filings for J Street PAC disproved Ben-Ami’s statements: The Jerusalem Post’s review of J Street’s FEC filings revealed that:

“*The J Street political action committee has received tens of thousands of dollars in donations from dozens of Arab and Muslim Americans, as well*

12 “Soros Says Jews and Israel Cause Anti-Semitism,” by Uriel Heilman, *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, Nov. 8, 2003, at <http://www.rense.com/general44/soros.htm>

13 “Why Obama has to Get Egypt Right,” by George Soros, *Washington Post* (p. A17), Feb. 3, 2011, at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/02/02/AR2011020205041.html>

14 “Head of Liberal Jewish Lobby Pushes Back Against His Critics,” by Dan Pine, *JWeekly*, Sept. 17, 2009, at <http://www.jweekly.com/article/full/39884/head-of-liberal-jewish-lobby-pushes-back-against-his-critics/>

15 “Soros Revealed as Funder of Liberal Jewish-American Lobby,” by Eli Lake, *Washington Times*, Sept. 24, 2010, at <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/sep/24/soros-funder-liberal-jewish-american-lobby/>

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*as from several individuals connected to organizations doing Palestinian and Iranian issues advocacy. . . . [Moreover] some of the [Muslim and Arab] contributors **play key roles** in the organization [J Street].”<sup>16</sup>*

For instance, as the Jerusalem Post catalogued,<sup>17</sup> J Street's 50 finance committee members, who each donate a minimum of \$10,000 per year, included:

- *Richard Abdoo*, a Lebanese-American businessman, and board member of Amideast<sup>18</sup> and a former board member of James Zogby's anti-Israel Arab American Institute.
- *Genevieve Lynch*, a board member of alleged Iranian regime lobbyist the National Iranian American Council (NIAC), which worked closely with J Street to block sanctions against Iran.

Other prominent J Street donors mentioned by the Jerusalem Post included:

- *Nancy Dutton*, an attorney who once represented the Saudi Embassy in Washington. She is the widow of Fred Dutton, who served as a Saudi foreign agent in Washington for 30 years. During the 1982 debate on the sale of AWAC aircraft to Saudi Arabia, which AIPAC opposed, Mr. Dutton reputedly originated the query, ‘Reagan or Begin?’ to insinuate that AIPAC supporters were disloyal to America.
- Several leaders of Muslim student groups, Saudi- and Iranian-born Americans, and Palestinian- and Arab-American businessmen who also give to Arab-oriented PACs.
- *Nicole Shampaine*, director of the State Department's Office for Egypt and the Levant.
- *Lewis Elbinger*, who used to serve in Saudi Arabia. (The Investigative Project on Terrorism also noted that Elbinger's address in FEC filings is 6300 Riyadh Place, Dulles, Virginia.”<sup>19</sup>)
- *Zahi Khouri*, a businessman behind major Palestinian investment groups and enterprises. He splits his time between the “West Bank” (*Judea/Samaria*) and Orlando, and told the *Jerusalem Post* that he believed J Street could help achieve a home for Palestinians, along the 1967 border with a shared Jerusalem, and symbolic treatment of refugees. Khouri also said that he considered AIPAC to be an enemy of Israel.<sup>20</sup>

A subsequent Jerusalem Post blog, authored by former Israeli diplomat Lenny Ben David, catalogued additional prominent Arabist and Muslim anti-Israel donors to J Street<sup>21</sup>, including:

- *Ray Close*, the former CIA station chief in Saudi Arabia for 22 years and father of Kenneth Close, who is registered at the Justice Department as a foreign agent, working for Saudi Prince

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<sup>16</sup> *Id.*

<sup>17</sup> “*Muslims, Arabs Among J Street Donors*,” by Hilary Leila Krieger, Jerusalem Post, Aug. 14, 2009, at <http://www.jpost.com/International/Muslims-Arabs-among-J-Street-donors>

<sup>18</sup> Amideast's Ramallah office was involved in a slanderous claim that Israel canceled SAT tests for Palestinian Arabs. In fact, the tests were merely briefly delayed because the tests arrived when Israeli customs offices were closed for Jewish holidays. See “SAT Delay Used For Israel Bashing Exercise,” by Simon Plosker, *Honest Reporting*, Oct. 22, 2012, at <http://honestreporting.com/tag/amideast/>

<sup>19</sup> “*J Street Dossier*,” Investigative Project on Terrorism (IPT), p. 46, at <https://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/misc/934.pdf> (citing “FEC FORM 3X,” Oct. 15, 2008).

<sup>20</sup> *Id.*

<sup>21</sup> “*J Street Has No Shame*,” by Lenny Ben-David, The Jerusalem Post, Oct. 27, 2010, at <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=368209>

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Turki al-Faisal, the author of the suicidal-to-Israel “Saudi Peace Plan” a/k/a “Arab Peace Plan” - which requires Israel to make every concession in return for a possible subsequent vague concept of “normalization.”

- Mehmet Celebi, who was fired from serving as a former fundraiser for Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign, after it emerged that he produced the virulently anti-American, anti-Semitic Turkish film titled “Valley of the Wolves,” which depicts a Jewish American doctor harvesting organs from prisoners.
- *M. Cherif Bassiouni*, a DePaul University law professor who wrote in the *Harvard International Law Journal* that

*“A large segment of the world population asks why Israel’s repression of the Palestinian people, which includes the commission of ‘grave breaches’ of the Geneva Convention and what the customary law of armed conflict considers ‘war crimes,’ is deemed justified, while Palestinians’ unlawful acts of targeting civilians are condemned? These are only some contemporary examples of the double standard that fuels terrorism.”<sup>22</sup>*

In still another *Jerusalem Post* article, columnist and author Naomi Regan pointed out that “50 percent of J Street’s budget comes from outside the US, from people who are not always known for their pro-Israel stances, to put it mildly,” and listed additional such J Street donors, including officials of the Arab American Community Coalition; “Stop the Occupation”; and an Islamic Center in Michigan.”<sup>23</sup>

More questionable J Street donors “not known for pro-Israel stances” include Saudis, Syrians, other Arabs, and a contributor to the Arab American Leadership Council PAC – which supports many of the same anti-Israel candidates supported by J Street PAC.<sup>24</sup>

The Investigative Project on Terrorism (IPT)’s “J Street Dossier” listed even more troubling J Street donors, and further information about some above-described donors, including:

- *Judith Barnett*, who is registered with the U.S. Justice Department as **a foreign agent for Saudi Arabia**. Barrett served on **J- Street’s Board of Directors, and contributed money to J Street PAC**. Barnett founded The Barnett Group, L.L.C. in 2003, and signed a contract with the public relations firm, Qorvis Communications, to implement The Women’s Project for Saudi Arabia. After the 9/11 attacks, the Saudi Arabian Embassy signed a \$14.6 million contract with Qorvis “to promote public awareness” of Saudi Arabia’s “commitment in the war against terrorism and to peace in the Middle East.”<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> *Id.*

<sup>23</sup> “My Street, Your Street And J Street,” by Naomi Ragen, *Jerusalem Post*, Nov. 2, 2013, at <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Columnists/My-street-your-street-and-J-Street-330399>

<sup>24</sup> “Dozens of Questionably ‘Pro-Israel’ Contributors,” Oct. 14, 2009, at <http://jaystreetcontributors.blogspot.com>

<sup>25</sup> “J Street Dossier,” IPT, p. 44, at <https://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/misc/934.pdf> (citing The Barnett Group profile, at <http://www.thebarnettgroup.biz/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/2012-JB-History.pdf> ; “FEC FORM 3X: Report of Receipts and Disbursements for Other Than an Authorized Committee,” Mar. 14, 2008; “Barnett Group, LLC Foreign Agents Registration Statement,” for foreign principle the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, signed by Judith Barnett, at <http://www.fara.gov/docs/5622-Exhibit-AB-20040513-HYAAoUo1.pdf> ; and “FBI Searches Saudi Arabia’s PR Firm,” by Sari Horwitz &

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J Street's annual reports show that Ms. Barnett was also a member of J Street's Finance Committee who gave *at least* \$10,000 to J Street in 2013<sup>26</sup>, and provided a monetary contribution and served as a J Street event sponsor in 2012.<sup>27</sup>

- Susan Manilow, who is the Vice Chair of the hostile-to-Israel "Human Rights Watch," is listed as donating at least \$1,800 to J Street's "Political Advocacy Network" in 2010, and *at least* \$10,000 in both 2013 and 2014,<sup>28</sup> and at least \$5,000 in 2016.<sup>29</sup>
- IPT also noted that Turkish-American J Street donor Mehmet Celebi (initially described above) posted anti-Israel tweets such as "*arrogant @ntanyahu govt is breeding an arrogant immoral & nefarious military & generation,*" and wrote an article accusing Israel of "*increasingly aggressive and combative political leadership*" and "*becoming paranoid, intolerant, and undemocratic.*"<sup>30</sup>
- IPT also noted that J Street donor Ray Close (whose other Saudi ties are described above) went to work for Saudi intelligence (and became wealthy doing so) after serving as CIA station chief in Saudi Arabia, and was also an advisor to and wrote a memo to the 2006 Baker-Hamilton Iraq Commission endorsing the (suicidal-to-Israel) Arab Peace Initiative and Hamas's ascension to power.<sup>31</sup>
- And, as described in this report's Section VI ("J Street Takes Iran's Side"), the pro-Iran-deal Ploughshares Fund donated hundreds of thousands of dollars in each of several years to J Street. J Street responded to the disclosures regarding its anti-Israel donors by denying and minimizing

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Dan Eggen, Washington Post, Dec. 9, 2004, at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A49849-2004Dec8.html>).

26 "J Street 2013 Annual Report," p. 6, at [https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/JSt\\_AnnualReport\\_13.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/JSt_AnnualReport_13.pdf)

27 "J Street 2012 Annual Report," p. 19, at [http://jstreet-media-website.s3.amazonaws.com/JSt\\_AnnualReport\\_12.pdf](http://jstreet-media-website.s3.amazonaws.com/JSt_AnnualReport_12.pdf)

28 "J Street Dossier," IPT, p. 46, at <https://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/misc/934.pdf> (citing "*Human Rights Watch's double standards and flawed methodology: Analysis of HRW's 2014 World Report,*" NGO Monitor, Feb. 2, 2014, at [http://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/human\\_rights\\_watch\\_s\\_double\\_standards\\_and\\_flawed\\_methodology\\_analysis\\_of\\_hrw\\_s\\_world\\_report/](http://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/human_rights_watch_s_double_standards_and_flawed_methodology_analysis_of_hrw_s_world_report/) ; "J Street 2010 Annual Report," p. 13, [http://annualreport.s3.amazonaws.com/2010%20JStreet\\_AR\\_FINAL%20Small.pdf](http://annualreport.s3.amazonaws.com/2010%20JStreet_AR_FINAL%20Small.pdf) ; "J Street 2013 Annual Report," p. 8, at [https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/JSt\\_AnnualReport\\_13.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/JSt_AnnualReport_13.pdf) ; and "J Street 2014 Annual Report: Our Future, Our Choice," p. 9, at [https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/2014\\_Financial\\_Statements - Final.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/2014_Financial_Statements - Final.pdf).)

29 "J Street 2016 Annual Report," p. 8, at <http://jstreet.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/2016-Financial-Statements.pdf>

30 "J Street Dossier," IPT, pp. 45-46, at <https://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/misc/934.pdf> (citing <https://twitter.com/mehmetfcelebi/status/543089819749216256> ; and "Turkish Reforms, A Wake-Up Call for Israel," by Mehmet Celebi, TurkOfAmerica, Oct. 5, 2010, at [http://www.turkofamerica.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=622&Itemid=167](http://www.turkofamerica.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=622&Itemid=167) [link may no longer be operative])

31 "J Street Dossier," IPT, pp. 44-45, at <https://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/misc/934.pdf> (citing, inter alia, "Baker Panel Aide Expects Israel Will Be Pressed," by Eli Lake, *New York Sun*, Nov. 29, 2006, at <http://www.nysun.com/foreign/baker-panel-aide-expects-israel-will-be-pressed/44310/> ; "The Iraq Study Group Report," James A. Baker III and Lee H. Hamilton, co-chairs, Vintage Books, 2006, at [http://online.wsj.com/public/resources/documents/WSJ-iraq\\_study\\_group.pdf](http://online.wsj.com/public/resources/documents/WSJ-iraq_study_group.pdf) ; and "Inteligencia y Seguridad," by Ray Close, Offnews.info, Oct. 30, 2006, at <http://www.offnews.info/verArticulo.php?contenidoID=6277> .)

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the facts and attacking those who revealed the truth. Contradicting the information found in its own Federal Elections Commission and IRS filings, J Street claimed that “*J Street receives no funding from any foreign government or agent -- Arab or otherwise*” and asserted that the researchers who examined J Street’s donors were “right-wing bloggers” and “all but racists” engaged “in a fear-and-smear campaign attempt to tarnish J Street because – among its thousands of donors are a small handful who have worked in some capacity with Arab countries or are themselves Arab Americans.”<sup>32</sup>

Former Israeli diplomat Lenny Ben David mused:

*[A]ccording to the FEC and the Pos story, [J Street] PAC donors also include the Saudi Embassy’s lawyer, Arab American leaders, student leaders at Islamic centers around the US, board members of the de facto Iranian lobby in the US and Arabist American foreign service officers. Among the organization’s advisory council are former US diplomats and public officials who later became foreign agents in the pay of the Saudis, Egyptians and Tunisians. . . . Do these well-known detractors of Israel know they are giving to an organization that advertises itself as ‘pro-Israel?’ Or do the Arab-American and pro-Iranian donors give because they perceive that the goals of J Street match their goals: to weaken the State of Israel and undermine the US-Israel relationship? . . . Does J Street set its policies to attract their donations, or do the contributors set J Street policies? . . .*

*A pro-Israel organization’s bona fides should be judged by the company it keeps and the FEC documents suggest that J Street keeps questionable company indeed - a “not employed” man is really a Palestinian billionaire; a “self-employed” contributor is also a board member of the National Iranian American Council and serves on J Street’s finance committee with a minimum donation of \$10,000; a “lawyer” who contributes \$15,000 is a board member of the discredited and anti-Israel Human Rights Watch; a “housing specialist” is an anti-Israel activist in the Methodist Church; a “teacher” is a founder of an Islamic school indoctrinating students to be anti-Israel.*

*J Street’s director must take the Post’s readers for fools when he claims, ‘I think it is a terrific thing for Israel for us to be able to expand the tent of people who are willing to be considered pro-Israel.’*

***Why should a National Iranian American Council board member give at least \$10,000 to J Street PAC? Perhaps it is because of the very close relationship between the two organizations. In June the directors of both organizations coauthored an article in the Huffington Post, ‘How diplomacy with Iran can Work,’ arguing against imposing new tough sanctions on Iran. The two organizations have worked in lockstep over the last year to torpedo congressional action against Iran. Why would a supposedly pro-Israel, pro-peace organization work***

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<sup>32</sup> “J Street Receives No Funding From Any Foreign Government Or Agent,” J Street Archive, Apr. 15, 2013, at <http://archive.is/ZcdtG>

## **II. J STREET'S INTERCONNECTED WEB OF EXTREMIST ANTI-ISRAEL ORGANIZATIONS**

***so hard to block legislation that would undermine the Iranian ayatollah regime?”<sup>33</sup>***

Moreover, unlike J Street PAC, J Street’s other entities (J Street and J Street Educational Fund) are not legally obliged to publicly disclose their donors. Thus, it is quite possible that J Street has other donors whose identities and contribution amounts are still unknown. Ambassador Ben David queried:

*“What of J Street’s non-transparent main organization? Are there contributions from Iranian-related or Arab-American sources as there are to the PAC? Does J Street solicit money in the Human Rights Watch model? Would that explain its opposition to Iranian sanctions? Does that explain its ‘evenhanded’ policy on the issue of Israel’s war against Hamas? Its support for Caryl Churchill’s anti-Semitic play ‘Seven Jewish Children?’ Only opening all of its financial books will give J Street the kosher certification the progressive, pro-Israel, pro-peace community deserves.”<sup>34</sup>*

## **II. J STREET'S INTERCONNECTED WEB OF EXTREMIST ANTI-ISRAEL ORGANIZATIONS:**

### **(1) J Street Is Part of a Soros-Funded Web of Anti-Israel Organizations:**

In August 2016, the “hacktivist” group DC Leaks published online a treasure trove of 2,500 hacked documents from George Soros’s Open Society Foundations (“OSF”), including OSF’s Open Society Institute (“OSI”). Several of these documents revealed that:

- (i) Soros’s OSI **“works closely with . . . J Street”** and other anti-Israel organizations on anti-Israel advocacy; and
- (ii) Since 2001, Soros’s OSF has been quietly sending (and is continuing to send) **millions of dollars to anti-Israel non-governmental organizations (NGOs)**, including 14 grants totaling \$2.7 million to lawfare group Adalah; and multiple grants to Mossawa; the so-called “Woman Against Violence”; B’Tselem – which provided the false information in the Goldstone report and defames Israel throughout the world; and 9 grants to Jeremy Ben-Ami’s former employer the New Israel Fund, which funds other anti-Israel groups.<sup>35</sup>

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33 “J Street’s Dangerous Detour to the White House,” by Lenny Ben David, Jerusalem Post, Aug. 23, 2009, at <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Op-Ed-Contributors/J-Streets-dangerous-detour-to-the-White-House>

34 “J Street’s Dangerous Detour to the White House,” by Lenny Ben David, Jerusalem Post, Aug. 23, 2009, at <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Op-Ed-Contributors/J-Streets-dangerous-detour-to-the-White-House>

35 The DC Leaks “Presidents’ Office” Soros file contained the relevant documents, at <http://soros.dcleaks.com/view?div=president>. (DC Leaks’ Soros’ file has since been removed – possibly due to hacking. ZOA saved copies of the relevant documents, which are available upon request.) Charts of OSF/OSI grantees, with grant purposes and amounts are contained in the document titled “Arab Regional Office (ARO)-Presidential Portfolio Review, Palestinian Citizens of Israel-List of Portfolio Elements” (Aug. 6, 2015); and the document listed in the next footnote.

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A 21-page OSF Palestine/Israel advocacy review document explains that:

**"OSI works closely with progressive US Jewish organizations, including J Street and Americans for Peace Now, who increasingly take advantage of new openings to raise critical issues with policymakers, i.e., need for effective aid to West Bank and Gaza, problematic settlement expansion, and need to respect human rights of Palestinians. OSI grantees in Israel and Palestine, as well as others, increasingly seek to conduct advocacy in Washington to promote their work and viewpoints. Several have already undertaken visits or have considered opening offices in Washington (as B'Tselem did with OSI funding)."**<sup>36</sup>

The same OSF report describes the history of Soros's OSI funding and other assistance to "international advocacy efforts . . . [so that] the US and EU governments could . . . engage more constructively to bring pressure on the Government of Israel." The report also notes that the 2007 Walt & Mearsheimer book (which falsely condemned pro-Israel groups such as AIPAC and ZOA) set the stage "for a challenge to AIPAC with the start of J Street."<sup>37</sup>

The report also notes that "Key direct advocacy targets are: US Congress members, US Administration officials, US media and journalists, and the NGO community and general public." The report also sets forth the following guidelines for keeping OSI's involvement in pro-Palestinian, anti-Israel initiatives quiet:

### *"Risk Assessment/ Mitigation*

*In order to reduce potential risks associated with OSI's affiliation with this initiative, the following guidelines are suggested: . . .*

- Limit new grant making in initial phases of project development and rely mainly on current partners.*
- Limit coordination and strategic communication to supportive/understanding groups in D.C such as J Street, Americans for Peace Now, Institute for Middle East Understanding (IMEU) and B'tselem, as well as current OSI grantees in the region.*
- Maintain a low public profile regarding OSI sponsorship of this initiative."*<sup>38</sup>

The Observer noted regarding the leaked Soros documents:

*"Soros has repeatedly tried to hide his support for the anti-Zionist Jewish progressive[s]. Consequently, J Street for years denied Soros' support, . . . Both Soros' foundation and the New Israel Fund, another Soros beneficiary,*

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<sup>36</sup> "Open Society Foundations – Arab Regional Office, Portfolio Review Document - Palestine/Israel International Advocacy Portfolio" (Mar. 25, 2014), at pp. 18-19, President's file, DC Leaks, previously at <http://soros.dcleaks.com/view?div=president>. (Copy available from ZOA.)

<sup>37</sup> *Id.* at p. 3

<sup>38</sup> *Id.* at p. 21.

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*fund Adalah, a group that trains Israeli-Arabs and Jewish progressives to wage lawfare against the Jewish state and is a strong advocate of BDS.*

*Clearly, organizations like J Street and NIF share Soros' anti-Zionist agenda. Otherwise, they would not receive funds from him. But their sharing of that agenda needs to be hidden from their fellow Jews, who might appropriately conclude that these are not organizations seeking to liberalize the Jewish state as much as they want to destroy it.*

*The revelations from the hack of Soros' foundation only add support to what we already know. Soros' agenda is to destroy Israel as a Jewish state, and those who receive money from him share that agenda. Their attempts to distance themselves from Soros simply show that they cannot afford to have the Jewish community comprehend the actual nature of their intentions.”<sup>39</sup>*

The leaked Soros documents also show that Soros's OSF has been funding the anti-Israel “al Quds University” since 2012.<sup>40</sup> Al Quds students affiliated with terrorist organizations Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad have held repeated anti-Israel demonstrations at the university. At a 2013 demonstration, al Quds students gave Nazi salutes, trampled on Israeli flags, and displayed pictures of dead Israelis.<sup>41</sup> Nice bedfellows.

### **(2) J Street Is Also Part of an Interconnected Web of Extremist Organizations Working to Delegitimize Israel, Founded by and/or Coordinated by J Street President Ben-Ami's Consulting Firm**

In 1998, J Street President Jeremy Ben-Ami founded, and still co-owns Ben-Or Consulting, an Israeli company that coordinates and does strategic communications and consulting for a web of anti-Israel NGOs. Ben Or's clients have included anti-Israel NGOs J Street, Amnesty-Israel, the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), Bimkom, Keshev, Physicians for Human Rights - Israel (PHR-I), and The Parents Circle. Ben-Or clients have also included the New Israel Fund (NIF) and the Ford Foundation, both of which fund anti-Israel NGOs. Ben-Ami was also previously the communications director for the New Israel Fund.<sup>42</sup>

39 “Not Shocking: George Soros Funds Progressive War on Israel: The Billionaire’s Agenda is to Destroy the Jewish State,” by Abraham H. Miller, The Observer, Aug. 17, 2016, at <http://observer.com/2016/08/not-shocking-george-soros-funds-progressive-war-on-israel/>. See also “George Soros’ Israel-Hatred Spills Out into the Open,” by Armstrong Williams, Algemeiner, Sept. 28, 2016, at <https://www.algemeiner.com/2016/09/28/george-soros-israel-hatred-spills-out-into-the-open/>

40 DC Leaks Soros file, previously at <http://soros.dileaks.com/view?div=president>, “President’s office” sub-file document previously listed at: /2015pr/higher education support program network institutions june 12 2015/hesp network institutions prd apndx 1 portfolio elements.docx

41 “Hamas Supporters Rally At Al-Quds University,” by Hannah Dreyfus, Tablet, Mar. 25, 2014, at <http://www.tabletmag.com/scroll/167306/hamas-supporters-rally-at-al-quds-university>

42 “J Street, Ben Ami, and Ben-Or Consulting: The NGO Connection,” by Gerald M. Steinberg, Gatestone Institute, Oct. 28, 2009, at <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/881/j-street-ben-ami-and-ben-or-consulting-the-ngo-connection>

### III. J STREET EVEN OPPOSES ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE...ENCOURAGED ANTI-ISRAEL VIOLENCE

Disturbingly, J Street paid large amounts (including \$56K in one 6-month period) to Ben Or Consulting – a possible violation of self-dealing rules.<sup>43</sup>

Ben-Ami also founded Yesh Din, an NGO that invents and spreads false accusations against Israel and the IDF. Yesh Din and Ben Or Consulting share Tel Aviv offices and certain key employees. Former Ben-Or Consulting employee Ran Goldstein was Yesh Din's spokesperson (and is now executive director of Ben Or client PHR-I). Former Ben Or Consulting employee Loir Yavne, who also formerly worked for anti-Israel NGO B'Tselem, is Yesh Din's director of research.<sup>44</sup>

This incestuous web has effectively multiplied the impact of its individual anti-Israel groups. For instance, on January 14, 2009, during the Gaza War, Ben Or Consulting coordinated a joint press conference criticizing Israel, featuring nine Israeli NGOs, entitled “*A Clear and Present Danger*,” which received international media attention. Also, J Street conferences often feature speakers from fellow anti-Israel NGOs whom Ben-Or consults for.<sup>45</sup>

Another interesting group that a J Street U member described as a “*frequent J Street partner*” is the pro-Palestinian Arab NGO “One Voice.” “One Voice” built infrastructure with U.S. taxpayer funds (a U.S. State Department grant) to try to defeat Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu in the 2015 Israeli elections. One Voice Palestine also organizes anti-Israel protests.<sup>46</sup>

### III. J STREET EVEN OPPOSES ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE, PERSISTENTLY DEFAMES AND CONDEMNS ISRAEL, AND HAS EVEN ENCOURAGED ANTI-ISRAEL VIOLENCE

#### (1) J Street Persistently Maligns and Blames Israel:

Alan Dershowitz, Professor Emeritus at Harvard Law School and a prominent liberal Democrat, explained that J Street persistently maligns Israel, saying:

*I went back and I read every single J Street press release from the first day of its existence. I could not find a single one of them that praised Israel. How can you be a pro-Israel organization and never express any pro-Israel views? It is absolutely shocking to me. Every press release seems to have a negative about Israel.*<sup>47</sup>

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43 “Jewish Group Pays PR Firm Co-Owned By Its President: J Street ‘Self-Dealing’ Seen As ‘Very Messy’,” by Ben Birnbaum, The Washington Times, Dec. 30, 2010, at <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/dec/30/jewish-group-pays-pr-firm-co-owned-by-president/>

44 “J Street, Ben Ami, and Ben-Or Consulting: The NGO Connection,” by Gerald M. Steinberg, Gatestone Institute, Oct. 28, 2009, at <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/881/j-street-ben-ami-and-ben-or-consulting-the-ngo-connection>

45 “J Street, Ben Ami, and Ben-Or Consulting: The NGO Connection,” *supra*.

46 See NGO Monitor fact sheet on “One Voice” at [http://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/onevoice\\_international/](http://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/onevoice_international/); and “J Street Conference 2013: Meet the Young People Who Want to Bring Peace to Palestine and Israel,” at <https://mic.com/articles/66363/j-street-conference-2013-meet-the-young-people-who-want-to-bring-peace-to-palestine-and-israel#.oMWZvAKpr>; and “Senate report: State Dept. Grant Also Aided Campaign to Unseat Netanyahu,” by Burgess Everett, Politico, July 12, 2016, at <http://www.politico.com/story/2016/07/state-department-grant-netanyahu-225414>

47 Prof. Dershowitz’s Introductory Remarks to the Premiere Screening of the Documentary, The J Street Challenge, Miami, Feb. 17, 2014, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QZujhobH53Q> Unless otherwise specified, emphasis is supplied throughout this report.

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The Zionist Organization of America's extensive examination of J Street's press releases, videos and statements has likewise found that J Street invariably expresses negative views towards Israel.

Self-described Israeli leftist Hen Mazzig similarly summed it up when he implored J Street: “*every once in a while, since you profess to be ‘pro-Israel,’ perhaps you can say something nice about my country.*”<sup>48</sup>

Examples abound throughout this report of J Street's and its speakers' false attacks on Israel.

Those attacks are often as absurd as they are outrageous. For instance, at J Street's February 2017 annual national conference, keynote speaker Ayman Odeh – who is an Arab member of the Israel Knesset (parliament) from the Joint Arab List, who has a history of endorsing anti-Israel terror, discussed below – began his talk by falsely blaming Israelis for a Palestinian Arab terrorist's deadly car-ramming attack. The Palestinian Arab terrorist drove his car into and murdered Israeli police officer Erez Levy. Yet, at J Street's conference, Odeh portrayed the Palestinian Arab murderer as the victim.<sup>49</sup>

J Street's conference speakers are a veritable “rogue's gallery” of Israel-bashers and blamers. Numerous such speakers are described later in this Report. In addition, the Emergency Committee for Israel set forth this chilling list describing the Israel-hating speakers at J Street's 2011 National Conference (which was entitled “*Giving Voice to Our Values*”)<sup>50</sup> :

- “• *Maen Areikat of the PLO, who denies there was a Jewish Temple in Jerusalem and accuses Israel of “state terrorism.”*
- *Mustafa Barghouti, a Palestinian leader who said that Israel has “a full-fledged Apartheid system” that is ‘much worse than what prevailed in South Africa,’ and that Israel has been ‘ethnically cleansing’ Palestinians since 1948.*
- *Nadia Bilbassy-Charters, a correspondent for MBC TV, who says that Hamas should not be ‘lumped in’ with other terrorist groups because ‘once Palestine is liberated then [Hamas] will cease to use violence.’*
- *Edina Lekovic, of the Muslim Public Affairs Council, who was a managing editor of a magazine that praised Osama bin Laden as a ‘freedom fighter.’*
- *Imam Feisal Rauf, the Ground Zero Mosque leader, who refuses to call Hamas and Hezbollah terrorist groups.*

48 “*An Israeli Leftist to J Street: Stop!*,” by Hen Mazzig, Times of Israel, Sept. 20, 2015, at <http://blogs.timesofisrael.com/an-israeli-leftist-to-j-street-stop/>

49 See “*Israeli Officer, Suspected Attacker Killed in Illegal Beduin Village Violence,*” by Eliyahu Kamisher & Ben Lynfield, Jerusalem Post, Jan. 18, 2017, at <http://www.jpost.com/Israel-News/Attempted-terror-attack-in-Negev-as-security-forces-arrive-to-demolish-village-478797>; and “*MK Ayman Odeh Addresses J Street's 2017 National Conference,*” at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pBGK4dG2N8&feature=youtu.be>

50 Letter from Noah Pollak to Dennis Ross, reprinted in “*Emergency Committee for Israel Writes Dennis Ross Before Upcoming J Street Address,*” by Daniel Halper, Weekly Standard, Feb. 24, 2011. Pollak's letter also lists numerous virulent anti-Israel speakers scheduled to speak at J Street's “Giving Voice to Our Values” national conference.

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- James Zogby, president of the Arab-American Institute, who has compared Israelis to Nazis and accused the IDF of ‘genocide’ and a ‘Holocaust.’ Only three months ago he wrote that ‘In a real sense, the plight of the Palestinians is to the Arabs, what the Holocaust is to Jews worldwide.’
- Lawrence Wilkerson, a former State Department official, who has repeatedly accused Jewish members of the Bush administration of ‘working for Israel’ and being ‘card-carrying members of the Likud Party,’ and asked whether ‘their primary allegiance was to their own country or to Israel.’
- Jessica Montell, executive director of B’Tselem, who says that ‘the situation in the West Bank is worse than apartheid in South Africa’ and that Israel’s policy toward Gaza is a ‘siege.’
- Naomi Chazan, a leader of the New Israel Fund and a conference honoree. Her organization funds NGOs that accuse Israel of war crimes and Apartheid, provided the bulk of the accusations contained in the Goldstone Report, support the BDS (boycott, divestment, and sanctions) movement, and seek the end of Israel as a Jewish state.
- Rebecca Vilkomerson, who runs the BDS group Jewish Voice for Peace. She has said, ‘Just as in Apartheid South Africa’s day, Israel’s society seems to be turning more bluntly racist and repressive.’ She says her organization ‘speaks out for Goldstone, and we speak out for BDS campaigners.’
- Debra Delee, president and CEO of the NGO Americans for Peace Now, who commented on the Turkish flotilla attack on IDF soldiers, ‘The root of this disaster lies not in the actions of the flotilla’s participants.’
- Oded Na’aman, a founder of Breaking the Silence, which accuses IDF soldiers of war crimes. He says the IDF ‘is guilty of a wide range of abuses’ including ‘allowing Jewish settlers to poison Palestinian wells’ and evacuating entire blocks of Palestinian towns and then demolishing them. Palestinian terrorism, he says, is merely a ‘perceived threat.’
- Daniel Seidemann, founder of the NGO ‘Terrestrial Jerusalem,’ who claims that the Old City of Jerusalem is being turned into an ‘Evangelical settler theme park’ and compared Israel’s security fence to the Berlin wall.”

J Street’s practice of piling unilateral blame on Israel is so entrenched that a J Street Chicago representative attacked prominent Palestinian Arab real human rights activist Bassem Eid for daring to speak about Hamas’s and the Palestinian Authority’s human rights abuses against their own people. Two groups attacked Mr. Eid at his University of Chicago speech: the anti-Israel hate group Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) (which threatened Mr. Eid) and J Street. J Street’s representative demanded to know why Mr. Eid was speaking about “*disappointment in your own leadership*” instead of “*the issues [blaming Israel] that the Americans need to base decision [sic] [on]*.” After relating this incident, Jerusalem Post senior editor Carolyn Glick commented:

**“For J Street, Eid committed a crime by teaching the American public – and first and foremost, the American Jewish community – that the absence of peace isn’t entirely Israel’s fault. As [J Street representative] Emma – and her Jewish comrade – see things this is completely unacceptable. There is a [J Street] narrative. That narrative**

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*places all the blame for the absence of peace and Palestinian suffering on ‘the occupation and settlements.’ Any deviation from this narrative is a crime against peace.”<sup>51</sup>*

#### **(2) J Street Speakers Have Called for the End of the Jewish State; and a J Street Official Letter to Congress Supported Those Calling for an End to Israel’s Existence:**

At J Street’s 2015 conference, speaker Marcia Freeman called for an end to the Jewish state, and said that Jews should “lose control” and should live as a “protected minority” under “democratic” Arab rule in Israel.<sup>52</sup> In other words, Israel should become a state ruled by groups seeking to exterminate the Jewish people.

Moreover, despite the fact that U.S. college campuses are plagued with radical anti-Israel groups such as Students for Justice in Palestine, which hold violent demonstrations calling for Israel’s destruction and for murdering Jews<sup>53</sup>, J Street recently *opposed* Congressional efforts to condemn those on campus who demand Israel’s destruction.

On November 7, 2017, J Street U’s national student board president, Zoe Goldblum, submitted a letter to the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, “*on behalf of the leadership of J Street U*” (J Street’s student arm), objecting to Congress’ proposed “Anti-Semitism Awareness Act” (an act to combat campus antisemitism). J Street U’s letter argued that it is “*unfair and unhelpful*” to describe all those who seek to end Israel’s existence as antisemitic, because this “*ignores the nuances and sensitivities of a complicated political debate*.”<sup>54</sup>

In response, international human rights lawyer Arsen Ostrovsky told *The Algemeiner*,

*“It is astonishing that J Street, an organization that claims to be pro-Israel and pro-peace, could imply that it is ‘unhelpful’ to label those who oppose Israel’s existence as ‘antisemitic’ or that this is a ‘complicated political debate’ with some ‘nuance.’ There is no complication or nuance here whatsoever. . . . [T]here is universal consensus amongst all those who truly care about Israel and fighting bigotry and hatred that, at its most basic, calling for the destruction of the State of Israel is a blatant and unequivocal form of antisemitism. . . . For J Street to imply otherwise, only serves to embolden antisemites and those who oppose Israel’s existence.”<sup>55</sup>*

#### **(3) J Street’s Co-Founder Called Israel’s Creation “Wrong” – a Repeated J Street Theme:**

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51 “The Lie of Pro-Palestinian Activism,” by Carolyn Glick, Truth Revolt, Feb. 22, 2016, at <http://www.truthrevolt.org/commentary/glick-lie-pro-palestinian-activism>

52 “J-Street Speaker Calls for Destruction of Israel—to Applause,” Algemeiner, Mar. 27, 2015, at <http://www.algemeiner.com/2015/03/27/j-street-speaker-calls-for-destruction-of-israel-to-applause-video/>.

53 See, e.g., “ZOA Letter to CUNY Leaders about Anti-Semitic, Violence-Inducing Rallies There,” Feb. 22, 2016, at <http://zoa.org/2016/02/10315402-letter-to-cuny-chancellor-and-board-of-trustees-jew-haters-spread-fear-at-cuny-colleges/>

54 “J Street U: Calling for Israel’s Destruction Isn’t Always Antisemitic,” by Shiri Moshe, Algemeiner, Nov. 14, 2017, at <https://www.algemeiner.com/2017/11/14/j-street-u-calling-for-israels-destruction-isnt-always-antisemitic/> (contains link to J Street’s letter).

55 *Id.*

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At J Street's 2010 conference, J Street co-founder and board member Daniel Levy outrageously called Israel's rebirth in 1948 an "act that was wrong" and unjust. Levy stated:

*"I believe the way Jewish history was in 1948 excused – for me, it was good enough for me – **an act that was wrong**. I don't expect Palestinians to think that. I have no reason – **there's no reason a Palestinian should think there was justice in the creation of Israel.**"<sup>56</sup>*

J Street conferences repeat the same destructive theme, that Israel's creation was wrong. For instance, MK Ayman Odeh stated during his keynote speech at J Street's 2017 annual conference that Jews "*must recognize the terrible prejudice of the Nakba.*"<sup>57</sup> ("Nakba" is the Arabic term for saying that Israel's reestablishment in 1948 was a "catastrophe.")

J Street apparently saw no problem with Odeh's statements, or with giving a key platform to Odeh – despite the fact that Odeh has endorsed Palestinian Arab terrorism against innocent civilians.<sup>58</sup> J Street wrote after Odeh's speech: "*J Street is proud to have hosted MK Ayman Odeh as a featured speaker at our conference. We are also pleased to have had a strong working relationship with the Joint [Arab] List. . . [W]e hold MK Odeh in high regard.*"<sup>59</sup>

Similarly, at J Street's 2013 annual convention in Washington D.C., J Street's audience gave a standing ovation to Fatah/PLO official Husam Zomlot<sup>60</sup>, when Zumlot called for recognizing that the state of Israel's establishment in 1948 was a catastrophe ("Nakba") and called for a so-called Palestinian Arab "right of return" to overrun and destroy Israel. Zumlot declared:

*"As for the refugee issue, how do you want me to sign a deal with my own hands that would compromise the rights of two thirds of the nation? How am I doing to build cohesion and eternal peace on such a compromise? Why do I have to compromise? . . . What do the refugees want? . . . Some of them might want to come back to the State of Palestine. And some of them might want to return to their original homes. But all of them want one thing: full recognition of the Nakba that has befallen our people. . . ."<sup>61</sup>*

J Street fails to explain to its vulnerable audiences the "Palestinian refugees" were created because the Arab nations rejected peace with Israel, and demanded that Arabs living in Israel should

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56 "J Street's Daniel Levy Says Israel's Creation An 'Act That Was Wrong,'" – video, Oct. 12, 2010, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UomQvNHCo5Q>

57 "MK Ayman Odeh Addresses J Street's 2017 National Conference," at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pBGK4dG2N8&feature=youtu.be>

58 See next subsection of this report. Also see "J Street Cheers Ayman Odeh, A Backer of Terror," by Stephen M. Flatow, The Jewish Star, Mar. 15, 2017, at <http://www.thejewishstar.com/stories/j-street-cheers-ayman-odeh-a-backer-of-terror,13252> (Author Flatow's daughter was murdered in a Palestinian-Arab terrorist attack.)

59 "Setting The Record Straight On Mk Odeh's Appearance At The J Street Conference," by Jeremy Ben-Ami, J Street website, Mar. 6, 2017, at [http://jstreet.org/setting-record-straight-mk-odehs-appearance-j-street-conference/#.WUwt8lKZO\\_s](http://jstreet.org/setting-record-straight-mk-odehs-appearance-j-street-conference/#.WUwt8lKZO_s)

60 Zumlot is now head of the PLO/PA delegation to Washington DC.

61 "J Street Attendees Show Support For Right Of Return: Also Applaud Fatah Representative's Call For Full Recognition Of The Nakba" – with audiotape of Zumlot, by Liam Hoare, Tablet, Sept. 30, 2013, at <http://www.tabletmag.com/scroll/147016/j-street-attendees-show-support-for-right-of-return>

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leave, to get out of the way so that six Arab nations' invading armies would have a clear path to slaughter Israel's Jewish population. J Street omits that Israel asked Arabs living in Israel to stay, and many did, becoming full Israeli citizens and doctors, lawyers, Knesset members and Israeli Supreme Court judges.<sup>62</sup> J Street also never mentions that most "Palestinian refugees" were fairly recent arrivals in Israel: the UN definition of a "Palestinian refugee" only required that a person had lived or worked in Israel for 2 years. And J Street fails to mention that at the time of Israel's rebirth, Arab nations expelled close to one million Jews who had been living Arab nations for thousands of years. J Street also neglects to mention that "refugee" status for every group other than Palestinian Arabs does *not* pass down to future generations.

Instead, J Street teaches that Israel's rebirth was "wrong."

#### (4) J Street Has Even Justified and Promoted Violence Against Israelis:

At the same 2010 J Street conference during which J Street co-founder and board member Daniel Levy characterized Israel's rebirth as "an act that was wrong," Levy also justified Palestinian Arab terrorism against innocent Israelis. Levy declared:

*"It is a human reaction when a foot is being held to your throat to respond violently."*<sup>63</sup>

J Street conferences have also promoted anti-Jewish violence in the name of "civil disobedience." At a Palestinian perspectives panel at J Street's 2012 national conference, moderator Nadia Bilbassy-Charters called intifadas – in which Palestinian Arabs murdered and maimed thousands of Jews – "civil disobedience," and agitated for a Palestinian revolution and massive Palestinian marches into Jewish communities, security checkpoints and security fences, saying:

*"In the beginning when the first revolt or revolution or uprising started in Tunisia, many people thought that the Palestinians, not the Egyptians, will be the second. It was obvious from the First Intifada, that they live for a campaign of civil disobedience, and it will only be a matter of fact [sic] when we will see thousands of Palestinians marching into settlements and into checkpoints and the nearest part of the wall. But we haven't seen much of that, except for few flashpoints here and there. And we would like to know, where is the civil disobedience campaign in the Palestinian Authority and in Gaza as well?"*<sup>64</sup>

At J Street's 2017 conference, keynote speaker MK Ayman Odeh also called for building "real opposition and resistance." "Resistance" has long been a Palestinian Arab euphemism for anti-Jewish violence.

MK Odeh moreover has a well-known history of supporting anti-Israel violence. During a 2015 radio interview, when asked whether he had any problems with Palestinian-Arab terrorists' murder of an American Jewish couple in front of their 4 children, Odeh stated that Palestinian

62 "Palestinian Refugees: History & Overview," by Mitchell Bard, Jewish Virtual Library, at <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/history-and-overview-of-the-palestinian-refugees>

63 "J Street's Daniel Levy Says Israel's Creation An 'Act That Was Wrong,'" – video, Oct. 12, 2010, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UomQvNHCo5Q>

64 "J Street 2012 National Conference Making History: Palestinian Perspectives Panel" – video, Mar. 26, 2012, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kw5UfKLEAYc>

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Arabs have “*a right to struggle*” against Israel.<sup>65</sup> Odeh also stated that he supported the First Intifada, claiming it was “fully justified.” (In the First Intifada, Palestinian Arabs perpetrated thousands of Molotov cocktail, shooting and grenade attacks, maiming and murdering over 3,100 innocent Israelis.<sup>66</sup> ) When he was asked if throwing rocks is part of an armed struggle or legitimate protest, Odeh replied, “*I always blame the occupation [Israel] for being guilty. I cannot tell the nation how to struggle, where and which target to throw the rock. I do not put red lines on the Arab Palestinian nation.*”<sup>67</sup> Odeh thus espoused that “anything goes” – all Palestinian Arab violence is acceptable against innocent Israelis.

Sadly, as noted above, even after Odeh’s calls for anti-Israel violence, J Street still proclaimed that it was “*proud to have hosted MK Ayman Odeh as a featured speaker at [J Street’s 2017 conference.]*”<sup>68</sup>

#### **(5) J Street Repeatedly Delegitimizes Israel by Falsely Accusing Israel of Being an “Oppressor” and Illegal “Occupier” of Arab Land:**

J Street repeatedly delegitimizes Israel by falsely portraying Israel as an oppressor and illegal occupier of Arab land, and by calling for an “*end to the occupation.*”<sup>69</sup> J Street speakers use the term “occupation” to mean several different false and demonizing notions, and it’s frequently ambiguous as which meaning of “occupation” they are referring to.

One meaning is the maximalist claim that Israel’s entire existence is an “illegal occupation.”

Another more limited meaning is the false notion, palatable to some well-meaning liberals, that it is illegal for Jews to live on lands that Israel recaptured from Jordan in 1967, during a defensive war, after Jordan attacking Israel despite Israel’s pleas to Jordan to remain out of the 1967 war. The lands that Israel recaptured from Jordan in 1967 were with the area legally designated under international law for “close Jewish settlement” and reconstitution of the Jewish homeland and included Judea/Samaria and the eastern portion of Jerusalem, including the Jewish Quarter and Judaism’s holiest sites. Jordan seized and illegally occupied these areas when Jordan and five other Arab nations invaded Israel in 1948. Israel’s withdrawal from these all these areas would leave Israel with indefensible borders, and the eventual elimination of the Jewish state.

Still another meaning is the absurd notion that Israel is somehow an “occupier” of lands such as Gaza and the Palestinian Authority territories in Judea and Samaria, which Israel has withdrawn from.

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65 “*J Street Cheers Ayman Odeh, A Backer of Terror,*” by Stephen M. Flatow, The Jewish Star, Mar. 15, 2017, at [http://www.thejewishstar.com/stories/j-street-cheers-ayman-odeh-a-backer-of-terror\\_13252](http://www.thejewishstar.com/stories/j-street-cheers-ayman-odeh-a-backer-of-terror_13252)

66 “*First Intifada,*” Jewish Virtual Library, at <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/first-intifada>

67 Id. See also “*Odeh: I Do Not Put Limits On The Palestinian Struggle Against ‘Occupation,’*” by Ariel Ben Solomon & Lahav Harkov, Jerusalem Post, Oct. 6, 2015, at <http://www.jpost.com/Israel-News/Politics-And-Diplomacy/Odeh-voices-support-for-unarmed-Palestinian-struggle-421084>

68 “*Setting The Record Straight On Mk Odeh’s Appearance At The J Street Conference,*” by Jeremy Ben-Ami, J Street website, Mar. 6, 2017, at [http://jstreet.org/setting-record-straight-mk-odehs-appearance-j-street-conference/#.WUwt8IKZO\\_s](http://jstreet.org/setting-record-straight-mk-odehs-appearance-j-street-conference/#.WUwt8IKZO_s)

69 See, e.g., “*We All Have A Responsibility To Help End The Occupation,*” by Hannah Bender, J Street website, June 9, 2017, at <http://jstreet.org/responsibility-help-end-occupation/#.WVVMzFKZOMI>; “*Israel’s Occupation Violates Traditional Jewish Values of Justice and Equality, Says Tony Klug at J Street Conference,*” by Allan C. Brownfeld, American Council for Judaism, April 2017, [http://www.acjna.org/acjna/articles\\_detail.aspx?id=2674](http://www.acjna.org/acjna/articles_detail.aspx?id=2674). Numerous additional examples are given throughout this report.

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The ambiguity as to what is meant when J Street speakers accuse Israel of being an illegal “occupier” and when J Street asks its members to engage in “*anti-occupation work*” misleads liberals who genuinely care about Israel into taking actions that assist the maximalist anti-Israel goals of destroying the Jewish state. Demands to “end the occupation” also ultimately demonizes Israel’s entire existence.

Interestingly, the seminal report unmasking BDS’s real goals and methods<sup>70</sup> explains that the BDS movement’s call to “end the occupation” uses the same ambiguity to deceive liberals into supporting BDS’s maximalist goals of destroying Israel. (See discussion of BDS, and how J Street deceives its members about BDS’s maximalist goals, in Section V(6) of this report.)

*[C]onfusion over the true scope of the BDS call [to “end the occupation”] was not accidental. It allows liberal critics of Israel to express their support for the BDS movement by citing the more limited phrasing, while the original signatories of the 2005 BDS call can maintain their loyalty to the more expansive version referring to the dismantling of all of Israel. To add to the existing confusion, both versions of the text exist side-by-side on the BDS movement website. The BDS activists’ deliberate ambiguity attracted otherwise-unintended support for BDS from some liberal critics of Israel who are likely unaware of its maximalist goals. Nevertheless, however the first demand of the BDS call is interpreted, the BDS call’s three demands taken together require the dismantling of Israel to be fully satisfied.” diker*

After J Street U officials called Israel an “occupier” at a 2017 UN anti-BDS conference, pro-Israel South Carolina legislator Alan Clemons explained in The Wall Street Journal:

*“Using the term “occupier” is a polite way of demonizing Israel as a thief. It suggests that Jewish invaders colonized territory rightfully belonging to the Arabs. Talk about a double standard. To suggest that Jews are occupiers in a region known for more than 3,000 years as Judea is as ridiculous as suggesting that Arabs currently living in Arabia are occupiers.*

**‘Occupier’ is a legal term that does not apply to Israel. *Israel’s legal title and rights to its present territory were established in the San Remo resolution*, an agreement adopted by victorious Allied Powers after World War I, confirmed by the League of Nations, and incorporated into the U.N. charter. *None of the Jewish people’s rights to live, emigrate to and settle the land of Israel have ever been revoked, nullified or superseded by a subsequent act of international law.***

...

**J Street** doesn’t have to shed its support for a two-state solution or abandon the work it does to ensure the well-being of Palestinian Arabs.

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<sup>70</sup> See “*Unmasking BDS: Radical Roots, Extremist Ends*,” by Dan Diker, Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, at <http://jcpa.org/unmasking-bds/>

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***But it must reject the lie that Israel is an occupier. Until then, J Street can't claim to have good intentions toward Israel.***<sup>71</sup>

J Street fails to explain to its vulnerable audiences the fact that, as Legislator Clemons wrote, the Jewish people have the legal and historical right to the lands that J Street refers to as “occupied.” Israel was Jewish “from time immemorial,” there never was a Palestinian state. All of Israel – including Judea/Samaria is area designated for Jewish settlement and the Jewish homeland under binding international law.<sup>72</sup>

J Street also fails to explain that since at least 1997, 99% of Palestinian Arabs in Judea/Samaria and Gaza have been living under Palestinian Arab control – *not* under “Israeli occupation.” The Palestinian Arabs have their own (albeit corrupt, anti-peace, anti-Semitic, anti-Israel) legislature, courts, police, schools, governing authority and institutions.<sup>73</sup>

J Street also fails to explain that despite Israel’s international legal right to Judea/Samaria, there have been *no* new settlements and **no** “unlimited settlement expansion” since the 1993 Oslo Accords.

Instead, J Street perpetuates the anti-Israel “occupation myth” to demonize Israel at every opportunity.

For instance, J Street sought to insert anti-Israel “occupation” language into the 2016 Democratic platform (See this report’s Section XVIII), and J Street U focused 2015-2016 on “*year-long anti-occupation work.*” (See this report’s Section XII.(5).)

The same theme recurs throughout J Street conferences. For instance, at J Street’s 2015 conference, speaker Marcia Freeman falsely declared that “*we [Jews] took the land*” from the ‘Palestinians’ and “displaced” them. (As noted above, Freeman then called for Arab rule over Israel, and an end to the Jewish state.).<sup>74</sup>

At J Street’s 2015 national conference, Obama Chief of Staff, Denis McDonough, declared (to thunderous applause and standing ovations): “*An occupation that has lasted almost 50 years must end!*”<sup>75</sup>

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71 “*Wall Street Journal: There is No Occupation,*” by Alan Clemons, Apr. 4, 2017, reprinted at <http://zoa.org/2017/04/10358503-wall-street-journal-there-is-no-occupation/>

72 See, e.g., “*Leading Int'l Legal Scholar Kontorovich Emphasizes at ZOA New York Event: US Embassy Should Move to Jerusalem: Israel Has Sovereign Right to Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria,*” Jan. 23, 2017, at <http://zoa.org/2017/01/10350197-leading-intl-legal-scholar-kontorovich-emphasizes-at-zoa-event-us-embassy-should-move-to-jerusalem/>; “*France Court of Appeals Verdict: Jewish Construction in Judea/Samaria Is Perfectly Legal,*” May 6, 2013, at <http://zoa.org/2013/05/10199891-france-court-of-appeals-verdict-jewish-construction-in-judeasamaria-is-perfectly-legal/>

73 “*It is Not the ‘Occupation,’*” by Efraim Karsh, Jerusalem Post, June 21, 2016, at <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/It-is-not-the-occupation-457398>. See also, “*Occupation’ Myth Exposed Again,*” by Stephen M. Flatow, Jewish Press, Dec. 16, 2016, at <http://www.jewishpress.com/indepth/opinions/occupation-myth-exposed-again/2016/12/16/>

74 “*J-Street Speaker Calls for Destruction of Israel—to Applause,*” Algemeiner, Mar. 27, 2015, at <http://www.algemeiner.com/2015/03/27/j-street-speaker-calls-for-destruction-of-israel-to-applause-video/>.

75 See “[Obama] White House Chief of Staff Denis McDonough’s Speech at J Street” – video, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIJQuugoce8>; “*White House Chief of Staff Denis McDonough Remarks As Prepared at J Street Annual Conference,*” White House archive, Mar. 23, 2015, at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2015/03/23/white-house-chief-staff-denis-mcdonough-remarks-prepared->

#### IV. J STREET LOBBIES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL US SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

J Street also frequently hurls the related false charge at Israel, of calling her an “oppressor.” The J Street 2011 Conference “*Giving Voices to our Values*” video, which was posted on J Street’s website, opens with a young J Street activist asserting this “J Street value”:

*“There is an oppressor and there are the oppressed. Israel is the oppressor and the Palestinians are the oppressed.”*

The same J Street video also likens the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) to designated terrorist organization Hamas (whose charter calls for the murder of every Jew).<sup>76</sup>

Similarly, the following year, at J Street’s 2012 annual conference, featured speaker and anti-Israel BDS leader Mustafa Barghouti described Israel as “*the last oppressive colonial system in the world*”; and falsely asserted that “*they [Israelis] are oppressing us.*”<sup>77</sup>

Further, during her keynote address at J Street’s March 2015 annual conference, then-incoming J Street U President Amna Farooqi accused Israel of “*oppression*” and “*racism [that is] pervasive and draining.*”<sup>78</sup>

Likewise, at J Street’s February 2017 annual national conference, keynote speaker MK Ayman Odeh falsely accused Israel of being a “*nation that oppresses another nation,*” and perpetrating “*discrimination and subjugation,*” and “*a type of power, fueled by hate that is growing in Israel and America*” – along with Odeh’s other charges and euphemistic call for anti-Jewish violence, described above.<sup>79</sup>

#### IV. J STREET LOBBIES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

##### (1) J Street Urged and Offered to Help Obama Pass a UN Resolution Unilaterally Creating a Palestinian State:

At a White House meeting in April 2015, J Street urged President Obama to remove longstanding veto protection for Israel at the United Nations, and to support a Palestinian Arab state resolution at the UN and disregard Israeli objections. Such a UN resolution would have violated the Oslo accords, and enabled the PA to obtain a state while avoiding making peace with Israel, and empowered the PA/PLO to continue its efforts to destroy Israel. J Street assured Obama that if Obama decided to support the creation of a Palestinian Arab state at the UN over Israeli objections, J Street would pave the way, stating: “*Let us know first, and we’ll do the legwork for*

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j-street-annual; and “*ZOA Criticizes Obama COS McDonough For Pro-Palestinian Speech to J Street,*” Mar. 26, 2015, at <http://zoa.org/2015/03/10279468-zoa-criticizes-obama-cos-mcdonough-for-demanding-end-of-occupation-not-pahamas-alliance-promotinghonoring-jew-killing/>

76 J Street’s 2011 Conference “*Giving Voices to our Values*” video, reproduced at “*J Street and the Jewish War Against Israel,*” by Caroline Glick, at [http://carolineglick.com/j\\_street\\_and\\_the\\_jewish\\_war\\_ag/](http://carolineglick.com/j_street_and_the_jewish_war_ag/)

77 “*J Street 2012 National Conference Making History: Palestinian Perspectives Panel*” – video, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kw5UfKLEAYc>. More on Barghouti’s speech is discussed in this report’s BDS section (Section V.(3).)

78 “*J Street U Student Board Member Amna Farooqi’s Incredible J Street Talk,*” Mar. 25, 2015, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuTHJy6hNMw>

79 “*MK Ayman Odeh Addresses J Street’s 2017 National Conference,*” at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pBGK4dG2N8&feature=youtu.be>

#### IV. J STREET LOBBIES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL US SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

*you, in the community . . . so you're not going to come in cold.”<sup>80</sup>*

And, to further pave the way for Obama to push such an anti-Israel UN resolution, at J Street’s 2015 national conference, anti-Israel BDS promoter Peter Beinart urged the entire J Street audience to support an Obama effort to pass a unilateral UN Security Council Palestinian Arab state resolution. Beinart exhorted the J Street audience that Obama needs J Street’s support for this (anti-Israel) move because “*this will be fought brutally by the American Jewish leadership and the Republican party, and I don’t think Barack Obama is likely to get a lot of support from Hillary Clinton.*” Beinart advised the J Street audience that Obama would be more willing to take on this fight if he knows that J Street is behind him.<sup>81</sup>

##### **(2) J Street Urged Obama to Pursue or Not Oppose an Anti-Israel UN Security Council Resolution, in October 2016, Leading to the Passage (on Dec. 23, 2016) of Anti-Israel UN Security Council Resolution 2334, Engineered by the Obama Administration:**

In an October 6, 2016 Press Release, J Street condemned Israeli “settlement expansion” (which had not in fact occurred) and demanded “strong action” against Israel, including pursuing or not vetoing an anti-Israel UN Security Council resolution (which J Street mislabeled a “balanced” resolution), saying:

*“J Street welcomes the US government’s strong condemnation of Israel’s latest announcement of new settlement construction in the West Bank. Yet we also urge the Obama administration to recognize that strong words have had little effect on Israeli settlement expansion and its creeping annexation of the West Bank. **It is long past time for the US to move beyond mere condemnations and to take action** to put real weight behind its opposition to settlements and its commitment to the two-state solution. . . .*

*As the White House spokesman noted, [Israel]’s announcement raises “serious concern” about “how good friends treat one another.” Israel and the US are great friends – but Israel’s ongoing settlement expansion demonstrates flagrant disregard for what its best friend has to say. Continuing to issue condemnations without taking action to put real weight behind them only weakens American credibility, and sends the message that Israel’s actions to undermine the two-state solution carry no consequences.*

*There are a number of steps that the US government can take to make clear that settlement expansion is unacceptable and runs counter to shared American and Israeli interests and values. These steps could*

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80 “*Liberal Jews Push Obama to Drop Support for Israel at UN During White House Parley,*” *Algemeiner*, Apr. 15, 2015, at <http://www.algemeiner.com/2015/04/15/liberal-jews-push-obama-to-drop-support-for-israel-at-un-during-white-house-parley/#>

81 “*Plenary Session - Does Liberal Zionism Have a Future?*” – video, J Street national conference, Mar. 22, 2015, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZI9C2bHFyLg>; and “*J Street Pushes Back,*” by Dmitriy Shapiro and David Holzel, *Washington Jewish Week*, Mar. 24, 2015, at <http://washingtonjewishweek.com/20647/j-street-pushes-back/featured-slider-post/>

#### IV. J STREET LOBBIES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL US SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

*include enforcing existing US customs regulations which require that West Bank products not be labeled as “Made in Israel;” reviewing whether tax-deductible treatment for donations to NGOs that advance settlement expansion meet US eligibility requirements; and pursuing or not vetoing a balanced Security Council resolution at the United Nations. Without such steps, we can only expect to see this same sad scenario playing out again and again in the months ahead.”<sup>82</sup>*

##### (3) J Street U Also Urged US Support for Anti-Israel Resolutions:

J Street’s campus arm, J Street U tweeted on October 8, 2016: “**US must back up its condemnations of Israeli settlement expansion with action,**” and included a link to J Street’s October 6, 2016 demands that the US should vote for, or abstain from (thereby enabling passage of) an anti-Israel resolution.

##### (4) J Street Purchased New York Times Ads Thanking Obama for Supporting Anti-Israel UN Security Council Resolution 2334 and Thanking Kerry for his Anti-Israel Dec. 28, 2016 Speech.<sup>83</sup>

UNSC Resolution 2334 was so biased against Israel that, among other things, it contradicted UN Resolution 242 and sweepingly defined all Jewish life outside the 1949 Armistice Lines (including Judaism’s holiest sites such as the Western Wall) as “illegal.” UNSC Resolution 2334 falsely and outrageously declared, *inter alia*, that Israeli

*“settlements in the Palestinian territory [sic] occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, has no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law and a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-State solution,”*

and demanded that

*“Israel immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem.”*

Yet, J Street issued a press release welcoming and praising Obama’s abstention, which enabled passage of UNSC Resolution 2334.<sup>84</sup> J Street also purchased a *New York Times* ad thanking Obama for the resolution and thanking Secretary Kerry for his December 28, 2016 anti-Israel speech.<sup>85</sup>

##### (5) J Street Opposed Congressional Resolutions Condemning Anti-Israel UNSC

82 J Street Press Release, “Without Strong Action, Israeli Government Will Continue To Ignore Us Opposition To Settlement Expansion,” Oct. 6, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/without-strong-action-israeli-government-will-continue-ignore-us-opposition-settlement-expansion/>

83 “J Street Ad Thanks Obama and Kerry for Speech Blasting Israel,” by Gary Willig, Israel Nat’l News, Jan. 5, 2017, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/222841>

84 “J Street Welcomes US Abstention On UNSC Resolution,” J Street website, Dec. 23, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-welcomes-us-abstention-unsc-resolution/#.WRkQI1LMys>

85 *Id.*; Also see “J Street Welcomes UN Resolution on Israel Settlements – AIPAC Denounces It,” The Forward, Dec. 24, 2016, at <http://forward.com/news/breaking-news/358231/j-street-welcomes-un-resolution-on-israel-settlements-aipac-denounces-it/>

#### IV. J STREET LOBBIES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL US SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

##### **Resolution 2334:**

J Street also opposed U.S. Congressional resolutions condemning anti-Israel UNSC Resolution 2334. J Street then boasted that the fact that 80 members of Congress voted against Congressional resolution H.R. 11 (which condemned the UNSC Res. 2334) – whereas in the past Congress would have nearly unanimously supported such a Congressional resolution – was a “*major shift . . . thanks in part to the work of J Street.*”<sup>86</sup>

A well-known pro-Israel blogger noted that J Street’s email bragging about so many members of Congress voting against H.R. 11 was very similar to an email message from a major anti-Israel BDS umbrella group (the “US Campaign for Palestinian Rights”). After quoting both groups’ mass emails, the blogger commented:

*“Both of these groups [J Street and the anti-Israel BDS umbrella group] are thrilled that they got 80 members of Congress to vote against the bill. But J-Street claims that they were opposing it because they are pro-Israel, and the Palestinian group says that they were opposing it because they want to see Israel disappear. If J-Street is ‘pro-Israel,’ why are they campaigning for the same things that anti-Israel activists are?”*<sup>87</sup>

##### **(6) J Street Also Urged Obama to Not Veto a 2011 Anti-Israel UN Resolution, and Confirmed It Would Do So Again:**

In 2011, J Street also supported a UNSC resolution falsely condemning settlements as “illegal,” and urged the Obama administration to **not** veto such a resolution. J Street stated “we cannot support a U.S. veto of a Resolution . . . that appropriately condemns Israeli settlement policy.”<sup>88</sup>

J Street’s support for the 2011 UN Security Council resolution condemning Jewish communities as illegal led a former J Street supporter, Congressman Gary Ackerman (Liberal D-NY), to cut ties with J Street, saying:

*“I’ve come to the conclusion that J-Street is not an organization with which I wish to be associated . . . The decision to endorse the Palestinian and Arab effort to condemn Israel in the U.N. Security Council is not the choice of a concerned friend trying to help. It is rather the befuddled choice of an organization so open-minded about what constitutes support for Israel that its brains have fallen out. Mahmoud Abbas’ PA had refused to make unilateral gestures of good faith and had sent the Obama Administration-led peace talks into a dead end . . . But astonishingly, it is Israel that J Street would put in the stocks in the public square.”*<sup>89</sup>

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86 Ben Ami email, “Subject: Some Political News That’s Actually Positive,” Jan. 17, 2017, reproduced by Elder of Ziyon blog, ‘J-Street and the BDSers: On the Same Side on Capitol Hill,’ Jan. 17, 2017, at <http://elderofziyon.blogspot.com/2017/01/j-street-and-bdsers-on-same-side-on.html>

87 “J-Street and the BDSers: On the Same Side on Capitol Hill,” Elder of Ziyon blog, Jan. 17, 2017, at <http://elderofziyon.blogspot.com/2017/01/j-street-and-bdsers-on-same-side-on.html>

88 “New J Street Policy Statement on Settlement Expansion & UN Security Council Resolution,” Jan. 20, 2011, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/new-j-street-policy-statement-on-settlement-expansion-and-un-security-council-resolution\\_1/#.WU86g1KZOMI](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/new-j-street-policy-statement-on-settlement-expansion-and-un-security-council-resolution_1/#.WU86g1KZOMI)

89 “Jewish Lawmaker Slams J Street for Position on Anti-Israel U.N. Resolution,” Fox News, January 26, 2011, <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2011/01/26/jewish-lawmaker-slams-j-street-backing-anti->

#### **IV. J STREET LOBBIES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL US SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS**

In a subsequent +972 Magazine interview in 2012 about J Street asking Obama to *not* veto the 2011 anti-Israel UN resolution, J Street President Ben-Ami stated: “*If there was a United Nations resolution tomorrow . . . , we’d take the same exact position, . . . to oppose the settlements over the Green Line.*”<sup>90</sup>

##### **(7) J Street Sided with B’Tselem When B’Tselem Denounced Israel at the UN and Urged the UN to Take Action Against Israel:**

On October 14, 2016, anti-Israel group B’tselem’s Executive Director Hagai El-Ad viciously and fraudulently denounced Israeli “occupation” at the UN Security Council, and urged the UN Security Council to take action to end Israeli “occupation.” Israeli Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon correctly responded that B’Tselem was waging diplomatic war against Israel at the UN<sup>91</sup>, and PM Netanyahu correctly stated that B’tselem was joining a “chorus of slander” against Israel. J Street sided with B’Tselem against the Israeli government, and accused Netanyahu of chilling free speech and persecuting progressive NGOs.<sup>92</sup>

##### **(8) In 2014, J Street Urged Passage of a UN Security Council Resolution That Outlines a Palestinian Arab State with Pre-1967 Borders And Divides Jerusalem:**

J Street wrote: “*We believe that the work going on right now around possible UNSC resolutions presents the US with an opportunity to play a constructive role in shaping a resolution that is consistent with longstanding US policy and internationally accepted parameters on which a two-state solution would be achieved. This outline would specify the need to establish borders based on pre-1967 lines with swaps, a Palestinian capital in Arab neighborhoods of East Jerusalem, mutual recognition and guarantees for the security of both states, an agreed-upon resolution to the refugee issue, mutual recognition by Israel and a new state of Palestine of each other as the national homeland of their respective people – and a diplomatic process to achieve agreement within a set period of time. The US and the international community should then invite the parties to reconvene talks based on the basis of that resolution.*”<sup>93</sup>

##### **(9) J Street’s Featured Annual Conference Speakers Calling for U.S. (and European) “Pressure Without Limits” on Israel, Including Not Protecting Israel With UN Vetoes:**

At the 2015 Annual J Street Conference plenary, Marcia Freeman, a former Knesset member and founder of Brit Tzedek v’Shalom who has called for Arab rule over Israel, said that the U.S. and

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[israel-resolution.html](#)

90 Jeremy Ben-Ami interview in +972 Magazine, Mar. 29, 2012, <http://972mag.com/j-street-undaunted-by-reality-interview-with-jeremy-ben-am/39589/>

91 “*Israeli NGO B’Tselem Urges UNSC to Take Action to End Israeli Occupation: Israel’s UN Ambassador Danny Danon accused B’Tselem of joining ‘Palestinian attempts to wage diplomatic terror against Israel at the UN,’*” AP, Haaretz, Oct. 14, 2016, at <http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/1.747555>. B’Tselem’s UN address denouncing and urging UN action against Israel is at: [http://www.btselem.org/settlements/20161014\\_security\\_council\\_address](http://www.btselem.org/settlements/20161014_security_council_address)

92 Benjy Cannon, “*Israel Should Listen To B’tselem – Not Marginalize Them,*” J Street website, Oct. 20, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/israel-listen-btselem-not-marginalize/>

93 “*J Street Statement On Possible UN Security Council Resolutions On The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict,*” Dec. 15, 2014, at [http://jstreet.org/j-street-statement-on-possible-un-security-council-resolutions-on-the-israelipalestinian-conflict\\_1/](http://jstreet.org/j-street-statement-on-possible-un-security-council-resolutions-on-the-israelipalestinian-conflict_1/)

## V. J STREET PROMOTES BDS, LAWFARE, AND US & EU ANTI-JEWISH LABELING REGULATIONS

Europe need to put “*pressure without limits*” on the Israeli government to “*end the occupation*,” including urging the United States to stop protecting Israel at the United Nations, by withholding the U.S. veto over anti-Israel resolutions.<sup>94</sup>

At J Street’s 2012 Conference, Mustafa Barghouti, a major BDS movement leader and proponent of bringing Hamas and Islamic Jihad into the PA government, condemned direct negotiations and claimed that: “*Going to UN is nothing but an act of peaceful non-violent resistance to change the situation in the right way.*” He called on J Street members to exert “*your pressure*” to advance his anti-Israel agenda and methods.<sup>95</sup> (More on Barghouti’s 2012 J Street speech is discussed in this report’s Section V.(3) below.)

### V. J STREET PROMOTES BDS, LAWFARE, and U.S. & EU ANTI-JEWISH LABELING REGULATIONS:

#### (1) J Street Urged Obama to Enforce Discriminatory US Customs Regulations Prohibiting “Made in Israel” Labels on Products Made in Judea/Samaria:

In its October 6, 2016 Press Release (more fully quoted in Item II.(2) above), J Street urged Obama to enforce anti-Israel labeling regulations, saying:

“. . . There are a number of steps that the US government can take to make clear that settlement expansion is unacceptable and runs counter to shared American and Israeli interests and values. These steps could include enforcing existing **US customs regulations which require that West Bank products not be labeled as “Made in Israel;**” **reviewing whether tax-deductible treatment for donations to NGOs that advance settlement expansion meet US eligibility requirements;** . . . Without such steps, we can only expect to see this same sad scenario playing out again and again in the months ahead.”<sup>96</sup>

#### (2) J Street Lobbied Against Anti-BDS Provisions in Trade Legislation:

J Street lobbied *against* a bi-partisan amendment requiring U.S. trade negotiators to make *rejection of anti-Israel BDS* a principal trade objective in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations with the European Union. The amendment was designed to curtail the increasing problem of anti-Israel BDS in Europe. J Street partnered with anti-Israel group Americans for Peace Now (APN) and the virulent pro-BDS anti-Israel group Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) in this effort. One of the amendment’s sponsors, Congressman Pete Roskam (R-IL), described J Street’s anti-Israel lobbying activities on this issue, saying:

“This [J Street, JVP and APN] is . . . a bunch of anti-Israel groups criticizing a pro-Israel amendment. While a broad bipartisan, bicameral group of Members of Congress are focused on strengthening the mutually

94 Video of J Street 2015 Nat'l Conference Plenary Session: Does Zionism Have a Future?, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wh6ngI81Opo> at minute 1:17:00 – 1:19:00

95 “J Street 2012 National Conference Making History: Palestinian Perspectives Panel” – video, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kw5UfKLEAYc>.

96 J Street Press Release, “Without Strong Action, Israeli Government Will Continue To Ignore Us Opposition To Settlement Expansion,” Oct. 6, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/without-strong-action-israeli-government-will-continue-ignore-us-opposition-settlement-expansion/>

*beneficial U.S.-Israel economic relationship, this small handful of outside organizations are more interested in defending destructive efforts to delegitimize Israel.”<sup>97</sup>*

**(3) J Street Conferences Promote BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions), “Lawfare” and “Courtroom Intifada” Against Israel (bringing legal actions against Israel and Israeli officials):**

J Street conferences give prominent platforms to top BDS promoters, such as Mustafa Barghouti, Rebecca Vilkomerson, Michael Sfard, and other leading anti-Israel BDS and Lawfare speakers. J Street U likewise brings BDS promoters to American college campuses. For instance:

- **Mustafa Barghouti** addressed J Street’s 2012 annual conference.<sup>98</sup> Barghouti is one of the leaders of the BDS movement, as well as a Palestinian Legislative Council member, a former PA Minister for Information, and the leader of al Mubadara – the Palestinian National Initiative party (“PNI”). PNI advocates for including terrorist groups Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) in the PA government; a so-called Arab “right of return” to overrun Israel and bring an end the Jewish State; and a Palestinian state with “East Jerusalem” as its capital. Barghouti calls for BDS “against Israeli occupation, against Israeli apartheid and against Israeli segregation” and asserts that BDS “would help us liberate ourselves from the last segregation and occupation system in the world.”<sup>99</sup> Barghouti has also falsely said that Israel has “a full-fledged Apartheid system” that is “much worse than what prevailed in South Africa,” and that Israel has been “ethnically cleansing” Palestinians since 1948.<sup>100</sup>

During his 2012 J Street Conference address, Barghouti described Israel as “the last oppressive colonial system in the world”; claimed that “they [Israelis] are oppressing us,” described the Oslo peace process as a piece of Israeli “deceit” and “cover for settlement expansion”; accused Israel of confiscating land for profit and “confiscating 90% of the West Bank’s water resources”; accused Israel of war-mongering (“Israel has conducted one war after the other”); claimed that the PA is “obliged to provide security to our occupiers”; asserted that “what we are witnessing today is a creation, or a consolidation to be precise, of a system of segregation and Bantustans” and “ghetto areas”; and declared that Palestinians “actually live” in an “apartheid” regime.<sup>101</sup> Barghouti urged changing balance of power through “non-violent” resistance, demonstrations, and creating strong international solidarity for the Palestinian Arab cause (in other words, BDS).

During his 2012 J Street Conference speech, Barghouti also touted the advantages of various

97 “Anti-Israel Groups Lobby to Derail Anti-BDS Measure: Bill Would Prevent U.S. Trade Partners From Supporting Boycotts of Israel,” by Adam Kredo, Washington Free Beacon, May 12, 2015, at <http://freebeacon.com/issues/anti-israel-groups-lobby-to-derail-anti-bds-measure/>

98 “J Street 2012 National Conference Making History: Palestinian Perspectives Panel” – video, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kw5UfKLEAYc>.

99 “Boycotting Israel: Mustafa Barghouthi vs. Rabbi Arthur Waskow on BDS Movement, Palestinian Solidarity,” Democracy Now!, Mar. 26, 2012, at [https://www.democracynow.org/2012/3/26/boycotting\\_israel须马·巴格胡提 vs. 犹太人牧师](https://www.democracynow.org/2012/3/26/boycotting_israel须马·巴格胡提 vs. 犹太人牧师)

100 Letter from Noah Pollak to Dennis Ross, reprinted in “Emergency Committee for Israel Writes Dennis Ross Before Upcoming J Street Address,” by Daniel Halper, *Weekly Standard*, Feb. 24, 2011. Pollak’s letter also lists numerous virulent anti-Israel speakers scheduled to speak at J Street’s “Giving Voice to Our Values” national conference.

101 “J Street 2012 National Conference Making History: Palestinian Perspectives Panel” – video, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kw5UfKLEAYc>.

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pressure tactics. Barghouti stated that the Gilad Shalit negotiations (in which Hamas obtained the release of 1,027 convicted unrepentant Palestinian Arab terrorists from Israeli prisons) worked because Hamas had something Israel wanted (an Israeli hostage). Barghouti added: “I hope other 4,500 Palestinian prisoners are released. I call on you to do whatever you can.” He also asserted that (direct) “negotiations are not working because Israeli side is powerful. We are trying to change balance of power through your pressure.”

Barghouti also bragged during his J Street speech about mediating between Fatah and Hamas, and obtaining the “total agreement” of all groups, including U.S. designated terrorist organizations Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad. Barghouti also stated that the “right of return has to be admitted, and implementation negotiated” and as noted above, called circumventing negotiations by going to the UN “nothing but an act of peaceful non-violent resistance to change the situation in the right way.” Barghouti also recommended flotillas - which he called a “little boat to break the seige of Gaza.” Barghouti urged J Street’s audience to take various steps to “support non-violent resistance” including writing about it, and added: “We need your pressure on IDF and Israel not to use violence against our non-violent movement.”<sup>102</sup>

- **Rebecca Vilkomerson** is the executive director of the virulent anti-Israel pro-BDS group “Jewish Voices for Peace” (JVP). JVP led campaigns to persuade Presbyterian Church (USA), TIAA-CREF and other groups to boycott and divest from Israel. The ADL lists JVP as one of the “top ten anti-Israel groups in America.”<sup>103</sup>

During her address at J Street’s 2011 annual conference, Vilkomerson called BDS “*the most hopeful strategy that we can engage in, a way to act on principles of equality and human dignity. . . . These are the tools of our heroes*” and stressed to J Street’s audience that “*the BDS movement deserves support.*”<sup>104</sup> She accused Israel of having “Bantustans” (another way of falsely accusing Israel of apartheid).

Vilkomerson also compared the BDS movement to the American civil rights movement, the movement against apartheid South Africa, and movements opposing “*dictatorial regimes.*” She also praised the success of the BDS campaign against Veolia, a French bus company that cancelled its contract to build Jerusalem’s light rail, and lost millions of dollars in contracts, due to harassment from the BDS movement. She also praised artists for boycotting the performing arts center at Ariel University. (Incidentally, Ariel University in Judea/Samaria, happens to have a large percentage of Arab students, who are harmed by the boycott, along with the Jewish community.) Vilkomerson also demanded that the U.S. exert its power against Israel. She received hearty applause from the J Street audience.<sup>105</sup>

An article by two J Street “experts” whom J Street has quoted and employed on its panels explains that J Street’s 2011 “*Who is Afraid of the BDS?*” panel featuring Rebecca Vilkomerson helped “*break the taboo*” about considering BDS as a potential tactic for “*progressives*” to adopt to “*end*

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<sup>102</sup> *Id.*

<sup>103</sup> “The Top 10 Anti-Israel Groups in America,” ADL website, at <https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/documents/assets/pdf/israel-international/Top-10-Anti-Israel-Gmgroups-in-America.pdf>

<sup>104</sup> “Rebecca Vilkomerson at J Street, Supporting BDS Movement” – video, Mar 7, 2011, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wbHdZOjH8dI>

<sup>105</sup> *Id.*

*the occupation.”<sup>106</sup>*

- **Michael Sfard** was another featured speaker at J Street’s 2011 “Giving Voices to Our Values: national conference.<sup>107</sup> Sfard is a leading advocate of “lawfare” – prosecuting Israeli soldiers and officials in Canadian and European war-crimes trials – as well as a leading advocate of enlarging anti-Israel BDS. Sfard is a lawyer for radical NGOs (including Yesh Din and Breaking the Silence) who demonize Israel, and accuse Israel of “Apartheid” and war crimes. Sfard testified as a paid witness *for the PLO* in a federal lawsuit by victims of terror attacks perpetrated by the PLO’s Al Aksa Martyrs Brigades. Sfard is also a member of the “Support Committee” for the South African “Russell Tribunal on Palestine,” a mock (kangaroo) court that puts Israel “on trial,” with Sfard’s assistance.

**(4) J Street Absurdly Claims That The Only Way To “Combat BDS” Is: (a) To Agree With The Basic Anti-Israel Big Lies That Fuel The BDS Movement, That Israel “Occupies” Palestinian-Arab Land And Is An Apartheid State; and (b) To Promote The BDS Movement’s Goal Of “Ending The Occupation”**

J Street’s official BDS policy, posted on its website, states that “*the Global BDS Movement can only be successfully opposed with a genuine commitment to ending the occupation and achieving a two-state solution.*”<sup>108</sup> Likewise, J Street articles say that “**effectively confronting BDS requires opposing the occupation.**”<sup>109</sup>

J Street U’s “method” of combatting BDS by promoting BDS’s lies and goals was on full display at a March 29, 2017 anti-BDS conference at the United Nations, sponsored by the Israeli government and various mainstream pro-Israel organizations, including ZOA, CAMERA and ACLJ. Fifteen J Street U board members showed up wearing “anti-BDS & anti-occupation” t-shirts and placards. J Street U’s shirts and placards, contemporaneous tweets, and follow-up articles revealed that J Street’s deceptive, dangerous, Orwellian “approach to combatting BDS” consists of: (1) disparaging pro-Israel speakers, students and organizations as “liars,” “fringe voices” and “counterproductive”<sup>110</sup>; (2) falsely condemning Israel as an “occupier” of Arab lands - which means that J Street is promoting the exact same myth propagated by the “BDS” movement; and (3) advocating for the creation of a Palestinian Arab state in Israel’s historic heartland that the Israeli public overwhelmingly opposes (because, among other reasons, such a state would rain down non-stop terrorist and rocket attacks on the indefensible remainder of the Jewish State).

**(5) J Street Condemns Mainstream Pro-Israel Groups That Combat BDS as**

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<sup>106</sup> “*The Boycott Debate: No Longer Taboo in Progressive Pro-Israel Circles,*” by Dov Waxman and Mairav Zonszein, Dissent Mag., Mar. 29, 2011, at [https://www.dissentmagazine.org/online\\_articles/the-boycott-debate-no-longer-taboo-in-progressive-pro-israel-circles](https://www.dissentmagazine.org/online_articles/the-boycott-debate-no-longer-taboo-in-progressive-pro-israel-circles)

<sup>107</sup> Noah Pollak letter to Dennis Ross, reprinted in “*Emergency Committee for Israel Writes Dennis Ross Before Upcoming J Street Address,*” by Daniel Halper, Weekly Standard, Feb. 24, 2011.

<sup>108</sup> J Street website BDS policy statement, at <http://jstreet.org/policy/boycott-divestment-and-sanctions-bds/#.WQk81VKZMlI>

<sup>109</sup> “*We Went To Engage. We Were Called Pigs And Worse,*” by Brooke Davies, J Street website, Mar. 31, 2017, at <http://jstreet.org/went-engage-called-pigs-worse/#.WQeldlKZMmI>

<sup>110</sup> “*Counterproductive ‘Anti-BDS Summit’ Empowered Fringe Voices,*” by Brooke Davies, J Street website, Mar. 29, 2017, at <http://jstreet.org/counterproductive-anti-bds-summit-empowered-fringe-voices/#.WQekcFKZMmL>

### **“Fringe Voices” and “Liars”:**

When thousands of students and others attending the March 2017 UN anti-BDS summit gave ZOA President Morton Klein a standing ovation for Mr. Klein’s speech debunking the BDS movement’s false claims that Israel “occupies” Arab lands and practices “apartheid,” J Street U accused Mr. Klein of lying. J Street U’s Vice President for the Midwest tweeted:

“@mortonaklein received a standing ovation after lying to 1000+ students at #stobds . . . Claims occupation is a lie.” (3/29/17, 2:12 PM)<sup>111</sup>

“ABSOLUTELY TERRIFYING TO SEE THESE LIES PROMOTED AS MAINSTREAM THOUGHTS TO 1000S OF HS STUDENTS @IsraelinUN #STOPBDS.” (11:01 AM - 29 Mar 2017)<sup>112</sup>

“way to #stopBDS is to end the occupation.” (11:50 AM - 29 Mar 2017)<sup>113</sup>

Likewise, in a tweet later the same day, J Street’s founder and president Jeremy Ben-Ami angrily condemned “*those telling me and @jstreetu there is no occupation,*”<sup>114</sup> and enclosed a link to a “comedian” who accused Israel of apartheid.

In yet another tweet, J Street U’s vice president criticized human rights activist Natan Sharansky for stating during the UN anti-BDS conference that “*human rights and Zionism go hand in hand.*”<sup>115</sup> In the same tweet, the J Street U official demanded that people at the anti-BDS summit “*end the occupation*” – the very same anti-Israel demand made by the BDS movement.

In tweets and follow-up articles, J Street U also accused the pro-Israel speakers and thousands of pro-Israel students of being “*fringe voices*”<sup>116</sup>; criticized other suggestions for combatting BDS; and insisted that the only way to stop BDS is to “*end the occupation.*”<sup>117</sup>

### **(6) J Street Founder and President Ben-Ami Misleadingly Defends BDS’s Goals:**

In his book, “*A New Voice For Israel: Fighting for the Survival of the Jewish Nation,*” (essentially J Street’s manifesto), J Street founder and president Jeremy Ben-Ami defends the BDS movement’s goal of “ending the occupation,” portrays BDS as merely a tactic, and contends that one must distinguish among BDS activists depending on whether or not their (stated) goal is the total denial of Israel’s right to exist. :

*“The BDS movement is a loose but growing aggregation of activists who seek to raise pressure, primarily economic, against Israel to end the occupation. Those rallying around BDS tactics hold a variety of specific views and positions. Some involved in the BDS movement are vehemently*

<sup>111</sup> [https://twitter.com/Rikki\\_BK/status/847149411608264704](https://twitter.com/Rikki_BK/status/847149411608264704)

<sup>112</sup> [https://twitter.com/Rikki\\_BK/status/847146674107682816](https://twitter.com/Rikki_BK/status/847146674107682816)

<sup>113</sup> [https://twitter.com/Rikki\\_BK/status/847158921043300352](https://twitter.com/Rikki_BK/status/847158921043300352)

<sup>114</sup> <https://twitter.com/JeremyBenAmi/status/847268138601242624>

<sup>115</sup> [https://twitter.com/Rikki\\_BK/status/847128075016065024](https://twitter.com/Rikki_BK/status/847128075016065024)

<sup>116</sup> “*Counterproductive ‘Anti-BDS Summit’ Empowered Fringe Voices,*” by Brooke Davies, J Street website, Mar. 29, 2017, at <http://jstreet.org/counterproductive-anti-bds-summit-empowered-fringe-voices/#.WQekcFKZMmL>

<sup>117</sup> “*We Went To Engage. We Were Called Pigs And Worse,*” by Brooke Davies, J Street website, Mar. 31, 2017, at <http://jstreet.org/went-engage-called-pigs-worse/#.WQeldlKZMmI>

*anti-Israel and deny its right to exist. Some of the rhetoric used by BDS activists is taken by the Jewish community as anti-Semitic. But many of the activists are simply protesting Israeli policies related to the Palestinians, and would certainly support Israel's right to exist in peace and security alongside a Palestinian state. The Israeli government and many of the Israel-right-or-wrong activists in the United States, however, refuse to make distinctions between these different positions.*<sup>118</sup>

J Street's and Ben-Ami's explanation deceives listeners as to the true maximalist goals of BDS, and misleads J Street's uninformed audiences into supporting political warfare against Israel's very existence. In reality, BDS's declared goal of "*ending the occupation of all Arab lands*" (which is also coupled with a so-called "right of return" of Arab "refugees") refers to an end to Israel. The detailed Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs study explains that:

*"BDS is more accurately described as a political-warfare campaign conducted by rejectionist Palestinian groups in cooperation with radical left-wing groups in the West. BDS leaders and organizations are also linked to the Palestinian Authority leadership, the radical Muslim Brotherhood, other radical groups, terror-supporting organizations, and in some cases even terror groups themselves such as Hamas. . . . [A]s some commentators – including the New York Times' Roger Cohen and Professor Norman Finkelstein – have pointed out, the BDS movement seeks to eliminate Israel even before addressing the Palestinian issue. . . [T]he publicized "demands" of the BDS movement state clearly that the endgame of this punitive global campaign is to cause Israel's implosion as the nation-state of the Jewish people and enable the creation of another Arab-majority state in its place." . . .*

*[C]onfusion over the true scope of the BDS call was not accidental. It allows liberal critics of Israel to express their support for the BDS movement by citing the more limited phrasing [of the BDS call's first demand, to "end the occupation"], while the original signatories of the 2005 BDS call can maintain their loyalty to the more expansive version referring to the dismantling of all of Israel ["end the occupation of all Arab lands," which refers to "all lands stolen from Palestinians since 1948"]. To add to the existing confusion, both versions of the text exist side-by-side on the BDS movement website. The BDS activists' deliberate ambiguity attracted*

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<sup>118</sup> "A New Voice For Israel: Fighting for the Survival of the Jewish Nation," by Jeremy Ben-Ami, p. 138, at <https://books.google.com/books?id=bvjMm0KZx8sC&lpg=PA138&ots=lLXhDD-umQ&q=%22a+loose+but+growing+aggregation%22&pg=PA138&hl=en#v=onepage&q=%22a%20loose%20but%20growing%20aggregation%22&f=false> The Jewish Book Council's review of Ben-Ami's book points out the falsity and absurdity of Ben-Ami's claim that critics of Israel are "blacklisted" or "subjected to politics perfected by Joe McCarthy," and notes that Ben Ami "doesn't explain how J Street will achieve anything but cementing their [young people's] criticism of Israel." "A New Voice for Israel: Review by Abraham J. Edelheit," Jewish Book Council, at <http://www.jewishbookcouncil.org/book/a-new-voice-for-israel-fighting-for-the-survival-of-the-jewish-nation>

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*otherwise-unintended support for BDS from some liberal critics of Israel who are likely unaware of its maximalist goals. Nevertheless, however the first demand of the BDS call is interpreted, the BDS call's three demands taken together [which also include a so-called "right of return" for millions of descendants of supposed Palestinian refugees to overrun Israel] require the dismantling of Israel to be fully satisfied.*<sup>119</sup>

It is thus downright fraudulent and shameful for J Street and Ben Ami to portray BDS as a “tactic” that can be safely embraced by pro-Israel critics of Israeli policies.

### (7) J Street’s Official BDS Policy Does Not Oppose “Targeted” Anti-Semitic BDS. Moreover, J Street’s “Green Line” Campaigns Are Targeted BDS Campaigns:

J Street’s “official” BDS policy states that J Street does *not oppose* BDS efforts that “focus only on occupied territory beyond the Green Line.”<sup>120</sup> This means that J Street does *not oppose* anti-Semitic boycotts targeting Jewish businesses, universities, institutions, artists and workers located in historic Jewish areas past the 1949 Armistice lines (including the Old City of Jerusalem).

Moreover, J Street’s “Green Line Campaigns” *are* targeted BDS campaigns, by another name. As part of J Street’s “Green Line Campaign,” at J Street’s 2015 national conference, J Street distributed maps cutting off Judea/Samaria and eastern Jerusalem from Israel. Then J Street’s “*Ben-Ami told attendees to demand that their Jewish organizations, communities, federations and charities not send money over the Green Line.*”<sup>121</sup> J Street also provided sample language for attendees to use for this funding boycott of projects assisting Jews, Jewish kindergartens and schools and other programs and facilities in Judea/Samaria and eastern Jerusalem.

And, the *real* J Street policy is even worse than its “official” BDS policy and its targeted BDS campaigns. J Street’s real policy is to give prominent platforms to BDS advocates to spread their bile, and to advocate for the same falsehoods and essentially the same policies as the BDS movement.

### (8) J Street Officials Have Openly Supported Full BDS

J Street U’s recent former President, Amna Farooqi, supported BDS, tweeting: “*I don’t oppose any form of nonviolent Palestinian protest, including BDS.*”<sup>122</sup>

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<sup>119</sup> See “*Unmasking BDS: Radical Roots, Extremist Ends,*” by Dan Diker, Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, at <http://jcpa.org/unmasking-bds/>

<sup>120</sup> J Street Official BDS Policy, J Street website, at <http://jstreet.org/policy/boycott-divestment-and-sanctions-bds/#.WQk81VKZMII>

<sup>121</sup> “*New ‘Green Line’ Campaign Urges Jewish Students to Advocate for BDS Positions,*” by Sandor Farkas, Dartmouth College The College Fix, Mar. 24, 2015, at <https://www.thecollegefix.com/post/21732/>. See also “*J Street Will Press Jewish Groups to Distinguish Between Israel, West Bank,*” by Sam Sokol & Herb Keinon, Jerusalem Post, Mar. 22, 2015, at <http://www.jpost.com/Diaspora/J-Street-will-press-Jewish-groups-to-distinguish-between-Israel-West-Bank-394696>

<sup>122</sup> Farooqi twitter account, Nov. 14, 2014, at <https://twitter.com/afarooq199/status/533382294036545536>

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### (1) J Street's Iran Positions (*Lobbying for the Iran Deal, Against Sanctions, and Against Even Laying the Groundwork for a Credible Military Option*) are Identical to the Iran Regime Lobby's Positions. From its Earliest Days, J Street Collaborated with and had Financial and Overlapping Directorship Ties with the Iranian Regime's Lobbyist, the National Iranian American Council (NIAC)

Both before and after the Iran deal, J Street repeatedly opposed and lobbied against sanctions (while later lying about its activities, and welcoming certain belated sanctions after-the fact). J Street was also a prime lobbyist<sup>123</sup> for the catastrophic Iran nuclear deal – despite the fact that the deal paves Iran's way to a nuclear bomb and gave Iran \$150 billion in sanctions relief, which, as was predicted, Iran is using to fund the terror groups on Israel's doorstep. And J Street continues to falsely portray its pro-Iranian regime positions as “pro-Israel” positions - despite the fact that virtually the entire Israeli political spectrum and security apparatus, as well as most Americans, support sanctions and action to stop Iran, and opposed the Iran deal.

Further, J Street has continually opposed even laying the groundwork for a credible military option if sanctions failed, as J Street's website continues to admit, saying:

*“military action [against Iran’s nuclear facilities] would be ‘ill-advised,’ and we have urged Congress not to pass legislation moving the country in that direction. . . . We . . . oppose legislation authorizing, encouraging, or in other ways laying the groundwork for the use of military force against Iran.”<sup>124</sup>*

Thus, on these existential issues going to the heart of Israel's security, J Street has persistently supported Iran over Israel, the Jewish people and America.

J Street shares its Iran positions with the Iranian regime's lobbyist, the National Iranian American Council (NIAC). Moreover, J Street and NIAC collaborate, have had intertwining board members, and financial ties. J Street President Jeremy Ben-Ami and NIAC President and leading Iranian regime apologist Trita Parsi co-authored an Op ed *opposing* sanctions on Iran.<sup>125</sup>

*The Weekly Standard* described NIAC's and J Street's collaboration and financial and other ties as follows:

*“NIAC and J Street might seem at first an odd alliance. J Street is ‘pro-peace, pro-Israel’ and NIAC is pro-engagement, pro-Iran. But J Street isn’t all that pro-Israel, and NIAC will take any allies it can find in the fight against sanctions, so few and far between are such organizations in*

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<sup>123</sup> “J Street Launches Campaign Backing Iran Deal; AIPAC Calls For Rejection Of Accord,” by JTA, Jerusalem Post, July 16, 2015, at <http://www.jpost.com/Diaspora/J-Street-launches-campaign-backing-Iran-deal-AIPAC-rejects-accord-409167> (noting, among other things, that J Street had raised \$2 million thus far for its Iran deal drive).

<sup>124</sup> J Street's “Setting the Record Straight” website posting, May 13, 2014, at [http://jstreet.org/setting-the-record-straight\\_2/](http://jstreet.org/setting-the-record-straight_2/)

<sup>125</sup> “How Diplomacy with Iran Can Succeed,” by Jeremy Ben-Ami & Trita Parsi, *Huffington Post*, 2009, at [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jeremy-benami/how-diplomacy-with-iran-c\\_b\\_214407.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jeremy-benami/how-diplomacy-with-iran-c_b_214407.html)

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Washington. J Street director Jeremy Ben-Ami co-authored an op-ed with NIAC chief Trita Parsi making the (extremely unpopular in the Jewish community) argument against sanctions. J Street invited Parsi to speak at their conference last month. And **the two groups have together constructed and embraced a narrative that explains away all the questions about their credibility and legitimacy as the work of the same nefarious right-wing conspiracy. But follow the money and the tie that binds seems to be George Soros, who provides substantial funding to both groups. Also, Morton Halperin, one of the top men at Soros's Open Society Institute, sits on the boards of both J Street and NIAC.** . . . Soros pays the salary of the NIAC staffer who runs the Campaign for a New Policy on Iran. Documents reveal that J Street participated in the discussions that determined the group's agenda. And there's another thing the groups have in common: they've both been caught telling their supporters they've taken one position while lobbying behind the scenes for the exact opposite outcome. . . . [W]hat is a 'pro-peace, pro-Israel' group doing allying itself so closely with a man [Trita Parsi] who is himself so closely allied with a Holocaust-denying regime that daily threatens the existence of the State of Israel? And why is it that neither organization is able to represent in public the views that they so aggressively promote behind closed doors?"<sup>126</sup>

In addition, NIAC board member Genevieve Lynch, was exposed as a member of J Street's finance committee, and a significant initial donor to J Street and J Street PAC.<sup>127</sup>

J Street invited and featured as speakers at its national conference NIAC President Trita Parsi, and Hillary Mann Leverett, described as one "*the Iranian regime's most prominent apologists in Washington.*" Leverett co-authored (with her husband) an op-ed applauding Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's controversial 2009 re-election victory, entitled, "*Ahmadinejad Won. Get Over It.*"<sup>128</sup> At J Street's 2009 annual conference, Leverett condemned anyone who did not "trust" Iran as "*reinforcing stereotypes of Iranian duplicitousness*" and as "*fundamentally racist.*"<sup>129</sup>

Further, the Ploughshares Fund, which financed much of the "selling" of the catastrophic Iran deal, gave J-Street \$576,500 to advocate for the Iran deal, and gave over \$281,000 to NIAC to

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<sup>126</sup> "NIAC and J Street: Lobbying and Lying," by Michael Goldfarb, *The Weekly Standard*, Nov. 16, 2009, at <http://www.weeklystandard.com/niac-and-j-street-lobbying-and-lying/article/271558>

<sup>127</sup> "Profiles of J Street PAC's Largest Givers: Genevieve Lynch, leader of NIAC," Aug. 20, 2009, at <http://jaystreetcontributors.blogspot.com/2009/08/profiles-of-j-street-pacs-largest.html>; "J Street Has History of Lobbying for Pro-Iran Initiative," by Adam Kredo, *Wash. Free Beacon*, Sept. 28, 2013, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/j-street-has-history-of-lobbying-for-pro-iran-initiative/>; "Muslims, Arabs Among J Street Donors," by Hilary Leila Kreiger, *Jerusalem Post*, Aug. 14, 2009, at <http://www.jpost.com/International/Muslims-Arabs-among-J-Street-donors>; "J Street's Interesting Friends," by Jonathan Rosenblum, June 16, 2011, at <https://cross-currents.com/2011/06/16/j-streets-interesting-friends/>

<sup>128</sup> "Ahmadinejad Won. Get Over It," by Flynt Leverett & Hillary Mann Leverett, *Politico*, June 15, 2009, at <http://www.politico.com/story/2009/06/ahmadinejad-won-get-over-it-023745>

<sup>129</sup> "Trouble on J Street," by James Kirchick, *New Republic*, Oct. 27, 2009, at <https://newrepublic.com/article/70678/trouble-j-street>

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advocate for the Iran deal.<sup>130</sup> J Street, NIAC and the Arab-American Institute also issued a joint statement applauding the Iran deal (discussed in Section VI.(6) below).

Ploughshares appears to also be funding J Street and NIAC to continue promoting the Iran deal's implementation (despite Iran's violations of the deal). The Ploughshares Fund's 2016 Annual Report reports giving J Street and J Street Education Fund, Inc. \$220,000 to support, and mobilize Jewish support for the Iran deal, and reports giving NIAC and NIAC Action \$100,000 to continue "shaping the debate" towards implementing the Iran deal.<sup>131</sup>

### **(2) J Street Repeatedly Lobbied Against Sanctions on Iran, Using Pretexts and Orwellian Logic – Such as Falsely Characterizing Those Supporting Sanctions as Warmongers who were Against a Nuclear-Free Iran**

A senior Congressional staffer explained in 2013 that when J Street speaks up or lobbies regarding Iran, "it's to weaken sanctions on Iran."<sup>132</sup>

As noted above, J Street President Jeremy Ben-Ami and NIAC President Trita Parsi co-authored a 2009 *Huffington Post* op-ed opposing sanctions on Iran. In addition, J Street's website contained several 2009 statements opposing sanctions, which have since been scrubbed from J Street's website.<sup>133</sup> J Street also explicitly opposed a timetable for imposing sanctions on Iran."<sup>134</sup>

In 2012, then-Congressman Allen West (R-FL) reported that J Street representatives stopped him in the halls of Congress and asked him to simply "believe in Iran."<sup>135</sup>

In 2013-2014, J Street lobbied vociferously *against* the bipartisan Nuclear Weapon Free Iran Act of 2013, S. 1881 (also known as the "Menendez-Kirk Sanctions Bill") which called for additional sanctions to curb Iran's nuclear weapons program. The bill was designed to encourage successful negotiations, and allowed sanctions to be suspended if there was real diplomatic movement towards a deal that would assure that Iran was nuclear free. The mainstream Jewish community

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<sup>130</sup> "Group that Helped Sell Iran Nuke Deal Also Funded Media," by Bradley Klapper, AP, May. 20, 2016, at <https://apnews.com/7044e805a95a4b7da5533b1b9ab75cd2/group-helped-sell-iran-nuke-deal-also-funded-media>; "Making History: 2015 Ploughshares Fund Annual Report," at <http://www.ploughshares.org/sites/default/files/resources/Ploughshares-AR-2015-web-version.pdf>; "J Street Received Over \$500,000 to Push Iran Deal," Times of Israel, May 22, 2016, at <https://www.timesofisrael.com/j-street-received-over-500000-from-group-to-push-iran-deal/>

<sup>131</sup> "Turning Point: 2016 Ploughshares Annual Report," at [http://www.ploughshares.org/sites/default/files/resources/pf\\_AR\\_2016\\_pages.pdf](http://www.ploughshares.org/sites/default/files/resources/pf_AR_2016_pages.pdf)

<sup>132</sup> "J Street Has History of Lobbying for Pro-Iran Initiative: Pro-Israel Insiders Criticize The Organization For Its Failure To Support Jewish State," by Adam Kredo, Sept. 28, 2013, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/j-street-has-history-of-lobbying-for-pro-iran-initiative/>

<sup>133</sup> NGO Monitor's Nov. 23, 2010 Fact sheet on J Street described these statements, at [http://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/j\\_street\\_factsheet/](http://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/j_street_factsheet/)

<sup>134</sup> "Iran Policy Reveals Split Between U.S. Jewish And Israeli Left," by Ron Kampeas, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Sept. 7, 2009, at <http://www.jta.org/2009/09/07/news-opinion/politics/iran-policy-reveals-split-between-u-s-jewish-and-israeli-left>

<sup>135</sup> "Rep. Allen West Slams J Street," by Wm Bigelow, Breitbart, Mar. 29, 2012 (quoting West's 3/27/12 Facebook post), at <http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2012/03/29/allen-west-j-street/>

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(including AIPAC<sup>136</sup> and ZOA<sup>137</sup>) supported the bill, and the bill garnered 59 co-sponsors. However, perhaps at least in part due to J Street, the bill's progress then stalled in the Senate, and was ultimately withdrawn.

J Street lobbied against the S. 1881 on the Hill, and in the press, and loudly implored all its members to sign petitions and to contact their Senators through J Street's website.<sup>138</sup> J Street falsely claimed that the Menendez-Kirk Sanctions Bill "*will very likely derail the diplomatic process,*" and "*sets an essentially impossible condition for a final deal*" – and engaged in the same Orwellian scare tactics that J Street employed to promote the final Iran deal, including portraying the opponents of J Street's appeasement positions as warmongers who were against a nuclear-free Iran. J Street asserted that the sanctions bill

*"increases the likelihood of a nuclear-armed Iran, military engagement, or both. A vote for this bill is a vote that could lead to another US military engagement in the Middle East . If you truly support a nuclear weapons-free Iran, support our negotiators."*<sup>139</sup>

In fact, additional sanctions would have *improved* America's negotiating position, and helped the U.S. obtain a far better deal. Moreover, the bill's "conditions" were simply provisions that would have really made Iran nuclear-free, which the Obama administration had publicly assured the American people would be part of a deal. Specifically, Sec. 301(F) of the Menendez-Kirk Sanctions Bill *suspended* sanctions if the U.S. President certified that "*the United States is working toward a final agreement or arrangement that will dismantle Iran's illicit nuclear infrastructure to prevent Iran from achieving a nuclear weapons capability and permit daily verification, monitoring, and inspections of suspect facilities in Iran. . . .*"

The Obama administration apparently did not want to be required to sign such a certification, because the administration was secretly agreeing to concessions to Iran that left Iran's nuclear infrastructure intact, made inspections of undeclared facilities extraordinarily difficult to impossible, paved Iran's way to nuclear weapons, and contravened the Obama administration's promises to the American people.

The *National Journal* observed regarding J Street's success in preventing the Menendez-Kirk Sanctions Bill from coming to a vote: "*The rise of J Street . . . is serving as a counterweight to AIPAC . . . By decoupling support for Israel with support for new sanctions against Iran, the group is making it easier for lawmakers inclined to support the White House.*"<sup>140</sup>

J Street also often uses the pretext that the "timing isn't right" to oppose placing sanctions on Iran. For instance, J Street's website said in May 2014: "There have been times – as now – when

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<sup>136</sup> e.g., "Congregation Beth Shalom: The Nuclear Weapon Free Iran Act of 2013" (message to AIPAC activists), at <https://bethshalomnb.org/TheNuclearWeaponFreeIranAct>

<sup>137</sup> "Hundreds Of ZOA Activists On Capitol Hill: Link P.A. Aid To Compliance; More Iran Sanctions; Affirm Jewish Legal/Historical Right To Live In Judea/Samaria," May 23, 2014, at <http://zoa.org/2014/05/10244772-hundreds-of-zoa-activists-on-capitol-hill-link-p-a-aid-to-compliance-more-iran-sanctions-affirm-jewish-legalhistorical-right-to-live-in-judeasamaria/>

<sup>138</sup> "TELL YOUR SENATORS YOU OPPOSE THE MENENDEZ-KIRK IRAN SANCTIONS BILL," (S.1881), J Street website, at [http://act.jstreet.org/sign/oppose\\_1881\\_nsc/](http://act.jstreet.org/sign/oppose_1881_nsc/)

<sup>139</sup> *Id.*

<sup>140</sup> "How a Weaker AIPAC Makes It Easier to Vote Against Iran Sanctions," by Sara Sorcher & Elahi Izadi, *National Journal*, Jan. 23, 2014 at <https://www.nationaljournal.com/s/63231>.

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we feel that further Congressional action on sanctions legislation would actually undermine the chances of reaching the goal of a diplomatic agreement.”<sup>141</sup>

Again, in late July 2014, in a speech to 20 Democratic Senators at the Senate Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee (DSOC), Ben Ami insisted that the Senators should *not* “legislate new sanctions at this time.”<sup>142</sup>

As discussed in subsection VI.(8) below, Iran has also been lobbying against post-Iran deal sanctions.

### **(3) From its Earliest Days, J Street Worked to Stop Scheduled Major Public Speeches by Prominent Officials About Iran’s Genocidal Ambitions and the Need for Strong Action to Stop Iran:**

**(a) Governor Palin:** In 2008, J Street pressured “Stop Iran” rally organizers to cancel Republican vice presidential candidate, Alaskan Governor Sarah Palin’s scheduled speech at a planned bipartisan rally outside the United Nations to protest then-Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s UN appearance and calls for Israel’s destruction, and Iran’s nuclear weapons program. As an exciting new female Vice Presidential candidate, Governor Palin had huge “drawing power.” Palin’s scheduled presence and speech at the 2008 bipartisan rally was anticipated to draw huge crowds of some 100,000 attendees, and to focus widespread much needed public attention on Iran’s nuclear weapons program and calls for Israel’s demise.

However, J Street worked overtime to pressure the rally organizers to disinvite Governor Palin and unfortunately “succeeded.” J Street then boasted in a press release entitled, “We Won! Palin Not Speaking at Iran Rally.” J Street bragged that Iran Unity rally organizer Malcolm Hoenlein “caved to our pressure” to remove Governor Palin from the rally. J Street alleged that it collected 20,000 signatures in 24 hours for this purpose.<sup>143</sup>

Israel and America – and the citizens of these nations and all other nations threatened by Iran – were the losers. Without the draw of Governor Palin, the rally only garnered a few thousand attendees, and little attention. J Street thus prevented a major political figure from highlighting the dangers of Iran’s nuclear program and calling for stringent measures to stop Iran’s nuclear program, in a key public forum.

The inspiring speech that Governor Palin had prepared – but was never able to give, due to J Street – had highlighted Iran’s ongoing nuclear activities and threats to America and Israel; declared that Ahmadinejad “must be stopped”; and called for “truly tough sanctions” on Iran, including restricting Iran’s refined petroleum imports, targeting the Iranian regime’s assets abroad, bank accounts, investments, and trading partners, and holding Ahmadinejad accountable for the

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<sup>141</sup> “J Street’s “Setting the Record Straight” website posting, May 13, 2014, at [http://jstreet.org/setting-the-record-straight\\_2/](http://jstreet.org/setting-the-record-straight_2/)

<sup>142</sup> “Jeremy Ben-Ami Remarks to Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee,” July 23, 2014, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/jeremy-benami-remarks-to-democratic-steering-outreach-committee\\_1/](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/jeremy-benami-remarks-to-democratic-steering-outreach-committee_1/)

<sup>143</sup> “We Won! Palin Not Speaking At Iran Rally,” Sept. 19, 2008, at <http://jstreet.org/we-won-palin-not-speaking-iran-rally/>. Also see “Wonderful: Under Pressure From The Left, Organizers Disinvite Palin From Anti-Iran Rally,” by Allah Pundit, Hotair, Sept. 18, 2008, at <http://hotair.com/archives/2008/09/18/wonderful-under-pressure-from-the-left-organizers-disinvite-palin-from-anti-iran/comment-page-1/>

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crime of inciting genocide.<sup>144</sup>

In the same release in which J Street bragged “*We Won! Palin Not Speaking at Iran Rally*,” J Street explained that its “next task” consisted of turning the “Stop Iran!” rally – originally planned as a rally to promote strong action to stop Iran’s genocidal nuclear weapons ambitions – into a rally that instead promoted J Street’s appeasement policies towards Iran. J Street stated:

*“our next task is making sure that the messages at the rally reflect the view of a majority of Americans – Jewish and otherwise – that the best way to deal with Iran is through tough, smart diplomacy – not saber rattling and threats of force.”*<sup>145</sup>

J Street’s above-quoted release also falsified public opinion. In fact, the overwhelming majority of Americans and American Jews disagreed with J Street’s “diplomacy only” (no sanctions, no credible military threat) appeasement policies. For instance, a 2011 AJC survey showed that by a large margin of almost 3 to 1, American Jews supported Israeli military action against Iran if the combination of sanctions and diplomacy failed to stop Iran’s nuclear weapons program. Large majorities also favored U.S. military action in the same circumstances.<sup>146</sup>

J Street’s so-called “smart diplomacy” consisted of lobbying for the catastrophic Iran deal, which gave Iran a \$150 billion windfall (now being used by Iran to increase its support for terrorism around the world); allowing Iran to continue to enrich uranium; making it virtually impossible to inspect undeclared sites where Iran may be continuing its weapons work; and paving Iran’s way to developing a nuclear bomb.

**(b) Prime Minister Netanyahu:** In March 2015 – a very critical time when the Iran deal was expected to be finalized imminently, J Street opposed Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s time-sensitive, important speech to Congress warning about the need for strong measures and/or much better deal provisions to stop Iran’s march towards nuclear weapons.

J Street publicly falsely insisted that Netanyahu’s scheduled speech was “*inappropriate*,” “*a breach of protocol*” and “*unacceptable*,” and had to be delayed. J Street also sent two mass emails to members of Congress, promoting a letter written by Rep. Steve Cohen (D-TN) and notoriously hostile-to-Israel Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN), urging then-Republican House Speaker John Boehner to reschedule PM Netanyahu’s speech after the Israeli elections – a time when it appeared that the speech would be useless, because an Iran deal would already have been finalized before then. J Street’s Ben-Ami wrote: “*Momentum is on our side – and it’s growing ... Make it clear that Netanyahu’s speech shouldn’t go forward as planned.*”<sup>147</sup>

In addition, J Street’s director of government affairs, Dylan Williams, leveled the accusation that Netanyahu’s planned address to Congress was “*abusing*” the U.S.-Israel relationship “*in order*

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<sup>144</sup> “*Palin on Ahmadinejad: ‘He Must Be Stopped,’*” by Sarah Palin, New York Sun, Sept. 22, 2008, at <http://www.nysun.com/opinion/palin-on-ahmadinejad-he-must-be-stopped/86311/>

<sup>145</sup> “*We Won Palin Not Speaking At Iran Rally*,” J Street website, Sept. 19, 2008, at <http://jstreet.org/we-won-palin-not-speaking-iran-rally/>

<sup>146</sup> E.g., “*AJC 2011 Survey of American Jewish Opinion*,” Sept. 6-21, 2011, at <http://www.ajc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=7oJILSPwFfJSG&b=8479755&ct=12476755>

<sup>147</sup> “*Congress Must Delay Netanyahu’s Speech*,” J Street website, at [http://act.jstreet.org/sign/Send\\_Boehner\\_A\\_Message ; and “Dems Give Israeli Ambassador Earful Over Netanyahu Speech,” AP, Yediot Ahronot, Apr. 2, 2015, at http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4623121,00.html](http://act.jstreet.org/sign/Send_Boehner_A_Message ; and “Dems Give Israeli Ambassador Earful Over Netanyahu Speech,” AP, Yediot Ahronot, Apr. 2, 2015, at http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4623121,00.html)

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*to undermine the president [Obama] and his foreign policy.”<sup>148</sup>*

Then-Anti-Defamation League (ADL) head Abe Foxman, who happened to also oppose Netanyahu speaking to Congress, described J Street’s virulent campaign against PM Netanyahu’s Congressional speech as “*inflammatory and repugnant.*”<sup>149</sup>

### (4) J Street’s Iran Positions Opposing Sanctions and Timetables for Imposing Sanctions Are Further Left than the Israeli Left and Far Left:

J Street’s Iran positions opposing sanctions and timetables for imposing sanctions are to the left of the Israeli far left. Israeli left-wing and far left-wing political figures publicly called for strong Western sanctions against Iran to stop or delay Iran’s quest for nuclear weapons.

For instance, far left-wing MK Yossi Beilin, party chairman of the far left-wing Meretz Party (and architect of the Oslo accords with the PLO), stated in 2008 that the U.S. National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) understated the threats of Iran’s nuclear program, including the “*potential for [Iran] utilising uranium for non-civilian purposes.*” Beilin “*advocated increased sanctions towards Iran in order to stop [its] centrifugal uranium programs.*”<sup>150</sup>

Similarly, in 2012, at the World Economic Forum in Davos, left-wing former Labor Prime Minister and then-Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak urged “*much tougher*” international sanctions against Iran, and warned that Iran’s nuclear weapons program “*would lead to proliferation, the spread of terrorism and a threat to oil supplies from the Middle East.*”<sup>151</sup>

Other left-wing Israelis who forcefully advocated for tough sanctions include former Meretz Knesset Member (1999-2009) Avshalom Vilan, and Brigadier-General Yisraela Oron, Israel’s highest ranking female soldier. General Oron spoke at a J Street event in 2009, calling for diplomacy to be coupled with punishing sanctions. General Oron said that “*the thing that worries me and that worries other Israelis is that [the negotiations are] not limited in time.*” At that point, seeing the anxious faces of her J Street hosts, General Oron added, “*I’m not sure I’m expressing the J Street opinion.*”<sup>152</sup> As the Jewish Telegraph Agency explained: “*She was not. J Street explicitly opposes a timetable.*”<sup>153</sup>

### (5) J Street Lobbies Against Keeping Any Military Option on the Table (Even as a Last Resort), Using J Street’s “Key Strategy” of Misrepresenting Israeli Security Experts’ Views:

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<sup>148</sup> “A Bibi Boycott?,” by Edward Isaac Dovere & Jake Sherman, *Politico*, Feb. 3, 2015, at <http://www.politico.com/story/2015/02/democrats-might-skip-benjamin-netanyahu-speech-114891>

<sup>149</sup> “Foxman: J Street Campaign Against Netanyahu ‘Inflammatory and Repugnant,’” by Sam Sokol, *Jerusalem Post*, Feb. 12, 2015, at <http://www.jpost.com/Diaspora/Foxman-J-Street-campaign-against-Netanyahu-inflammaty-and-repugnant-390856>

<sup>150</sup> “How to Deal with the Iranian Nuclear Programme? A Dinner Discussion With Yossi Beilin,” by Carolin Moje, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Feb. 19, 2008, at [https://www.boell.de/sites/default/files/assets/boell.de/images/download\\_de/intlpolitics/How\\_to\\_Deal\\_with\\_the\\_Iranian\\_Nuclear\\_Programme.pdf](https://www.boell.de/sites/default/files/assets/boell.de/images/download_de/intlpolitics/How_to_Deal_with_the_Iranian_Nuclear_Programme.pdf)

<sup>151</sup> “Israel Calls For Tougher Iran Sanctions,” by Larry Elliott, *The Guardian*, Jan. 27, 2012, at <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/jan/27/israel-tougher-iran-sanctions-barak-nuclear>

<sup>152</sup> “Iran Policy Reveals Split Between U.S. Jewish And Israeli Left,” by Ron Kampeas, *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, Sept. 7, 2009, at <http://www.jta.org/2009/09/07/news-opinion/politics/iran-policy-reveals-split-between-u-s-jewish-and-israeli-left>

<sup>153</sup> *Id.*

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Misrepresenting Israeli security experts' views is one of J Street's "key strategies" for promoting its agenda. J Street's subsidiary, the J Street Education Fund, Inc. ("JSEF"), explained in its Guidestar profile that one of J Street's "key strategies" is to find Israeli security and political individuals to "validate" J Street's agenda, as follows:

"Israel-Based Organizing: JSEF maintains a full-time staff presence in Israel **to organize Israeli validation for our work in the United States. Providing validation from credible Israeli sources** that JSEF's positions are mainstream and accepted in Israel **is essential to us achieving our goals in the United States. Israeli validation, particularly from the security, diplomatic and political sectors**, for the policies and opinions taken by JSEF in the US, **is vital to reach and affect both American Jewish and political audiences.**"<sup>154</sup>

A real "pro-Israel" organization would permit Israel's democratically-elected government to establish and promulgate Israel's policies and positions. Instead, J Street uses *former* left-wing Israelis with some sort of political or "security" credential to falsely claim that Israel supports J Street's agenda, so that J Street can persuade U.S. officials to pressure Israel to adopt J Street's agenda. That's quite convoluted. Of course, if the Israeli public *really* favored J Street's agenda, Israel's democratically-elected government would simply adopt that agenda.

And J Street's deception goes further. Even the leftists that J Street cites do *not* really support J Street's views. J Street flagrantly misrepresents their positions.

Liberal Harvard Law School Professor Alan Dershowitz detailed how J Street lobbied against any use of U.S. military force against Iran (even as a last resort), by blatantly misrepresenting Israeli experts' views, as follows:

"J Street has expressed opposition to any use of military force against Iran, even as a last resort in preventing Iran from developing or even deploying nuclear weapons. This is even weaker than the position of the Obama Administration, which has refused to take the military option off the table, if all other options fail to stop Iran's quest for nuclear weapons."

Without distinguishing between an Israeli and an American military attack, J Street mendaciously claims that '*top Israeli security experts and former officials warned about the inefficacy and disastrous consequences of a military strike against Iran's nuclear facilities*' and that '*many in the American and Israeli intelligence and security establishments believe that a strike on Iran would fail to end Iran's nuclear program and may even accelerate it. . .*'

While this may be true of a unilateral Israeli strike, it is untrue of **an American or joint attack, which many of these experts acknowledge would wreak havoc on the Iranian nuclear weapons program. Many of these same experts have explicitly called for the United States to maintain its military option as a last resort.** But J Street, on its website, expressly '*oppose[s] legislation authorizing, encouraging or*

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<sup>154</sup> Guidestar profile: J Street Education Fund, Inc., at <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/20-2777557>

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*in other ways laying the groundwork for the use of military force against Iran.*' Such legislation refers exclusively to an American, not an Israeli, attack. But '*laying the groundwork for the use of military force against Iran*' by the United States is precisely what is needed to deter Iran from going forward with its nuclear weapons program, regardless of whether or not a deal is struck. By credibly laying such groundwork, the United States reduces the chances that it will actually need to employ its military option. By undercutting the threat of employing the military option, J Street increases the likelihood that it will have to be used.

**J Street**, in addition to undercutting mainstream Israeli and American policy toward Iran, **has also mischaracterized the views of those it cites in support of its position, including former Mossad chiefs Meir Dagan and Efraim Halevy. It [J Street] cites these two Israeli security experts as opposing an American strike and an American threat to strike. Both Dagan and Halevy have repeatedly said, however, that the American military option ‘must always be on the table.’ Indeed, the vast majority of Israeli security experts, as well the Israeli public, wants the United States to maintain the military threat against Iran.”**<sup>155</sup>

J Street also used the same strategy, of blatantly misrepresenting Israeli experts' views, to promote the disastrous Iran deal. (See next subsection.)

### (6) **J Street Was a Leading Lobbyist for the Catastrophic Iran Deal, Despite the Fact that, Across the Spectrum, Israelis, Americans and American Jews Opposed the Deal:**

J Street was a leading lobbyist for the Iran deal (a/k/a “Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action” or “JCPOA”), despite the fact that the deal poses an existential threat to Israel (and America), and, across the spectrum, Israelis, Americans and American Jews opposed the deal. This disastrous deal gave Iran \$150 billion in sanctions relief up front, plus hundreds of billions of dollars of windfalls from anticipated new business – thereby enabling Iran to increase its support for terrorism. The deal also permitted Iran to retain all its centrifuges, and continue spinning over 5,000 centrifuges to enrich uranium; instituted a weak inspections regime that made it virtually impossible to inspect undeclared sites; and among numerous other pitfalls, paved Iran’s way to a nuclear bomb.

Then-Vice President Joe Biden acknowledged J Street’s enormous role in preventing Congress from rejecting the Iran deal, saying: “*J Street played a critical role in mustering the support at home to get that deal through the United States Congress. . . . You made sure the voices of those who support Israel and supported the deal were heard. So thank you – thank you, thank you for your efforts. . . .*”<sup>156</sup>

When the basic contours of the deal became known in April 2015, J Street, NIAC, and the Arab-American Institute issued a joint statement saying “*We congratulate President Obama,*

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<sup>155</sup> “Guess Who’s Not Speaking at the J Street Conference?,” by Alan M. Dershowitz, Gatestone Institute, Mar. 20, 2015, at <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/5424/j-street-dershowitz>

<sup>156</sup> “Winning the Deal,” J Street website, at <http://jstreet.org/learn/iran-deal-facts/winning-the-deal/>

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*Secretary Kerry, and the US negotiating team for successfully reaching an historic agreement that provides a framework for preventing a nuclear-armed Iran and averts a disastrous war.”<sup>157</sup> In reality, the agreement paved Iran’s way to acquiring nuclear weapons.*

J Street then embarked on a multi-million-dollar lobbying and advertising campaign to promote the final Iran deal. J Street boasted that it spent \$5 million on advertisements in major newspapers and magazines (*The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *The Washington Post*, etc.); television ads in 12 targeted states and Washington DC; and digital ads on Facebook newspaper websites and other digital media. J Street also held 50 meetings to promote the deal to the “grassroots.”<sup>158</sup>

J Street also dredged up several left-wing *former* Israeli officials who had said something not-so-bad about some aspect of the Iran deal, and the rare few *former* officials that supported it. J Street then misleadingly proclaimed that the “Israeli Security Establishment” supports the deal. J Street also trotted around whatever former official it could find to meet with Congress.<sup>159</sup>

In reality, the current “Israeli Security Establishment” overwhelmingly opposed the Iran deal. CAMERA (the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America”) issued a press release debunking J Street’s false claims that “Israel’s Security Establishment” supported the Iran deal<sup>160</sup>. In addition, the authors of this report personally heard a prominent individual falsely cited by J Street as a supporter of the deal speak out against the Iran deal. However, throughout its massive advertising campaign, J Street continued to purvey its lie that the “Israeli Security Establishment” supported the deal.

J Street’s “Israel Security Establishment” deception to promote the Iran deal was a typical J Street *modus operandi* and “key strategy.” (See above subsection, discussing J Street’s use of the same “key strategy” to oppose keeping a military option against Iran on the table.)

As part of its lobbying effort, J Street also stooped to conducting and touting phony polls. J Street’s poll asked about a hypothetical good deal, instead of the actual Iran deal. J Street then fraudulently claimed that the responses to the hypothetical good deal question was the opinion about the actual deal. (See this report’s Section XXI.(4) for more information on J Street’s phony Iran deal poll, and for the real polls that showed that Americans and American Jews *opposed* the Iran deal by a 2 to 1 margin.)

J Street then used its own phony polls to press key Senators to support the deal. For instance, when J Street pressed New York’s Senator Chuck Schumer to support the Iran deal, J Street spokeswoman Jessica Rosenblum falsely asserted that Senator Schumer would “*have the support of the majority of American Jews*” if Schumer supported the deal.<sup>161</sup>

In reality, the more the public learned about the actual deal, the greater the opposition grew.

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<sup>157</sup> “J Street Applauds Obama for Iran Nuke Deal: Israel Advocacy Group Joins Arab-, Iranian-American Groups In Welcoming Agreement That ‘Averts Disastrous War’,” by Stuart Winer, *Times of Israel*, April 7, 2015, at [http://www.timesofisrael.com/j-street-applauds-obama-for-iran-nuke-deal/?fb\\_comment\\_id=688241771286097\\_688951251215149#f1a4d6cb874896c](http://www.timesofisrael.com/j-street-applauds-obama-for-iran-nuke-deal/?fb_comment_id=688241771286097_688951251215149#f1a4d6cb874896c)

<sup>158</sup> “Winning the Deal,” J Street website, at <http://jstreet.org/learn/iran-deal-facts/winning-the-deal/>

<sup>159</sup> *Id.*

<sup>160</sup> “About ‘Israel’s Security Establishment’ and the Iran Deal,” by Gilead Ini, CAMERA website, July 23, 2015, at [http://www.camera.org/index.asp?x\\_context=2&x\\_outlet=251&x\\_article=3057](http://www.camera.org/index.asp?x_context=2&x_outlet=251&x_article=3057)

<sup>161</sup> “Growing Signs Schumer Will Oppose Iran Deal,” by Paul Goldman & Mark. Rozell, *Politico*, Aug. 2, 2015, at <http://www.politico.com/story/2015/08/schumer-nuclear-iran-deal-new-york-democrat-120912>

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For instance, Sen. Chris Coons (D-Del) said that in the first few days after the Iran deal was initially announced, views on the deal were about evenly split in Delaware, but by the beginning of August, telephone calls against the deal outnumbered those in favor by 10-to-1 in Delaware.<sup>162</sup>

J Street also touted “340 Rabbis Supporting the Iran deal,” but this was a dismal showing of less than 6% of U.S. rabbis. About 200 of the 340 pro-Iran deal rabbis came from J Street’s own rabbinical cabinet – and these deal-supporters amounted to *only one quarter* of J Street’s own rabbinical cabinet. Thus, most of J Street’s own rabbinical cabinet apparently either opposed the Iran deal or were neutral. Further, other rabbis on the “340 Rabbis” list represented extreme anti-Israel groups such as the virulently pro-BDS so-called “Jewish Voice for Peace” (JVP).<sup>163</sup>

The “340 Rabbis” list was a typical J Street ploy. J Street Education Fund, Inc.’s Guidestar profile explains that “Rabbinic organizing” is a J Street “key strategy,” as follows:

*“Rabbinic Organizing: Rabbis are vital opinion leaders in the American Jewish community, whose views on Israel carry particular weight among the communal and political audiences J Street needs to influence. JSEF places a high priority on growing public support for its positions from rabbis and other clergy to validate the legitimacy and mainstream nature of its views. JSEF employs a full-time rabbinic director who coordinates our national rabbinic cabinet (of ordained rabbis, cantors and rabbinic students).”*<sup>164</sup>

J Street ignored the fact that Israelis overwhelmingly opposed the Iran deal. For instance, in July 2015, an *Israel Hayom* poll found that 76% of Hebrew-speaking Jewish Israelis believed that Israel should continue fighting against the deal, while only 15% thought that Israel should not fight it (a margin of over 5 to 1 in favor of fighting the deal).<sup>165</sup> Many of the respondents who thought Israel should not fight it likely nonetheless disliked the deal. And opposition to the deal increased as time went on.

Israel’s leaders on both the right and the left uniformly opposed the Iran deal. Left-wing Labor party leader, Isaac Herzog (who had stated in 2014, “I trust the Obama administration to get a good deal”) condemned the actual deal when it was revealed in July 2015, saying that:

*“The deal . . . will unleash a lion from the cage, it will have a direct influence over the balance of power in our region, it’s going to affect our borders, and it will affect the safety of my children. . . . [Iran is an] empire of evil and hate that spreads terror across the region. . . . [Under the terms of the deal, Iran] will become a nuclear-threshold state in a decade or so.’ . . . [Iran will use its post-sanctions windfall] to supply more rockets to Hezbollah in*

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<sup>162</sup> *Id.*

<sup>163</sup> “J Street’s Misleading Numbers on Rabbis Supporting Iran Deal,” by Benjamin Korn, *Algemeiner*, Sept. 3, 2015, at <http://www.algemeiner.com/2015/09/03/j-streets-misleading-numbers-on-rabbis-supporting-iran-deal/>

<sup>164</sup> <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/20-2777557>

<sup>165</sup> “Most Israelis Think Israel Needs to Continue Fighting Iran Nuclear Deal,” *Israel Hayom*, July 31, 2015, at [http://www.israeltimes.com/site/newsletter\\_article.php?id=27267](http://www.israeltimes.com/site/newsletter_article.php?id=27267)

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*Lebanon, more ammunition to Hamas in Gaza, and ‘generally increase the worst type of activities that they’ve been doing.’”<sup>166</sup>*

Commentator Jeffrey Goldberg observed that J Street’s support for the Iran deal contravened Israel’s left-wing, saying:

*“Herzog, J Street’s natural ally in Israeli politics on matters of the peace process, is putting the group in an uncomfortable position. It can’t be easy to be a self-described pro-Israel group that is lobbying for a deal that the large majority of Israelis loathe.”<sup>167</sup>*

Similarly, when the contours of the deal became known in April 2015, left-wing former Labor Prime Minister, Defense Minister and IDF Chief-of-Staff Ehud Barak, opposed the emerging deal, saying that: *“a deal . . . that allows Iran’s leadership to announce relief from all sanctions without shuttering a single nuclear facility – surely strengthens the Iranians, and that bodes ill from Iran in other arenas.”<sup>168</sup>* But none of this stopped J Street from going “all out” to promote the Iran deal.

### (7) **JStreetPAC Finances and Runs Ad Campaigns for Pro-Iran Deal Congressional Candidates, and Targets Iran Deal Opponents for Defeat:**

Despite “winning” (by preventing the Senate from killing the deal), J Street vindictively announced in January 2016 that it would work to unseat Congressional supporters of Israel who had opposed the Iran deal. J Street’s political director Ben Shnider tried to justify J Street’s effort to unseat Israel’s greatest friends by asserting:

*“We see [Senators] Mark Kirk [R-IL] and Ron Johnson [R-WI] as two of our biggest targets . . . They were two of the biggest detractors of the [Iran] deal . . . Iran is being defanged, and they stood in the way.”<sup>169</sup>*

In addition, J Street President Jeremy Ben Ami subsequently announced that J Street was launching a \$500,000 ad campaign to unseat Senators Pat Toomey (R-PA) and Ron Johnson (R-WI), including television and internet advertising, direct mail and polling. Further, Ben-Ami announced that J Street “was holding an additional \$250,000 in reserve for races in New Hampshire and Illinois, where incumbent Republicans who opposed the [Iran] deal [Senators Kelly Ayotte and Mark Kirk] [we]re in tight races.”<sup>170</sup>

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166 “*Israeli Opposition Leader: Iran Deal Will Bring Chaos to the Middle East*,” by Jeffrey Goldberg, *The Atlantic*, July 15, 2015, at <http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/07/israel-isaac-herzog-iran-nuclear-deal/398705/>

167 “*Israeli Opposition Leader: Iran Deal Will Bring Chaos to the Middle East*,” by Jeffrey Goldberg, *The Atlantic*, July 15, 2015, at <http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/07/israel-isaac-herzog-iran-nuclear-deal/398705/>

168 “*Iran Has Escaped a Noose*,” by Ehud Barak, *Time Mag.*, April 2, 2015, at <http://time.com/3770021/iran-nuclear-deal-ehud-barak/>

169 “*J Street Takes Aim at GOP Senators Who Opposed Iran Deal*,” Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Jan. 17, 2016, at <http://www.jta.org/2016/01/17/news-opinion/politics/j-street-takes-aim-at-gop-senators-who-opposed-iran-deal>

170 “*J Street To Launch Ad Campaign Against Iran Deal Foes In Pennsylvania, Wisconsin*,” *JTA*, Oct. 5, 2016, at <http://www.jta.org/2016/10/05/news-opinion/politics/j-street-to-launch-ad-campaign-against-iran-deal-backers-in-pennsylvania-wisconsin>

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Sadly, two of these pro-Israel Senators that J Street specifically targeted for defeat, Mark Kirk and Kelly Ayotte, lost their Senate seats in the 2016 elections.

***Further, every single candidate that J Street PAC raised funds for in 2016 supported the catastrophic Iran deal. Moreover, every challenger that J Street PAC raised funds for in 2016 was trying to unseat a strong pro-Israel opponent of the Iran deal.***

In 2016, every single one of the 24 Senate candidates and 112 House candidates that J Street PAC raised funds for supported the Iran nuclear deal. In addition, every *challenger* that J Street PAC raised funds for (5 Senate Challengers and 10 House Challengers) supported the Iran deal and was seeking to unseat a strong pro-Israel opponent of the catastrophic Iran nuclear deal. J Street indeed helped defeat key pro-Israel incumbent Iran deal opponents, including Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL) and Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH). J Street also helped elect pro-Iran deal candidates to open seats, while defeating pro-Israel Iran-deal opponents such as former Congressman and then-Senate candidate Joe Heck (R-NV). After the 2016 election, J Street bragged about its successful support for Iran deal advocates, as follows:

*"In 2016, JStreetPAC distributed a record \$3.6 million to its 124 endorsed candidates for Congress, . . . 99% of JStreetPAC-endorsed Members of Congress won reelection and **not a single incumbent Iran deal supporter was unseated by a deal detractor.** JStreetPAC . . . was a top bundler in key Senate battlegrounds, raising over \$200,000 each for endorsees in Illinois, Nevada, New Hampshire, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania."*<sup>171</sup>

J Street's support for pro-Iran candidates, and J Street's work to defeat candidates who sought to stop Iran's nuclear weapons program, has been going on for years. For instance, in 2012, J Street successfully raised funds and worked to defeat Congressman Frank Guinta (R-NH), who had a stellar pro-Israel track record, taking a strong stance against Iran's pursuit of nuclear arms. After Guinta regained his seat in 2014, J Street raised funds to defeat him again in 2016.<sup>172</sup>

More detailed information about J Street PAC's support for anti-Israel candidates, and J Street PAC's deceptive (and too often successful) efforts to defeat incumbent pro-Israel Congresspersons, is in Part XI of this report.

### **(8) J Street is Attempting to Stop or Weaken Efforts to Impose Post-Deal Sanctions on Iran, Including Sanctions Responding to Iran's Terrorism and Ballistic Missile Activities:**

At J Street's February 2017 annual conference, J Street's Ben-Ami opened the conference with a rousing "call to arms" speech in which he again falsely proclaimed that "*the majority support the Iran nuclear accord,*" called the catastrophic Iran deal "*the signature accomplishment of American and international diplomacy of the past generation,*" complained that "*President*

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<sup>171</sup> "J Street PAC 2016 Senate Endorsees," J Street website, at <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/page/2016-senate-endorsees/>

<sup>172</sup> "The Anti-Israel Lobby: 'Pro-Israel, Pro-Peace' J Street Backs Congressmen Who Do Not Support Israel," by Adam Kredo, Washington Free Beacon, May 23, 2012, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/the-anti-israel-lobby/>; and JStreetPAC fundraising listing for Guinta's opponent, at <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/candidate/carol-shea-porter/>

## VII. J STREET OPPOSES INCREASING MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL...PROMOTES FUNDS TO THE PA

*Trump got elected vowing to dismantle [the Iran deal] and his allies in Congress are looking for new ways even as we speak to undermine it,” and exhorted the audience to “fight” and “resist.”<sup>173</sup>*

J Street has been repeatedly “warning” that sanctions legislation could impair the Iran deal – even when the sanctions in fact targeted Iran’s terrorism and ballistic missile activities – and has been seeking to scuttle or weaken such legislation. For instance, on its website, J Street has been urging its members to:

*“SAVE THE IRAN DEAL: CALL YOUR SENATORS: There’s a bill in the Senate right now that risks killing the Iran deal, which has blocked all of Iran’s pathways to a nuclear weapon without firing a shot. Small changes could prevent this bill from undermining the deal. Call your senators now.”<sup>174</sup>*

J Street U posted similar “urgent” alerts on twitter.<sup>175</sup> J Street U also retweeted Israel-critic Martin Indyk’s tweet against imposing sanctions on Iran:

*“J Street U @jstreetu @Martin\_Indyk: Ratcheting up sanctions on Iran could lead to consequences that even Donald Trump does not want #JSt2017” (8:13 AM - 27 Feb 2017)<sup>176</sup>*

## **VII. J STREET OPPOSES INCREASING MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL TO COUNTER INCREASED POST-DEAL THREATS FROM IRAN, SAYING HELPING ISRAEL IGNORES AMERICAN NEEDS – WHILE J STREET PROMOTES SENDING AMERICAN FUNDS TO THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY (Which Uses the Funds to Pay Terrorists to Murder Jews)**

### **(1) J Street Lobbied Against Increasing Military Aid to Israel to Counteract Increasing Post-Iran-Deal Threats from Iran and Iranian-Sponsored Terror Groups:**

In order to persuade the Senate not to kill the Iran deal in 2015, the Obama administration promised to boost aid to U.S. allies to counteract Iran’s anticipated use of sanctions relief to support terror. Among other things, Secretary of State Kerry promised additional support to Israel for missile defense.<sup>177</sup> Yet, the eventual slight increase in the MOU was far less than what was needed.

Thus, for the stated purpose of “counter[ing] the increasing threats emanating from Iran” and

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<sup>173</sup> “Jeremy Ben-Ami Opens J Street’s 2017 National Conference” video, Feb. 25, 2017, at [http://jstreet.org/2017-conference-highlights/#.WRe4RVLMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/2017-conference-highlights/#.WRe4RVLMy_s)

<sup>174</sup> “SAVE THE IRAN DEAL: CALL YOUR SENATORS,” J Street website, at <http://act.jstreet.org/call/save-iran-deal-call-senate/>

<sup>175</sup> “URGENT: New Legislation Could Kill the #IranDeal,” 8:46 AM - 17 May 2017, at <https://twitter.com/jstreetdotorg/status/864869865156485120>

<sup>176</sup> <https://twitter.com/jstreetu/status/836247827407831040>

<sup>177</sup> “Kerry Promises Israel, Saudis Money In Wake of Iran Nuclear Deal: Move Meant To Sooth Congressional, Regional Fears Following Deal,” by Adam Kredo, Washington Free Beacon, Sept. 2, 2015, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/kerry-promises-israel-saudis-money-in-wake-of-iran-nuclear-deal/>

## VII. J STREET OPPOSES INCREASING MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL...PROMOTES FUNDS TO THE PA

*“threats from Iranian-backed terrorist groups such as Hamas and Hezbollah”* faced by Israel, Senators Kelly Ayotte (R-NH), Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Mark Kirk (R-IL), John McCain (R-AZ), Marco Rubio (R-FL), Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Roy Blunt (R-MO) introduced legislation in September 2016 to increase military aid to Israel by \$1.5 billion, *including \$750 million for missile defense.* Senator Ayotte explained:

*“Iran is using its financial windfall from the ill-advised nuclear deal to increasingly threaten the U.S. and Israel— our closest and most reliable ally in the Middle East.”* Senator Cruz noted: *“Support for Israel is not a burden, it is an investment in our mutual national defense against the common enemy that is radical Islamic terrorism. The MOU is an important baseline, but Congress can and must play an ongoing, active role in making sure that the alliance is adequately maintained.”*<sup>178</sup>

Yet, despite the dangers Israel faces from Iran using its \$150 billion Iran deal windfall to support terrorism and develop ballistic missiles that threaten Israel’s existence, J Street viciously opposed increasing aid to Israel by \$1.5 billion (which was only 1% of Iran’s windfall). J Street tried to drive a wedge between America and Israel; claimed that military aid to Israel ignored America’s needs; and accused the Senators who sponsored the legislation of misplaced loyalties. In a press release entitled (in capital letters): *“LOSING SIGHT OF AMERICA’S OWN NEEDS, GOP SENATORS LOOK TO ADD OVER A BILLION TO AID PACKAGE ISRAEL HAS ACCEPTED,”*<sup>179</sup> J Street insisted that this needed and previously promised military aid to Israel was at the expense of:

*“the many problems facing our nation, like our aging and crumbling transportation infrastructure, our struggling education system, and the tens of millions of Americans living in poverty.”*

J Street also maligned the aid bill as a “*stunt*” and as an example of a “*constant search for new ways to score political points on Israel*” that “*shows a shocking lack of regard for . . . the needs of the country which these officials have actually been elected to represent.*”<sup>180</sup>

J Street thus supported leaving Israel at the mercy of the newly enriched Iranian regime dedicated to wiping Israel off the map.

J Street PAC then maliciously raised money to defeat the Senators who co-sponsored the bill to increase the MOU funds to Israel – four of whom were in close reelection battles that November. J Street targeted, raised funds to defeat, and spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in advertising to “successfully” defeat Senators Ayotte and Kirk.

Apparently, it never occurred to J Street that the money J Street spent defeating Israel’s friends could have been better spent on the needs of Americans living in poverty.

### **(2) J Street PAC Requires Candidates That J Street PAC Endorses and Raises**

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<sup>178</sup> “Senators Introduce Legislation Aimed at Bolstering Support for Israel, Countering Iranian Threat,” Sen. Marco Rubio website, Sept. 20, 2016, at <https://www.rubio.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?ID=94A91D93-998A-4AoF-889A-3B86AC2BBEEB>

<sup>179</sup> “LOSING SIGHT OF AMERICA’S OWN NEEDS, GOP SENATORS LOOK TO ADD OVER A BILLION TO AID PACKAGE ISRAEL HAS ACCEPTED,” J Street website, Sept. 21, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/losing-sight-americas-needs-gop-senators-look-add-billion-aid-package-israel-accepted/>

<sup>180</sup> *Id.*

## VII. J STREET OPPOSES INCREASING MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL...PROMOTES FUNDS TO THE PA

### Campaign Funds for to Support Aid to the Palestinian Authority:

According to J Street, aid to the Palestinian Authority is sacrosanct. J Street PAC's introductory "about" website page explains that

*"JStreetPAC's key principles for endorsement [of candidates for J Street PAC's financial and other support] include: . . . Support for continued aid to Israel and the Palestinian Authority."*<sup>181</sup>

As demonstrated above, the "aid to Israel" portion of the above statement is a sham. J Street's actions reveal that it actually supports sending U.S. tax dollars to the Palestinian Authority ("PA"), but not to Israel.

M.J. Rosenberg, the hostile-to Israel policy director of the left-wing "Israel Policy Forum" ("IPF"), explained that IPF works "*in parallel with J Street*," and cited aid to the Palestinian Authority as an example of an issue where J Street's "*ability to raise funds could make a crucial difference in Congress.*" Rosenberg stated:

*"Take the example of Congresswoman Betty McCollum, from Minnesota. She came out strongly against an AIPAC bill blocking aid to the Palestinians, so AIPAC attacked her in her district and said she was an apologist for terrorists. In the end AIPAC couldn't do anything. She prevailed. But now, the way it could work is, if she gets the word from some donor that 'you're going to lose \$25,000,' she can pick up the phone and call J Street and say, 'I'm down \$25,000 because I stuck my neck out on this issue.' And they'll [J Street will] say, 'We'll make it up, and you'll have \$30,000.' I mean, that never existed before. And it really can make a difference."*

*"The other thing is, even some of these [Congress]people who take a really hard line on these issues, when you wave \$2,000 checks in front of them, they might decide that they don't really feel the necessity to say this crazy stuff. There's never been a downside to Palestine-bashing on the part of members of Congress. And now they're going to be identified. It can only be good."*<sup>182</sup>

### (3) J Street is Lobbying Against The Taylor Force Act – a Key Bill to Stop the PA from Using U.S. Aid to Pay Palestinian Arab Terrorists to Murder Jews and Americans:

J Street admitted that it is lobbying *against* the Taylor Force Act.<sup>183</sup> The Act – named after an American student murdered by a Palestinian Arab terrorist – is a key Congressional effort to stop the PA's use of about \$400 million per year of U.S. taxpayer dollars to pay Palestinian-Arab terrorists to murder Jews and Americans. The Taylor Force Act, H.R. 1164 (1917-1918) conditions U.S. aid to the PA on the PA taking steps to end acts of violence against U.S. and Israeli citizens, publicly condemning such violent acts, and terminating payments to the perpetrators (and their

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<sup>181</sup> "About JStreetPAC," J Street website

<sup>182</sup> "Taking Back the Debate Over Israel," by Gary Kamiya, *Salon*, Apr. 27, 2016, at [http://www.salon.com/2008/04/29/j\\_street/#topOfPage4](http://www.salon.com/2008/04/29/j_street/#topOfPage4)

<sup>183</sup> "News Roundup for April 13, 2017," J Street website, at [http://jstreet.org/news-roundups/news-roundup-april-13-2017/#.WULuX1KZO\\_s](http://jstreet.org/news-roundups/news-roundup-april-13-2017/#.WULuX1KZO_s)

## VIII. J STREET CONDEMNS ISRAEL FOR DEFENDING HERSELF FROM ROCKETS, TERROR ...

families) of terrorist attacks against U.S. and Israeli citizens.<sup>184</sup>

It's telling that J Street invokes the needs of Americans in poverty to try to block aid to Israel (see above) – but never mentions the needs of poverty-stricken Americans when it comes to supporting sending U.S. tax dollars to the PA - which uses those dollars to pay Palestinian Arab terrorists to murder and maim Jews and Americans.

### (4) From Its Inception, J Street Has Opposed Economic and Diplomatic Pressure and Military Responses to Stop Palestinian Arab Terrorists:

J Street's lobbying to try to scuttle the Taylor Force Act is just the latest chapter in J Street's continuing efforts to support unconditional aid to the pro-terror Palestinian Authority regime. From its inception, J Street has opposed necessary economic, diplomatic and military responses to curb Palestinian-Arab terrorist attacks against Jews and Americans. Instead, J Street castigates Israel – the victim of Palestinian Arab terrorism.

J Street President Ben Ami alleges that Israel is simply being “*harsh on Palestinians*” – apparently without cause, or solely to satisfy Israeli “*primal urges*.” Ben Ami then claims that this is “*wrong, and counterproductive to boot*.” Ben-Ami argues:

*“One popular way for members of Congress to earn their pro-Israel stripes is to come down as hard as possible on the Palestinians, by using economic and diplomatic pressure or giving the Israelis a freer hand for military strikes. That may satisfy some primal urge to lash out at Israel’s foes, but it does Israel more harm than good. . . . And as long as the only channel for the Palestinians’ ingenuity is building better rockets, not even the Great Wall of China will protect Israel’s cities from their wrath.”*<sup>185</sup>

J Street has consistently supported U.S. funding for the PA and opposed proposals for reducing or terminating U.S. financial assistance in response to the PA’s pro-terror actions.

For instance, in 2011, J Street opposed the House Committee on Appropriations proposal to end assistance to the PA. J Street asserted that the proposal was “counterproductive” and would “undermine the Palestinian moderates.”<sup>186</sup> (In fact, those so-called “Palestinian moderates” running the PA are inciting and funding terrorists to murder Jews and Americans.)

J Street’s website also has an action alert and petition urging its readers and members to “*Tell Congress that supporting Palestinian aid is pro-Israel*.”<sup>187</sup>

## VIII. J STREET CONDEMNS ISRAEL FOR DEFENDING HERSELF FROM HAMAS ROCKET ATTACKS AND TERROR TUNNELS, AND MAKES PRO-HAMAS DEMANDS ON ISRAEL

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<sup>184</sup> Taylor Force Act summary, at <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1164>

<sup>185</sup> “*5 Myths on Who’s Really Pro-Israel*,” Washington Post, by Jeremy Ben-Ami, May 11, 2008, at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/05/08/AR2008050801521.html>

<sup>186</sup> “*House Appropriations Call To Cut Palestinian Aid Will Strengthen Hamas*,” J Street website, Sept. 28, 2011, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/house-appropriations-call-to-cut-palestinian-aid-will-strengthen-hamas\\_1-2/#.WUpes7KZO\\_s](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/house-appropriations-call-to-cut-palestinian-aid-will-strengthen-hamas_1-2/#.WUpes7KZO_s)

<sup>187</sup> “*TELL CONGRESS: AID BENEFITING PALESTINIANS ENHANCES ISRAEL’S SECURITY*,” J Street website, at [http://act.jstreet.org/sign/youmatter\\_palestinianaid/?akid=3144.243934.OLof4F](http://act.jstreet.org/sign/youmatter_palestinianaid/?akid=3144.243934.OLof4F)

**(1) J Street Opposes Israeli Self-Defense:**

J Street co-founder Daniel Levy made a remarkable statement during J Street's 2011 annual conference, revealing that J Street simply "cannot accept" the reality that Israel needs to defend herself against enemies committed to destroying the Jewish people. Levy said:

**"If . . . a collective Jewish presence in the Middle East can only survive by the sword; it cannot be accepted, [if] it's not about we do, they hate us for what we are, not what we do, if that's true, then Israel really ain't a very good idea."**<sup>188</sup>

Naomi Regan, in a *Jerusalem Post* op ed, commented about regarding Levy's shocking remarks:

*"So let me get this straight: If we Jews dare to defend ourselves from our enemies, it makes the Jewish state untenable? After the Holocaust, I actually thought that was one of the reasons for Zionism, a homeland where Jews could defend themselves from their enemies? Not a very pro-Zionist or pro-peace statement, wouldn't you agree?"*<sup>189</sup>

J Street's co-founder's mentality – that Israel mustn't defend herself – and blaming "what Israel does" for the Arab attacks on Israel – is pervasive at J Street. Even worse, J Street promotes pressuring Israel to adopt J Street's suicidal prescriptions for the Jewish State.

**(2) When Israel Defends Herself from Terror Attacks, J Street Viciously Condemns Israel and Israel's Supporters, and Demands Immediate Ceasefires:**

When Israel defends herself from terror attacks perpetrated by Gazan terrorist groups Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad ("PIJ"), and the Popular Resistance Committees – who launched thousands of rockets at Israel and built terror tunnels, J Street condemns Israel and Israel's supporters, and demands immediate ceasefires.

Operation Cast Lead (late December 2008 to mid-January 2009) was a case in point. Israel launched Operation Cast Lead only after Hamas and the other Palestinian Arab terrorist groups launched thousands of rockets from Gaza into Israel, killing and maiming Israeli civilians and completely disrupting life in southern Israel. Israeli men, women and children had to run for their lives into bomb shelters many times each day. Virtually the entire Israeli public, including the far-left Meretz Party, supported Operation Cast Lead. Meretz called for striking Hamas, declared that:

*"the time has come to act without compromise and without narrow political considerations to protect the residents of Gaza-area communities and Sderot."*<sup>190</sup>

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<sup>188</sup> "J-Street Co-Founder: Maybe Israel Isn't a Good Idea If Arabs Reject It," – video clip, Mar. 15, 2011, at <http://elderofzion.blogspot.com/2011/03/j-street-co-founder-maybe-israel-isnt.html>

<sup>189</sup> "My Street, Your Street and J Street," by Naomi Ragen, *Jerusalem Post*, Nov. 2, 2013, at <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Columnists/My-street-your-street-and-J-Street-330399>

<sup>190</sup> "Leftist Meretz Issues Rare Call for Military Action Against Hamas," *Haaretz*, Dec. 25, 2008, at [http://www.haaretz.com/news/leftist-meretz-issues-rare-call-for-military-action-against-hamas-1.260230?utm\\_source=JStreet+is+Anti-Israel%2C+Not+Simply+Extremist+Leftwing&utm\\_campaign=FL+Isr+Resolution+&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.haaretz.com/news/leftist-meretz-issues-rare-call-for-military-action-against-hamas-1.260230?utm_source=JStreet+is+Anti-Israel%2C+Not+Simply+Extremist+Leftwing&utm_campaign=FL+Isr+Resolution+&utm_medium=email)

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Yet, J Street opposed virtually the entire Israeli public's expressed need and determination to stop Hamas and PIJ rocket fire on Israeli civilians. J Street's opposition to Operation Cast Lead also contradicted the views of the entire organized American Jewish community. As an op-ed in Haaretz entitled "*The Surrender Lobby*" confirmed, "*When Israel launched Operation Cast Lead, the organized American Jewish community was unanimous in its support. Except J Street.*"<sup>191</sup>

During the days prior to Operation Cast Lead, J Street remained silent while Hamas rained down 150 rockets a day on Israeli towns in southern Israel.

Then, **on the first day that Israel began her military operations to stop Hamas's incessant rocket fire, J Street promptly accused Israel of "escalation" and "deepening the cycle of violence."** J Street went on to slander the American and Israeli public (which overwhelmingly supported Israel's military action) as **not** being "real friends" of Israel. J Street called for an immediate ceasefire (while ignoring that Hamas and PIJ broke every previous ceasefire), and also used the occasion to demand that the Obama administration should push for a Palestinian Arab state. J Street ignored that Hamas's commitment to destroying Israel and murdering every Jew would not cease – and rather would be encouraged – if a Palestinian Arab state was created.

J Street President Ben-Ami's press release stated:

*"we believe that real friends of Israel recognize that escalating the conflict will prove counterproductive, igniting further anger in the region and damaging long-term prospects for peace and stability . . . Today's IDF strikes will deepen the cycle of violence in the region . . . prospects of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict hang in the balance . . . only diplomacy and negotiations can end the rockets and terror."*<sup>192</sup>

J Street's Ben-Ami further maligned and attempted to delegitimize everyone who supported Israel's military action to stop Hamas' rockets. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency summed up J Street's statements as follows:

"According to J Street officials, if you support Israel's current course of action, you are: 1) **not a real friend of Israel**, 2) **do not support sanity and moderation**, 3) **don't discern nuances**, 4) **don't feel compassion** for dead and wounded Palestinians, and 5) might be a **latent racist**."<sup>193</sup>

### (3) **J Street Equated Hamas Rocket Attacks on Innocent Israeli Civilians to Israel's Targeted Action to Destroy Hamas' Rockets, and Equated the IDF to Hamas:**

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<sup>191</sup> "The Surrender Lobby," by James Kirchick, *Haaretz*, Jan. 9, 2009, at <http://www.haaretz.com/print-edition/opinion/the-surrender-lobby-1.267754>

<sup>192</sup> "Statement by Jeremy Ben-Ami, Executive Director, On Israeli Airstrikes in Gaza," J Street press release, Dec. 27, 2008, at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/statement-jeremy-ben-ami-executive-director-israeli-airstrikes-gaza/>

<sup>193</sup> "Dove Fight," by Ami Eden, *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, Jan. 5, 2009, at [http://www.jta.org/2009/01/05/news-opinion/the-telegraph/dove-fight\\_\(quoting\\_J\\_Street's\\_Online\\_Communications\\_Director,\\_Isaac\\_Luria.\)](http://www.jta.org/2009/01/05/news-opinion/the-telegraph/dove-fight_(quoting_J_Street's_Online_Communications_Director,_Isaac_Luria.))

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J Street went even further. In an outrageous display of “**moral equivalence**,” **J Street accused Israel of perpetrating “collective punishment”** during Operation Cast Lead: J Street equated Hamas’ rocket fire aimed at Israeli civilians to Israel’s targeted actions to destroy Hamas’ rockets. J Street’s on-line communications director stated:

*“While there is nothing ‘right’ in raining rockets on Israeli families or dispatching suicide bombers, **there is nothing ‘right’ in punishing a million and a half already-suffering Gazans for the actions of the extremists among them.**”<sup>194</sup>*

This preposterous statement of “moral equivalence” led the Union of Reform Judaism’s Rabbi Eric Yoffie, a noted dovish supporter of Israel, to criticize J Street. In an op-ed in *The Forward*, Yoffie wrote:

*“There is much evidence that Israel has worked hard to limit the carnage . . . [N]ot a few Jewish doves have demonstrated an utter lack of empathy for Israel’s predicament. J Street, a new Washington lobbying group and a major voice of the dovish pro-Israel community, has spoken out sharply against Israel’s actions in Gaza. While it claims to represent the moderate American Jewish majority, in this case it has misread the issues and misjudged the views of American Jews. It is not easy for me to write these words. I welcomed the founding of J Street and know many of those involved in its leadership. Furthermore, I am a dove myself.*

*J Street’s first statement[’s] . . . conclusion was that Israel made a mistake in attacking Hamas and that the United States and others must press for an immediate cease-fire. A second J Street statement was worse by far. **It [J Street] could find no moral difference between the actions of Hamas and other Palestinian militants, who have launched more than 5,000 rockets and mortar shells at Israeli civilians in the past three years, and the long-delayed response of Israel, which finally lost patience and responded to the pleas of its battered citizens in the south . . . [J Street’s] words are deeply distressing because they are morally deficient, profoundly out of touch with Jewish sentiment and also appallingly naïve.”<sup>195</sup>***

Rabbi Yoffie also noted that, at the start of Cast Lead, he had “checked with my [his] closest Israeli friends, who are all left of center, haters of war and ferocious opponents of the West Bank settlement movement. In virtually every case, they saw the action in Gaza as tragic but necessary and were astounded by the opposition of American doves.”<sup>196</sup>

In response, J Street doubled down, and called Israel’s efforts to stop rocket fire from Gaza “**disproportionate**,” “**escalatory**,” “**counterproductive**,” and said they “**deepen hatred**,” produce “**isolation**” and would “**foment extremism**.” J Street again

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<sup>194</sup> *Id.*

<sup>195</sup> See “Trouble on J Street,” by James Kirchick, *New Republic*, Oct. 27, 2009 at <https://newrepublic.com/article/70678/trouble-j-street>; and “On Gaza, Sense and Centrism,” by Rabbi Eric Yoffie, *The Forward*, Dec. 31, 2008, at <http://forward.com/opinion/14847/on-gaza-sense-and-centrism-03081/>

<sup>196</sup> “On Gaza, Sense and Centrism,” by Rabbi Eric Yoffie, *The Forward*, Dec. 31, 2008, *supra*.

**demanded an immediate cease fire, easing of the Gaza blockade, and prohibiting a ground operation.** J Street also quoted a Haaretz portrayal of those who “only” see the trauma inflicted on the people of Sderot as “*Pavlovian flag-wavers*,” lacking compassion for the dead and wounded on the other side, and “*latent racists*.<sup>197</sup>

J Street also despicably equated Hamas terrorist organization to the IDF, in J Street’s 2011 Conference “Giving Voices to our Values” video, which was posted on J Street’s website. The “J Street values” answer to the question “*Do you think Hamas is a terrorist organization?*” was “*Not any more than the IDF is.*<sup>198</sup>

#### **(4) After Operation Cast Lead Ended, J Street Championed the False “Goldstone Report” – Thereby Continuing to Malign Israel’s Actions in Gaza:**

J Street continued to malign Israel’s actions in Gaza even after the conclusion of Operation Cast Lead.

After the war, the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) – a corrupt body whose members included real human rights abusers, and that spends its time passing more resolutions against Israel than against all the other nations of the world combined<sup>199</sup> – appointed a Commission of Inquiry into the Gaza war, to be chaired by South African apartheid-era hanging judge, Richard Goldstone.<sup>200</sup> The UNHRC’s predominantly one-sided directive to the Commission (the investigation’s “terms of reference”) mandated “*investigat[ing] all violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law that might have been committed at any time in the context of the military operations that were conducted in Gaza during the period from 27 December 2008 and 18 January 2009, whether before, during or after.*” In other words, Israel was to be the investigation’s primary target.<sup>201</sup>

In accordance with its UNHRC mandate, the Goldstone Report said virtually nothing about Hamas’ war crimes. The report failed to address Hamas’s practices of embedding its fighters and weapons in densely populated areas; using Palestinian civilians as human shields; falsely reclassifying Hamas personnel as civilian police; and deliberately shooting thousands of rockets at Israeli civilian neighborhoods. Instead, despite the fact that Israeli counter-terrorism operations conformed to the highest standards of restraint, care and proportionality, the Goldstone Report condemned Israel for human rights violations and war crimes – based on unsubstantiated accounts from anti-Israel NGOs and self-interested Palestinian Arabs.

Israelis and Americans were understandably outraged, and overwhelmingly condemned the

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<sup>197</sup> J Street’s “*Statement In Response To Rabbi Eric Yoffie’s Comments In The Forward On December 31,*” Jan. 4, 2009, at <http://jstreet.org/statement-in-response-to-rabbi-eric-yoffies-comments-in-the-forward-on-december-31/>

<sup>198</sup> J Street’s 2011 Conference “Giving Voices to our Values” video, reproduced at “*J Street and the Jewish War Against Israel,*” by Caroline Glick, at [http://carolineglick.com/j\\_street\\_and\\_the\\_jewish\\_war\\_ag/](http://carolineglick.com/j_street_and_the_jewish_war_ag/)

<sup>199</sup> “*Legitimizing Despots,*” by Daniel Mandel, *American Spectator*, July 27, 2016, at <http://spectator.org/legitimizing-despots/>

<sup>200</sup> “*Goldstone Sent 28 SA Blacks to Death,*” *Jerusalem Post*, May 5, 2010, at <http://www.jpost.com/International/Goldstone-sent-28-SA-blacks-to-death>

<sup>201</sup> “*Human Rights In Palestine And Other Occupied Arab Territories: Report of the UN Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,*” General Assembly, Human Rights Council, 12th Sess., Sept. 25, 2009, p. 13, at <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/docs/12session/A-HRC-12-48.pdf>

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Goldstone Report. Even the Obama Administration strongly condemned the Goldstone Report.<sup>202</sup> And Judge Goldstone subsequently repudiated his own report's findings. In his subsequent published statement, Goldstone explained that Israel did **not** intentionally target civilians, and thus did not commit potential war crimes.<sup>203</sup>

Nonetheless, J Street championed the false Goldstone Report.

At J Street's inaugural national conference in October 2009, Rabbi Eric Yoffie (a dove, longtime "Palestinian state" backer and critic of Israeli settlements<sup>204</sup>) was booed when he tried to defend Israel's actions in Gaza from the Goldstone Report's accusations. Yoffie said: "*Israel is not in violation of international law in terms of the way they're dealing with the Gaza question.*" In response, the J Street crowd booed Rabbi Yoffie and cat-called: "*Oh, come on!*"<sup>205</sup>

J Street still wasn't finished. *The Washington Times* reported that J Street approached several U.S. lawmakers in November 2009 asking whether they would be interested in meeting the author of the UN report on the war in Gaza. Ben-Ami also admitted to *The Jerusalem Post* that his staff had made "two or three" phone calls to U.S. politicians to facilitate meetings with Judge Goldstone.<sup>206</sup>

On November 3, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives passed bipartisan resolution HR 867 condemning the Goldstone Report as "*biased and unworthy of further consideration or legitimacy,*" and castigated the Goldstone Report's other grievous faults.<sup>207</sup>

While HR 867 was circulating through Congress, a letter was purportedly written by Judge Goldstone to "correct" HR 867. Reports then emerged that J Street Advisory Council member Morton H. Halperin substantially wrote the "Judge Goldstone" letter attempting to derail Congress's condemnation of the Goldstone Report.<sup>208</sup> (Halperin is current J Street Chairman, and a senior advisor to self-confessed anti-Zionist George Soros' Open Society Institute.)

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<sup>202</sup> "U.S. Response to the Report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict: Statement by Michael Posner United States Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor," Sept. 2009, at <http://geneva.usmission.gov/2009/09/29/gaza-conflict/>

<sup>203</sup> "Reconsidering the Goldstone Report on Israel and War Crimes," by Richard Goldstone, *Washington Post*, Apr. 1, 2011, at [https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/reconsidering-the-goldstone-report-on-israel-and-war-crimes/2011/04/01/AFg11JC\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.b91683524c48](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/reconsidering-the-goldstone-report-on-israel-and-war-crimes/2011/04/01/AFg11JC_story.html?utm_term=.b91683524c48)

<sup>204</sup> "White House to J Street: We Have Your Back," by Ron Kampeas and Eric Fingerhut, *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, Oct. 28, 2009, at <http://www.jta.org/2009/10/28/news-opinion/politics/white-house-to-j-street-we-have-your-back>

<sup>205</sup> *Id.*; and "J Street Day One: Boos for Reform Leader," by Allison Hoffman, *The Tablet*, Oct. 26, 2009, at <http://www.tabletmag.com/scroll/19224/j-street-day-1-boos-for-reform-leader>

<sup>206</sup> "J Street Undergoing Fire After Attempting to Aid Goldstone," *JPost*, Oct. 3, 2010, at <http://www.jpost.com/International/J-Street-under-fire-after-attempting-to-aid-Goldstone>

<sup>207</sup> "H. Res. 867 - Calling on the President and the Secretary of State to oppose unequivocally any endorsement or further consideration of the 'Report of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict' in multilateral fora," 111th Congress (2009-2010), sponsored by Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) and Howard Berman (D-CA), Text at <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-resolution/867/text?format=xml>

<sup>208</sup> "J Street Adviser Morton Halperin Goes to Work for Goldstone," by Michael Goldfarb, *The Weekly Standard*, Oct. 30, 2009, at <http://www.weeklystandard.com/j-street-adviser-morton-halperin-goes-to-work-for-goldstone/article/271325>

## VIII. J STREET CONDEMS ISRAEL FOR DEFENDING HERSELF FROM ROCKETS, TERROR TUNNELS...

J Street failed to apologize when Goldstone subsequently recanted his report. Instead, J Street continues to falsely condemn Israel's actions in Gaza.

### (5) In 2010, J Street Lobbied Congresspersons to Sign the Infamous “Gaza 54 Letter” a/k/a “Hamas 54 letter” Condemning Israel, and Urging President Obama to Pressure Israel to Lift the Weapons Blockade of Gaza. J Street Then Attacked Pro-Israel Groups that Opposed this Anti-Israel Letter:

The Gaza blockade is necessary to curb Hamas’s rocket and tunnel attacks on Israel. The blockade consists of Israel checking shipments to prevent the importation into Gaza of weapons and “dual use construction materials” - which could be, and were in fact used to construct rocket launching pads and terror tunnels. The “Gaza 54” or “Hamas 54” letter, spearheaded by Muslim anti-Israel Congressman Keith Ellison, and named after its 54 unfriendly-to-Israel signers, demanded that Israel lift the Gaza blockade, and accused Israel of “collective punishment” and causing suffering of Gaza’s residents.

The letter failed to mention that in fact, Israel delivers truckloads of food, medicine, and other necessities to Gaza every day, and that both Israel and Egypt imposed the blockade, to prevent rockets and other arms from Iran and the Muslim Brotherhood from reaching Hamas.

The Forward reported that J Street was “*actively lobbying members of Congress to sign*” the letter, and that Arab and left-wing Jewish groups “*including J Street*” supported the letter.<sup>209</sup>

Moreover, J Street’s fundraising arm, J Street PAC, raised campaign funds for many of the “Gaza 54” signers, both before and after they signed this anti-Israel pro-Hamas letter.<sup>210</sup>

Further, after the pro-Israel group Emergency Committee for Israel criticized congress members for signing this anti-Israel letter, J Street “*launched an anti-Emergency Committee for Israel website.*”<sup>211</sup>

### (6) J Street Has Continued to Demand Lifting the Gaza Weapons Blockade:

J Street has continued to demand that Israel lift the Gaza blockade, and continues to demonize Israel by falsely asserting that Israel is blocking humanitarian supplies from entering Gaza. In fact, the “Gaza blockade” consists of checking that weapons are not being smuggled into Gaza. Israel has always allowed in humanitarian supplies. Israel sends hundreds of truckloads of supplies to Gaza each day.

For instance, in J Street’s press release entitled “Freeze Means Freeze” (which praised former President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton for insisting upon a construction freeze on Jewish settlements in Judea/Samaria and eastern Jerusalem), J Street gratuitously added:

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209 “Congressional Letter To End Gaza Blockade Splits Activists,” by Nathan Guttman, *The Forward*, Feb. 3, 2010, at <http://forward.com/news/124917/congressional-letter-to-end-gaza-blockade-splits-a/>; and text of the Gaza 54 letter at <https://pulsemedia.org/2010/01/27/members-of-congress-sign-letter-urging-obama-to-stop-the-siege-of-gaza/>

210 “The Anti-Israel Lobby ‘Pro-Israel, Pro-Peace’ J Street Backs Congressmen Who Do Not Support Israel,” by Adam Kredo, *Free Beacon*, May 23, 2012, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/the-anti-israel-lobby/>

211 “Representative Joe Sestak ‘Regrets’ Signing J Street’s ‘Gaza 54’ Letter,” by Mike Vilensky, *New York Mag.*, Sept. 5, 2010, at [http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2010/09/israel\\_sestak.html](http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2010/09/israel_sestak.html)

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*“Israel also needs to . . . open the Gaza border crossings for humanitarian supplies and reconstruction materials.”<sup>212</sup>*

J Street’s 2015 conference featured a keynote address by Maha Mehana, a Gazan friend of “Other Voices,” an NGO whose primary activity is a “continued campaign against the blockade on Gaza.”<sup>213</sup> Mehana piled on false condemnations of Israel during her J Street address, and demanded one-sided “steps towards reparations and where possible return” for descendants of supposed Palestinian Arab refugees. She falsely told the J Street conferees:

*“Israeli attacks on Gaza were escalating indiscriminately last summer. The Israeli navy was shelling from the sea. The warplanes were launching bombs and missiles from the sky. The tanks were shelling from the ground . . . Nowhere was safe and there was nowhere to hide. There are no warning sirens.”<sup>214</sup>*

J Street failed to inform its conference audience that, in fact, Israel carefully targeted terrorist sites and took unheard of steps to protect civilians, including multiple advanced warnings to civilians near targeted Hamas weapons caches. There were minimal civilian casualties.

During her J Street address, Mehana *never* mentioned anything positive about the Jewish State – such as Mehanna’s regular trips from Gaza to an Israeli hospital, where she receives first class treatment for a chronic medical ailment.<sup>215</sup>

### (7) J Street Falsely Accused Israel of Killing Palestinian Civilians In Gaza:

In early 2012, Gazan terrorist groups again launched intense rocket fire into Israel, making normal life virtually impossible for civilians in southern Israel, who had to run to bomb shelters every few minutes. In March, the Gazan terrorists were in the last stages of preparing an even larger-scale attack on Israeli civilians. On March 9-12, 2012, the IDF finally responded with pinpoint strikes targeting terrorist installations and the armed Gazan terrorist commanders and fighters who were responsible for the rocket fire, who were also planning large-scale attacks on Israel.

J Street then outright lied that the IDF “killed over a dozen Palestinian civilians” – when, in fact, *no* civilians were killed. Multiple contemporaneous press accounts,<sup>216</sup> as well as a full list

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212 “Freeze Means Freeze,” J Street website, May 28, 2009, at [http://jstreet.org/a-freeze-means-freeze/#.WUxG41KZO\\_s](http://jstreet.org/a-freeze-means-freeze/#.WUxG41KZO_s)

213 “About Us,” Other Voices website, at <http://www.othervoice.org/info/eng/about-us.htm>

214 “Maha Mehanna: Keynote Speech at the J Street 5th National Conference: A Clear Choice for a Better Future,” Mar. 21, 2015, at [https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/Maha\\_Mehanna\\_JST2015.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/Maha_Mehanna_JST2015.pdf)

215 “Israeli/Gaza Friendship Survives Cross-Border Violence,” *Israel Hayom*, July 18, 2014, at [http://www.israelhayom.com/site/newsletter\\_article.php?id=18901](http://www.israelhayom.com/site/newsletter_article.php?id=18901)

216 See, e.g., “IDF Foils Major Attack; Kills 2 Terrorists in Gaza Strike,” *Jerusalem Post*, Mar. 9, 2012, at <http://www.jpost.com/Defense/IDF-foils-major-attack-kills-2-terrorists-in-Gaza-strike>; “Airstrikes Kill 3 in South Gaza,” *Ma'an News Agency*, Mar. 11, 2012, at <http://www.maannews.com/Content.aspx?id=466705>; “IAF kills 3 more terrorists; Over 100 Rockets Fired From Gaza,” *Yediot Achronot*, Mar. 10, 2012, at <http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0%2c7340%2cL-4200869%2coo.html>; and “Israel Bombs Gaza for a Second Day,” *Ma'an News Agency*, Mar. 10, 2012, at <http://www.maannews.com/Content.aspx?id=466626>

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of names and terrorist affiliations published at the time<sup>217</sup> all showed that the only individuals killed in Israel's pinpoint strike were 6 officials and fighters from the vicious Popular Resistance Committees terrorist group, and 10 officials and fighters from Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

After J Street's lie was exposed, J Street compounded its lie with a misleading "revised" statement that merely stated that J Street regretted that its original statement "*misstated the number of civilian casualties.*"<sup>218</sup> J Street's clever wording of its "revised statement" thus reinforced J Street's lie, by leaving readers with the false and misleading impression that Israel caused some unspecified number of civilian casualties. J Street never clarified or apologized for the fact that it had lied by saying that there were more than a dozen civilian Palestinian Arab casualties - when in fact **no** civilian casualties occurred.

In addition, J Street's "revised" statement once again resorted to immoral "moral equivalence" and blamed Israel for "escalating violence" instead of "addressing outstanding grievances": J Street "*urge[d] all involved to exercise maximal restraint*" – thereby equating Israeli forces targeting terrorists to terrorists who deliberately fire rockets into Israel to murder Israeli civilians. Even worse, J Street's revised statement claimed that "*The way to address outstanding grievances is by achieving a two-state solution, not by escalating violence.*" In other words, J Street was arguing that Israel could stop terrorists from attacking Israel by creating a terrorist Hamas-Fatah state – which would have even greater capabilities for attacking Israel's citizens.

J Street's anti-Israel unethical statement so outraged MK Otniel Schneller from the left-wing Kadima Party, that MK Schneller declared on the Knesset floor:

*"At a time when a million Israeli citizens have been living in bomb shelters for four days and four nights, have not gone to school or work and anxiously await the next siren, the terrorists firing on them are getting encouragement and support, not just from Iran and Hezbollah, but also from the left-wing Jewish American organization J Street .... The anti-Israel and anti-ethical statement of J Street should serve as a warning for Israeli politicians and left-wing activists, including members of my party, against supporting and identifying with J Street, as they have done in the past."*<sup>219</sup>

### (8) During the 2014 Gaza War, J Street Called for an Early Ceasefire Before Israel Could Begin to Destroy Hamas's Terror Tunnels, And Again Condemned Israel

By the summer of 2014, Hamas was again bombarding Israel with rockets multiple times each hour. In addition, Hamas had built dozens of sophisticated multi-channel terror tunnels leading

<sup>217</sup> On the blog, at [challahhuakbar.blogspot.com/2012/03/jstreet-libels-israel-says-it-killed.html](http://challahhuakbar.blogspot.com/2012/03/jstreet-libels-israel-says-it-killed.html), (now deleted). Following J Street's misleading "revision," ZOA published the names of the terrorists and their terrorist affiliations at "ZOA Criticizes Extremist, Anti-Israel J Street for Falsely Claiming Israel Killed Palestinian Civilians," Mar. 16, 2012, at <http://zoa.org/2012/03/103219-zoa-criticizes-extremist-anti-israel-j-street-for-falsely-claiming-israel-killed-palestinian-civilians/>

<sup>218</sup> "Revised: J Street Responds to Recent Violence Between Israel, Gaza," J Street press release, Mar. 11, 2012, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/revised-j-street-responds-to-recent-violence-between-israel-gaza\\_1/#.WEHA63eZNGw](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/revised-j-street-responds-to-recent-violence-between-israel-gaza_1/#.WEHA63eZNGw)

<sup>219</sup> "MK Slams J Street For Statement on Gaza," by Jeremy Sharon, *Jerusalem Post*, Mar. 14, 2012, at <http://www.jpost.com/Diplomacy-and-Politics/MK-slams-J-Street-for-statement-on-Gaza>

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to Jewish kindergartens and other civilian sites, and was planning to use the tunnels to inflict massive casualties and kidnap Jewish children and other Israeli civilians. On July 8, 2014, Israel finally responded by launching counter-measures in Gaza called Operation Protective Edge.

Virtually the entire Israeli and American Jewish public supported Israel's military operation – and opposed a ceasefire until the job was complete. Three weeks into the war, pollster Mina Tzemach found that 87% of Israeli Jews said that Israel should **not** agree to a cease fire because "*Hamas continues firing missiles on Israel, not all the tunnels have been found, and Hamas has not surrendered.*" Less than 10% said that Israel should cease its operation.

In other words, the Israeli public overwhelmingly wanted the IDF to finally decisively defeat Hamas, demolish Hamas' terrorist apparatus, and render Hamas unable to continue plaguing Israeli civilian life with day-and-night rocket fire from the skies and terror from beneath the ground.<sup>220</sup>

Also, a joint Israel Democracy Institute and Tel Aviv University survey polled Israelis on three occasions between July 14 and July 23, and found that 95% of respondents said that Israel's operation was justified, and only 3% to 4% of the Israeli public regarded Israel's military operations in Gaza being in any way excessive.<sup>221</sup>

By contrast, the morning after the IDF began its ground operation in Gaza, J Street immediately issued a public statement calling for a ceasefire. J Street stated that it "*regretted that a ceasefire was not reached in advance of this escalation and support[s] [a ceasefire] being brokered quickly.*"<sup>222</sup> J Street was thus promoting a cease fire before Israel had even launched its primary military operation. J Street thus wanted Israel to take no military action to stop Hamas's rocket bombardments and Hamas' imminent planned mass casualty attacks on Israeli civilians, via Hamas' sophisticated web of terror tunnels.

J Street's statement also called upon the IDF to "minimize casualties." The IDF always takes such measures, and did not need J Street's bad faith, unnecessary advice.

J Street's statement also declared: "*We categorically oppose calls for the reoccupation of the Gaza Strip as the goal of this operation.*" The term "reoccupation" acknowledges that there is no current "occupation." Yet, ironically, in the next paragraph, J Street declared that Israel should "*end the occupation.*" **J Street also asserted that "*the Israeli-Palestinian conflict cannot be resolved militarily*"** – a fallacious argument for opposing Israel's efforts to defend herself from terror attacks.

Disregarding Israeli citizens' safety and overwhelming views, J Street continued to call for a ceasefire long before the Gaza terror tunnels and rocket threats could be eliminated. On July 23, 2014, just one week into the IDF's ground operation, in a speech to more than 20 Democratic Senators at the Senate Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee (DSOC), J Street's Ben-Ami falsely portrayed many Gazan casualties as civilians and non-combatants, and urged an

<sup>220</sup> "Poll: 86.5% of Israelis Oppose Cease-Fire," by Gil Hoffman, *Jerusalem Post*, July 28, 2014, at <http://www.jpost.com/Operation-Protective-Edge/Poll-865-percent-of-Israelis-oppose-cease-fire-369064>

<sup>221</sup> "Israeli Polls Show Overwhelming Support for Gaza Campaign," by Harriet Sherwood, *The Guardian* [London], July 31, 2014, at <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jul/31/israeli-polls-support-gaza-campaign-media>

<sup>222</sup> "J Street Statement on the Ground Operation in Gaza," July 8, 2014, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-statement-on-ground-operation-in-gaza\\_1/](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-statement-on-ground-operation-in-gaza_1/)

“immediate ceasefire.”<sup>223</sup>

**(9) J Street U’s Recent Former President Praised Gazan (Hamas) “Resistance” and Falsely Accused Israel of Inflicting Horror on Gaza:**

After the 2014 Gaza war, J Street U’s then-incoming president Amna Farooqi (who is a Muslim) praised Gazan/Hamas “resistance” (a euphemism for Hamas shooting rockets at innocent Israeli civilians) saying: “*Every movement exercises a range of acts of resistance.*”<sup>224</sup>

J Street U’s Farooqi also repeatedly falsely and viciously accused Israel of “*horror inflicted on Gaza this summer*” and falsely tweeted: “*nowhere was safe in Gaza this summer. there was nowhere to hide...the bombings continued day and night.*”<sup>225</sup> Farooqi has continued her vicious anti-Israel tweets, including recently accusing the IDF of assaulting and robbing non-violent activists.

J Street and Farooqi omitted that Hamas is responsible for the horrors of Gaza; Hamas’ 19,000 rocket attacks on Israel’s citizen; and Israel’s extraordinary, unprecedented steps to avoid civilian casualties in Gaza (including Israel’s multiple warnings to civilians prior to bombing Hamas rocket installations) – even while Hamas rockets constantly rained down on innocent Israeli civilians.

**(10) J Street Supports Engaging Hamas:**

From the outset, J Street co-founder and President Jeremy Ben-Ami urged engaging with U.S. designated terrorist group Hamas, saying:

“*Hamas won the most recent Palestinian national elections in a landslide. . . . [R]esponsible friends of Israel . . . should be engaging with [Hamas and Iran].*”<sup>226</sup>

Furthermore, on a since-removed J Street website page entitled, “*Resolution of the Conflict Will Involve Hamas,*” J Street stated:

“*we would not oppose a decision by the Israeli government, the United States, or other countries to find unofficial, indirect ways to engage Hamas in order to advance U.S. and Israeli interests.*”<sup>227</sup>

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223 “*Jeremy Ben-Ami Remarks to Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee,*” July 23, 2014, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/jeremy-benami-remarks-to-democratic-steering-outreach-committee\\_1/](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/jeremy-benami-remarks-to-democratic-steering-outreach-committee_1/)

224 Farooqi twitter account, Nov. 14, 2014, at <https://twitter.com/afarooq199/status/533385735991492608>

225 See Farooqi twitter account, at <https://twitter.com/afarooq199?lang=en>, and “*New J Street U Pres. is Profoundly Anti-Israel, Promotes Violence, Ugly Lies, and Boycotts Against Israel,*” Sept. 3, 2015, at <http://zoa.org/2015/09/10295826-zoa-new-j-street-u-president-is-a-radical-muslim-who-promotes-violence-ugly-lies-and-boycotts-against-israel/>; and “*US Jews Wake Up: Muslim J-Street Head is ‘Anti-Israel’: Two Weeks After the Election Of A Muslim To Head J-Street, More Of Her Anti-Israel Positions Are Coming To Light,*” by Hillel Fendel, *Israel Nat'l News*, 2015, Sept. 4, 2015, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/200306>

226 “5,” by Jeremy Ben-Ami, *Washington Post*, May 11, 2008, at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/05/08/AR2008050801521.html>

227 “*Resolution of the Conflict Will Involve Hamas,*” formerly at [http://jstreet.org/blog/post/resolution-of-the-conflict-will-involve-hamas\\_1](http://jstreet.org/blog/post/resolution-of-the-conflict-will-involve-hamas_1), quoted in “*ZOA Report: J Street – Siding with Israel’s Enemies,*”

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J Street now posts this exact same wording, with the caveat that J Street opposes “official” contact with Hamas, on J Street’s “Myths” website page, under the “myths” subtitle “*J Street favors the United States negotiating with Hamas.*” Thus, J Street’s “myths” website page confirms that J Street **is** willing to engage Hamas.<sup>228</sup>

J Street’s “myths” website page also rationalizes engaging Hamas, by, among other things, calling Hamas a “*political movement*.” That’s a whitewash of a U.S. designated terrorist organization whose charter calls for the “murder of every Jew” and which is responsible for murdering and maiming thousands of Israelis. J Street’s website alleges:

*“Hamas is a political movement that has an important and significant base of support within Palestinian society and politics. Ultimately, a political resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will require Palestinian political reconciliation between the West Bank and Gazan polities.”*<sup>229</sup>

J Street’s Ben Ami gave similar rationalizations for engaging Hamas in Haaretz in 2009. Ben Ami called Hamas a “*political force . . . willing to engage in negotiations and abide by the results,*” saying:

*“Hamas as a significant political force in that society isn’t going away. I found it very compelling that we were talking to a Lebanese government that included Hezbollah representation. Why wouldn’t we do the same with a Palestinian government that includes Hamas and is willing to engage in negotiations and abide by the results.”*<sup>230</sup>

It is remarkable that J Street supports engaging Hamas, when Hamas opposes negotiations with Israel, and even more importantly, Hamas vehemently opposes peace with Israel. The Hamas Charter (Articles 13-15) declares:

*“[Peace] initiatives, the so-called peaceful solutions, and the international conferences to resolve the Palestinian problem, are all contrary to the beliefs of the Islamic Resistance Movement. . . . There is no solution to the Palestinian problem except by Jihad. . . . Palestine is an Islamic land. . . . Jihad for the liberation of Palestine . . . is a duty binding on all Muslims.”*<sup>231</sup>

Hamas’ new policy statement (which does **not** abrogate its charter) continues to maintain that “*Negotiations with the occupation [Hamas’s euphemism for Israel] are not included*” and that direct negotiations “serve the interests of the occupation.”<sup>232</sup>

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April 8, 2013, at <http://zoa.org/2013/04/10196411-zoa-report-j-street-siding-with-israels-enemies/>

228 “Our Policies: Myths & Facts: J Street Favors the United States Negotiating with Hamas,” J Street website, at. <http://jstreet.org/about-us/myths-facts-about-j-street/our-policies/#.WSDf7lMyMI>

229 Id.

230 Quoted in “The Misrepresentation of J Street,” by Matthew M. Hausman, *American Thinker*, Aug. 16, 2009, at [http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2009/08/the\\_misrepresentation\\_of\\_j\\_str.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2009/08/the_misrepresentation_of_j_str.html)

231 “*Hamas Charter: The Charter of Allah: The Platform of the Islamic Resistance Movement*,” Ariel Center for Policy Research (ACPR), at <http://www.acpr.org.il/resources/hamascharter.html>

232 “*Mashaal: No Negotiations with the ‘Occupation’*,” *Israel Nat'l News*, May 2, 2017, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/228939>

**ISLAMIST (INCLUDING AL QAEDA) TERROR & THE PA'S ANTI-ISRAEL INCITEMENT**

In J Street's upside-down Orwellian world, Israel is to blame for the attacks perpetrated by Palestinian Arabs and other Islamist terrorists. J Street's "blame the victim" mentality also absolves Palestinian Arabs and other Islamists from murdering and inciting the murder of innocent Jews.

For instance, J Street President Ben-Ami proclaimed that:

*"[A]s long as the only channel for the Palestinians' ingenuity is building better rockets, not even the Great Wall of China will protect Israel's cities from their wrath."*<sup>233</sup>

In another interview, Ben-Ami again blamed Israel for Palestinian-Arab terrorism, saying:

*"We're not doing a very good job at creating a secure home by conducting ourselves in this manner towards another people that are a minority, and that are powerless, and treating them in a way that forces them essentially to become terrorists, and leads to us being again in danger."*<sup>234</sup>

In short, in J Street's view, Palestinian Arabs lack moral volition of their own; Israel "forces" Palestinian Arabs to become mass-murderers.

J Street also recently criticized the Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu as "*simplistic and lamentable*" for blaming the PA's culture of hatred as the fertilizing the soil from which the individual terrorists spring.<sup>235</sup>

**J Street even blames Israel for other Islamist terror, including Al Qaeda attacks on the U.S.** J Street co-founder and President Jeremy Ben-Ami blamed Israel for al Qaeda attacks on the U.S., saying:

*"The situation in Israel and Palestine is directly related to recruitment by extremist forces, by Al Qaeda, of the terrorists who then come here."*<sup>236</sup>

**X. J STREET CAMPAIGNS AGAINST MOVING THE U.S. EMBASSY TO ISRAEL'S CAPITAL JERUSALEM; AND FOR DIVIDING JERUSALEM:**

**(1) J Street Campaigns *Against* Moving the U.S. Embassy to Israel's Capital Jerusalem, Despite Widespread Bipartisan Support for the Move:**

Massive bipartisan majorities in the House (374–37) and Senate (93–5) voted for the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995, which requires that the U.S. embassy must be moved to Israel's united

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<sup>233</sup> "5," by Jeremy Ben-Ami, *Washington Post*, May 11, 2008, at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/05/08/AR2008050801521.html>

<sup>234</sup> "Taking Back the Debate Over Israel," by Gary Kamiya, *Salon*, Apr. 27, 2016, at [http://www.salon.com/2008/04/29/j\\_street/#topOfPage4](http://www.salon.com/2008/04/29/j_street/#topOfPage4)

<sup>235</sup> "J Street Condemns Tel Aviv Bus Stabbings," J street press release, Jan. 21, 2015, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-condemns-tel-aviv-bus-stabbings\\_1\\_\(since deleted\).](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-condemns-tel-aviv-bus-stabbings_1_(since deleted).)

<sup>236</sup> "D.C.'s New Jewish Lobby Presses Israel," *Newsweek*, May 26, 2008, at <http://www.newsweek.com/dcs-new-jewish-lobby-presses-israel-90393?from=rss>

## X. J STREET CAMPAIGN AGAINST MOVING US EMBASSY TO JERUSALEM...

capital Jerusalem.<sup>237</sup> Mainstream American Jewish organizations supported the Act's enactment and have long sought its implementation. Donald Trump's election raised hopes throughout Israel and the pro-Israel community that the U.S. embassy would finally be moved to Jerusalem, in accordance with the Jerusalem Embassy Act and President Trump's pre-election pledges.

While Donald Trump was still President-elect, J Street immediately responded by launching a campaign *against* moving the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem. An elaborate J Street web page opposing moving the embassy begins with a press release entitled "*Moving the Embassy is Still A Bad Idea,*"<sup>238</sup> in which J Street President Ben-Ami asserts that moving the embassy would be "inflammatory" and a "danger to U.S. interests."

In the same press release, Ben-Ami falsely asserted that moving the embassy "*misunderstand[s] the Jewish community.*" Ben-Ami falsely and misleadingly claimed that "*a Gallup poll conducted this year showed that just 24% of American Jews would support the move.*" In fact, the majority of the Gallup poll respondents who had any opinion supported the US embassy move to Jerusalem. (56% had no opinion; 24% supported the embassy move to Jerusalem, and only 20% opposed the move.) Moreover, the Gallup poll was not a poll of American Jews, as J Street falsely claimed. The Gallup poll was of all Americans (of which Jews are only 2 or 3%).<sup>239</sup> See also this report's Section XXI, entitled "*J Street Conducts Deceptive Polls and Misrepresents Polling Data to Create the False Impression that American Jews Support J Street's Agenda.*"

In addition, at J Street's February 2017 annual national conference, the chief of the PLO's delegation in Washington DC, Maen Areikat threatened that moving the U.S. embassy's location "*is going to have very, very negative repercussions.*"<sup>240</sup>

J Street's February 2017 national conference also featured a panel discussion called "*Jerusalem 2017: Crisis and Opportunity.*" The event's written description threatened dire consequences of an embassy move, stating: "*Talk of unilaterally moving the American Embassy to Jerusalem has sparked concern of adding fuel to the flames.*"<sup>241</sup>

During the J Street panel's presentation, panelist Ziad Abu Zayyad, who is a BDS advocate<sup>242</sup> and former Palestinian Authority Minister, asserted that moving the U.S. embassy has "*dangerous implications.*"

Abu Zayyad also falsely asserted that moving the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem would violate UN Resolution 181, and falsely claimed that Res. 181 made Jerusalem a separate entity.

In fact, Resolution 181 was merely a *recommendation*, and *never* became binding international

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<sup>237</sup> "Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995," at <https://www.congress.gov/104/plaws/publ45/PLAW-104publ45.pdf>

<sup>238</sup> "Moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem is Still a Bad Idea," by Jeremy Ben-Ami, Dec. 13, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/moving-us-embassy-jerusalem-still-bad-idea/#.WNLTDhiZNGw>

<sup>239</sup> "Jerusalem, Jews, and the Presidential Candidates," Gallup, Mar. 24, 2016, at <http://www.gallup.com/opinion/polling-matters/190283/jerusalem-jews-presidential-candidates.aspx>

<sup>240</sup> "Palestinian Envoy Warns Against Moving US Embassy in Israel: At J Street Conference," by Richard Lardner, *Times of Israel*, Feb. 28, 2017, at <http://www.timesofisrael.com/palestinian-envoy-warns-against-moving-us-embassy-in-israel/>

<sup>241</sup> [http://jstreet.org/2017-conference-highlights/#.WRe4RVLMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/2017-conference-highlights/#.WRe4RVLMy_s)

<sup>242</sup> "Palestinians Should Welcome Europe's First Steps Toward Full Boycott of Israeli Settlements," by Ziad Abu Zayyad, *Haaretz*, Nov 29, 2015, at <http://www.haaretz.com/opinion/.premium-1.689084>

## X. J STREET CAMPAIGN AGAINST MOVING US EMBASSY TO JERUSALEM...

law, because the Arabs rejected UN Res. 181 and instead invaded and attempted to destroy Israel. Jerusalem thus legally remained an area designated for Jewish settlement and the Jewish homeland under binding international agreements, including the League of Nations Mandate and San Remo Agreement. But sadly, no one a J Street was informed of the actual facts.

The second J Street panelist Hillel Schenker, who grew up in Western Jerusalem and now lives in Tel Aviv, asserted that “*Tel Aviv should be capital of Israel*” and claimed that when he was growing up: “*I personally didn’t miss the fact that you didn’t have access to the Old City.*”

Of course, most Jews *did* terribly miss the fact that the Arabs expelled and denied the Jewish people access to the Jewish quarter and Judaism’s holiest sites in Jerusalem. Jews lived in the Old City for 3,000 years, and were the majority religion in the city since at least the first census in 1840.

Most Jews were deeply upset that Jordan destroyed 58 Jewish synagogues during the 19-year period (1948-1967) when Jordan captured and illegally occupied Jerusalem’s Old City and other portions of eastern Jerusalem. And most Jews in western Jerusalem did not enjoy having barbed wire running through the heart of the city, and Arab snipers shooting at them from the hills of eastern Jerusalem. Unfortunately, J Street did not place such voices on its Jerusalem panel.

The third and final panelist featured on J Street’s Jerusalem panel, Judith Oppenheimer, accused Israel of “*fragmentizing east Jerusalem*” and “*extremization of the problem.*” This is apparently radical jargon for insisting upon dividing Jerusalem, and ethnically cleansing Jews from living in the Old City of Jerusalem – the seat of Judaism’s holiest sites.

### (2) J Street Campaigns To Divide Jerusalem

The enormous bi-partisan support for the Jerusalem Embassy Act and polling data reveal that Americans overwhelmingly support Jerusalem as the undivided capital of Israel. In a 2014 McLaughlin & Associates poll,<sup>243</sup> in response to the question, “*Do you believe that Jerusalem should remain the undivided capital of Israel?*,” Americans supported Jerusalem remaining the undivided capital of Israel by more than 4 to 1 ratio (55% to 13%).

In the years when Jerusalem was divided (1948-1967) and Jordan illegally occupied the eastern portion of the city, Jewish children could not even walk to school in the western portion of Jerusalem without being shot at by Arab snipers. It would be a calamity to return to this situation.

Yet, J Street vigorously campaigns to divide Jerusalem. J Street’s “Policy” page on Jerusalem<sup>244</sup> calls for purported “*Palestinian areas of East Jerusalem [to] become the capital of the future Palestinian state.*” (There is, in fact, no entity named “East Jerusalem.” All areas of Jerusalem are part of an undivided city.)

J Street’s Jerusalem policy page also discriminatorily demands “*no construction of Jewish housing*” in “Arab” neighborhoods – but makes no similar demand on Arabs to stop building wherever they wish. As described above, J Street’s 2017 annual conference panel on Jerusalem

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<sup>243</sup> McLaughlin & Associates, “*ZOA Release Of New Poll: Americans Show Overwhelming Support For Israeli Positions -- Oppose Obama’s Positions,*” Jan. 28, 2014, at <http://mclaughlinonline.com/2014/01/28/new-poll-americans-show-overwhelming-support-for-israeli-positions-oppose-obamas-positions/>

<sup>244</sup> <http://jstreet.org/policy/jerusalem/>

pushed for the same divisive agenda.

**XI. J STREET SUPPORTS ETHNIC CLEANSING OF JEWS & FALSELY CONDEMNS “SETTLEMENTS” (JEWISH COMMUNITIES PAST THE GREEN LINE) AS “ILLEGAL”**

**(1) J Street Promotes Uprooting Jews From Their Homes and Preventing Jewish Building in the Jewish Homeland Past the 1949 Armistice Lines:**

J Street supports uprooting Jews from their homes past the 1949 Armistice lines, a/k/a the “green line” or “pre-1967 lines” – despite the fact that Israel has the international legal, historical and religious right to these areas. The Armistice lines were where the fighting stop after six Arab nations invaded Israel in 1948-1949 and seized areas designated for the Jewish homeland under binding international law. The Armistice agreements specifically stated that the Armistice lines were “without prejudice” to the parties’ borders. Most of Israel’s and Judaism’s holiest sites – including the Western Wall and Temple Mount in Jerusalem, Hebron, etc. are beyond the artificial “green line.”

For instance, ***J Street’s website even has plans to evacuate 100,000 Jews from their homes.***<sup>245</sup>

J Street has also repeatedly featured speeches by the PLO’s chief representative in Washington, Maen Areikat, who advocates ethnically cleansing Jews from Judea/Samaria and Jerusalem’s Jewish quarter and other holy sites in Jerusalem. Areikat has stated that “absolutely” any Jew who is inside the borders of Palestine will have to leave.<sup>246</sup>

Similarly, J Street President Ben-Ami said that he does not see how “*Israelis and Jews continue to live over the Green Line.*”<sup>247</sup>

J Street also repeatedly condemns Jewish communities in the Jewish homeland past the green line in vicious, fear-mongering terms. (Ben-Ami uses the misleading term “settlements” to refer to Jewish towns, cities and communities in the historic and lawfully designated Jewish homelands in Judea/Samaria and eastern Jerusalem.)

For instance, Ben-Ami’s “call to arms” introductory speech at J Street’s February 2017 annual conference focused on condemning “settlements” (in addition to opposing sanctions aimed at Iran’s terrorist and ballistic missile activities, as discussed in this report’s Section VI.(8) above). Ben-Ami falsely and viciously portrayed “settlements” as an “obstacle to peace” and as part of an “*unfolding darkness*” and “*assault*” against “*core Jewish values*.” Ironically, Ben-Ami engaged in the worst kind of fear mongering during his speech, while accusing those who believe that Jews have a right to live in their homeland (or who seek to sanction Iran) of “*weaponizing fear*.” Ben-Ami specifically condemned advisors around President Trump, including then-nominee for

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245 “How To Evacuate 100,000 Israelis From The West Bank,” J Street website, at [http://jstreet.org/how-to-evacuate-100000-israelis-from-the-west-bank\\_1/](http://jstreet.org/how-to-evacuate-100000-israelis-from-the-west-bank_1/) with link to full article “How to Evacuate 100,000 Israelis From the West Bank,” by Zvika Krieger, *The Atlantic*, Apr. 12, 2012, at <http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2012/04/how-to-evacuate-100-000-israelis-from-the-west-bank/255775/>

246 “Q&A: Maen Rashid Areikat,” by David Samuels, *Tablet*, Oct. 29, 2010, at <http://pages.citebite.com/y5h4v2m4poxlx>

247 “Interview: Jeremy Ben-Ami,” by Charley J. Levine, *Hadassah Mag.*, Oct./Nov. 2010, accessible at <http://www.hadassahmagazine.org/2010/10/10/interview-jeremy-ben-ami/>.

## XI. J STREET SUPPORTS ETHNIC CLEANSING OF JEWS & FALSELY CONDEMNS “SETTLEMENTS”...

Ambassador to Israel David Friedman “*who see settlement expansion as a goal, not an obstacle to peace*” and exhorted the J Street audience to “*fight*” and “*resist*,” as follows:<sup>248</sup>

**“Dark clouds loom on the horizon, not only here in the shadow of the White House, but in Israel, and around the world. Democratic values are under attack, core Jewish beliefs are under assault. . . . Here, in Israel, and around the world, some are manipulating the legitimate fear that people feel, to set neighbor against neighbor, and to erode democratic norms and values. Throughout history, we have seen what happens when demagogues and tyrants weaponized fear. They lead their people down dark paths. . . . At the dawn of the Trump era, we will stand down the darkness right here in these United States. . . . The most hawkish voices may be loud, but they don’t speak for us . . . The two-state solution [a euphemism for creating a terrorist Palestinian-Arab state] is under a sustained assault. One state [a euphemism for an Israel with secure borders, preferred by the Israeli public, 10 to 1] is the problem we are here to fix. . . . We have close advisors around the president, for instance, his nominee to be ambassador as David Friedman, who see settlement expansion as a goal, not an obstacle to peace. . . . All goes against values as to who we are as a Jewish people. . . . Yes my friends, dark clouds are indeed looming on the horizon. . . . The reasons we are here at J Street . . . the only answer is to organize and win . . . We need to be out there on the streets. . . . We will bring that energy to bear at election time. . . . I want to hear loudly . . . Are you ready to fight? Are you ready to resist? Are you ready to win?” That’s what I want to hear.**<sup>249</sup>

J Street also attempted to use its complaints about Friedman’s nomination to fundraise.<sup>250</sup>

**(a) J Street Calls *Opposing* “Settlers’ Ideology” the “Rational” View:** J Street President Ben-Ami also stated: “We don’t know what his [Trump’s] policy regarding the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians will be, if he will go down the path of the ideology of the settlers and David Friedman, or if he will pursue a rational path.”<sup>251</sup>

**(b) J Street Even Blames the Existence of Jewish Communities Past the Green Line for Arab Terrorism:** J Street greeted Israel’s announcement that some housing units would be built in Kiryat Arba by claiming that this “*helps perpetuate the cycle of violence and despair*.”<sup>252</sup> Kiryat Arba is a Jewish town overlooking Hebron, the ancient Jewish community that whose Jewish residents were slaughtered by Arab terrorists in the 1929 Hebron massacre.

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248 “*Jeremy Ben-Ami Opens J Street’s 2017 National Conference*” video, Feb. 25, 2017, at [http://jstreet.org/2017-conference-highlights/#.WRe4RVLMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/2017-conference-highlights/#.WRe4RVLMy_s)

249 *Id.*

250 “*Radical J Street Tries to Raise Money off David Friedman Nomination*,” by Joel Pollak, Dec. 16, 2016, at <http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2016/12/16/david-friedman-j-street-tries-raise-money/>

251 “*J Street CEO Refuses to Speak With Arutz Sheva*,” Feb. 14, 2017, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/224993>

252 J Street action letter, at [http://act.jstreet.org/mailings/view/4884?t=6&akid=4884.178538.Jug\\_w2](http://act.jstreet.org/mailings/view/4884?t=6&akid=4884.178538.Jug_w2)

Blaming Arab terrorism on the building of some Jewish apartments is anti-Semitic and absurd. Arab terrorism existed long before a single “settlement” was built, long before the Six Day War, and long before the reestablishment of the Jewish State – as evidenced by the Hebron massacre and other Arab slaughters of Israel’s Jews in the 1920s and 1930s.

## **(2) J Street Supported the Obama Administration’s Settlement Freeze Demands**

Throughout the Obama administration, J Street advocated for freezing and removing the Jewish communities located in Judea/Samaria (the West Bank) and eastern Jerusalem, calling them an “obstacle to peace.” J Street enthusiastically supported and advocated for former President Barack Obama’s demands that Jewish “*settlements stop*,” and Secretary Hillary Clinton’s infamous 45-minute 2009 phone call during which Clinton screamed at PM Netanyahu: “*He [President Obama] wants to see a stop to settlements – not some settlements, not outposts, not ‘natural growth’ exceptions.*”<sup>253</sup>

Clinton’s call shocked the pro-Israel community. Especially because at the time as this conversation, the PA named a public square after a terrorist who murdered innocent Jews, and Clinton virtually ignored the PA’s incitement. Moreover, when Israeli PM Netanyahu rejected demands to apply a freeze to Jewish building in Jerusalem, J Street again sided with the Obama administration against Israel.

In a press release entitled “*Freeze Means Freeze*,” J Street wrote:

*“Following Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s rejection of a full settlement freeze [a/k/a refusing to apply the freeze to Jerusalem], Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said that President Obama ‘wants to see a stop to settlements – not some settlements, not outposts, not natural-growth exceptions.’*

*Amen. A freeze means a freeze. This is exactly the sort of leadership we need from the President and Secretary of State . . .*

*You can bet the Obama Administration is already hearing from hawkish voices on Israel – urging him to make exceptions, allow for more settlement growth, and to go slow. We’ve got to make sure the President knows pro-Israel, pro-peace Americans support his strong line on settlements, . . . . Continued Israeli settlement expansion in the West Bank is a real obstacle to peace between the Israelis and the Palestinians – and as President Obama said, settlements ‘have to be stopped.’ . . . .*

*The dance between Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Obama over settlements is just getting started. As in the past, Netanyahu will stall – hoping his American backers have enough time to undermine the President’s efforts in Congress or convince the President that the political costs of bold leadership are too high.*

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<sup>253</sup> “*Israeli Settlement Growth Must Stop, Clinton says,*” by Mark Landler & Isabel Kershner, *New York Times*, May 27, 2009, at <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/28/world/middleeast/28mideast.html>

*We've got to make sure the President and his Admnistration [sic] hear from the majority of Americans like us who support the President's call for a settlement freeze, without exceptions, right now.*<sup>254</sup>

**(3) J Street Promotes Ending Tax Exemptions for Charities with Operations Beyond the “Green Line”:**

J Street promotes *removing* U.S. tax exemptions for donations to pro-Israel groups that support the Jewish right to live in the Old City of Jerusalem, and Judea/Samaria, etc. As more fully set forth in this report’s Section IV.(2), in October 2016, J Street welcomed the Obama Administration’s “*strong condemnation*” of a few newly announcement Jewish construction units in Judea/Samaria. J Street also called for discriminatory measures against Israel to stop Jewish home building, including “*reviewing whether tax-deductible treatment for donations to NGOs that advance settlement expansion meet US eligibility requirements*” and enforcing custom regulations requiring goods produced in Judea/Samaria to **not** be labeled “*Made in Israel*.”<sup>255</sup>

J Street also wrote “action letters” recommending that the “*IRS examine and report back to the President on whether organizations operating over the Green Line do in fact meet the existing legal standard that such charitable activities not be “illegal [or] contrary to a clearly defined and established public policy.*”<sup>256</sup>

**(4) J Street Promotes Declaring Jewish Communities Past the Green Line “Illegal” in UN Resolutions and Elsewhere:**

As detailed in this report’s Section IV, J Street has repeatedly vociferously advocated for UN Security Council resolutions and other actions condemning Israeli “settlements” as “illegal.” J Street advocated for and thanked the Obama administration for enabling UN Security Council Resolution 2334 to pass. UNSC Resolution 2334 condemned any Jewish presence over the 1949 Armistice lines is “illegal” (including the Jewish people’s holiest places in Jerusalem and the Jewish Quarter). UNSC Resolution 2334 falsely and outrageously declared, *inter alia*, that Israeli “settlements” – including in Jewish homes in the Jewish Quarter of eastern Jerusalem – have “*no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law*,” and demanded that “*Israel immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem.*” J Street also thanked then-Secretary Kerry for his accompanying speech condemning Israeli settlements.<sup>257</sup>

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254 “Freeze Means Freeze,” J Street website, May 28, 2009, at [http://jstreet.org/a-freeze-means-freeze/#.WUxG41KZO\\_s](http://jstreet.org/a-freeze-means-freeze/#.WUxG41KZO_s)

255 “Without Strong Action, Israeli Government Will Continue To Ignore US Opposition To Settlement Expansion,” J Street Press Release, Oct. 6, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/without-strong-action-israeli-government-will-continue-ignore-us-opposition-settlement-expansion/>

256 J Street action letter (untitled and undated), at [http://act.jstreet.org/mailings/view/4884?t=6&akid=4884.178538.Jug\\_w2](http://act.jstreet.org/mailings/view/4884?t=6&akid=4884.178538.Jug_w2)

257 See Part II of this Report. Also see “J Street Ad Thanks Obama and Kerry for Speech Blasting Israel,” by Gary Willig, *Israel Nat'l News*, Jan. 5, 2017, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/222841>; and “J Street Welcomes UN Resolution on Israel Settlements — AIPAC Denounces It,” *The Forward*, Dec. 24, 2016, at <http://forward.com/news/breaking-news/358231/j-street-welcomes-un-resolution-on-israel-settlements-aipac-denounces-it/>; and “Without Strong Action, Israeli Government Will Continue To Ignore Us Opposition To Settlement Expansion,” J Street Press Release, Oct. 6, 2016,

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J Street also opposed U.S. Congressional resolutions condemning anti-Israel UNSC Resolution 2334. J Street boasted that the fact that 80 members of Congress voted against the (pro-Israel) Congressional resolution was “*thanks in part to the work of J Street.*”<sup>258</sup>

And in 2011, J Street also supported a UNSC resolution falsely calling settlements “illegal,” and urged the Obama administration to **not** veto such a resolution. J Street stated “*we cannot support a U.S. veto of a Resolution . . . that appropriately condemns Israeli settlement policy.*”<sup>259</sup>

### (5) J Street Supports the Suicidal-for-Israel “Arab Peace Initiative”:

J Street also supports the suicidal-for-Israel “Arab Peace Initiative,” also known as the “Saudi Peace Initiative” or “API.” The API calls for Israel to first give away her territory over the green line, create a Palestinian Arab state on the “green line” whose capital is eastern Jerusalem, and allow a “right of return” for descendants of supposed Arab refugees to overrun Israel within the green line. Only then, after Israel makes all these suicidal concessions, will the Arabs consider “normalization” of relations with Israel – a vague and meaningless concept that does not recognize the Jewish State.

For instance, in a website posting in which, ironically, J Street tried to defend the fact that it has dozens of Arab and Muslim (including Saudi and Iranian) donors opposed to Israel, J Street noted:

*“J Street believes the United States and Israel should explore the possibility of regional, comprehensive peace offered by the Arab League in what is commonly known as the Arab Peace Initiative.”*<sup>260</sup>

## XII. J STREET U PROMOTES ISRAEL'S ENEMIES ON CAMPUSES AND ELSEWHERE

### (1) J Street U Partners with Anti-Israel Groups, and Brings to Campuses and Conferences Anti-Israel Speakers Who Demonize, Defame and Delegitimize Israel and the IDF:

Prof. Alan Dershowitz aptly states that J Street has “*made a generation of Jews ashamed to be pro-Israel.*” This is especially true on college campuses. At this pivotal time, students – especially Jewish students – desperately need to hear the truth about Israel’s rights and history and the Palestinian Arab war against Israel, to counteract rampant anti-Israel propaganda. Unfortunately, J Street’s student arm, J Street U, has established itself on numerous American college campuses, where it is intensifying the assault against Israel, in the name of “pro-Israel activism.”

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at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/without-strong-action-israeli-government-will-continue-ignore-us-opposition-settlement-expansion/>

258 Ben Ami email, “Subject: Some Political News That’s Actually Positive,” Jan. 17, 2017, reproduced by Elder of Ziyon blog, ‘J-Street and the BDSers: On the Same Side on Capitol Hill,’ Jan. 17, 2017, at <http://elderofziyon.blogspot.com/2017/01/j-street-and-bdsers-on-same-side-on.html>

259 See Part II of this Report. Also see “New J Street Policy Statement on Settlement Expansion & UN Security Council Resolution,” Jan. 20, 2011, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/new-j-street-policy-statement-on-settlement-expansion-amp-un-security-council-resolution\\_1/#.WU86g1KZOMI](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/new-j-street-policy-statement-on-settlement-expansion-amp-un-security-council-resolution_1/#.WU86g1KZOMI)

260 “J Street Receives No Funding From Any Foreign Government Or Agent,” J Street Archive, Apr. 15, 2013, at <http://archive.is/ZcdtG>

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As a Harvard graduate student recently explained:

*"Anti-Israel activity abounds at American universities. . . . At the University of Michigan last week, pro-Israel students opposing a student government resolution to divest from Israel allegedly received death threats and were called "kikes" and "dirty Jews" by backers of BDS. . . . Anti-Israel groups utilize other hate-filled tactics to intimidate pro-Israel students on campus. . . . In this climate, it becomes increasingly important that students be well versed in the facts about Israel and its history. Now, more than ever, pro-Israel students needs the support of pro-Israel campus groups to identify and speak out against inaccuracies and injustices that they may witness on campus related to the Jewish state. But . . .*

*While J Street U claims to be 'pro-Israel,' unlike other pro-Israel organizations, J Street does not educate or equip students to distinguish between anti-Israel propaganda and fact. Instead, J Street U partners with some of Israel's greatest enemies on campus including BDS activists and anti-Israel faculty."*<sup>261</sup>

J Street U does **not** invite speakers from genuinely pro-Israel organizations to present their viewpoints, or to counter its anti-Israel speakers. Instead, J Street U partners with, and invites to campuses and conferences groups and "activists" who work to delegitimize Israel.

For example:

- On March 6, 2014, the **J Street U chapter at Smith College in Northampton, MA, co-sponsored an event with Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP)**, and the Faculty for Israeli Palestinian Peace entitled "A Forum on the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement."<sup>262</sup> SJP's virulent anti-Israel anti-Semitic activities include holding violent demonstrations on college campuses including City University of New York (CUNY) screaming "*Death to the Jews*," "*Jews out of CUNY*" and "*Zionists out of CUNY*";<sup>263</sup> holding campus "Apartheid Weeks" and conferences defaming Israel; promoting BDS; sponsoring anti-Israel resolutions, and posting mock eviction notices on students' dormitory rooms -- supposedly replicating eviction notices allegedly used by Israel -- filled with unsourced and false accusations, including charging that Israel engages in ethnic cleansing.<sup>264</sup>

The **Smith College "Forum on the BDS"** announcement also reveals that one of the speakers was **Anat Biletzki, an official (and former chairperson) of B'Tselem** - another virulent anti-Israel NGO funded by European entities and the New Israel Fund (NIF). B'Tselem defames

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<sup>261</sup> "Will the Real J Street Stand Up . . . for Israel?," by Sara Greenburg, *Jerusalem Post*, Apr. 1, 2014, at <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Op-Ed-Contributors/Will-the-real-J-Street-stand-up-for-Israel-347625>. See also "A Forum on the BDS" event announcement, at <https://smith.collegiatelink.net/organization/smithsjp/calendar/details/384090>

<sup>262</sup> "A Forum on the BDS" event announcement, at <https://smith.collegiatelink.net/organization/smithsjp/calendar/details/384090>

<sup>263</sup> "ZOA Letter to CUNY Leaders about Anti-Semitic, Violence-Inducing Rallies There," Feb. 22, 2016, at <http://zoa.org/2016/02/10315402-letter-to-cuny-chancellor-and-board-of-trustees-jew-haters-spread-fear-at-cuny-colleges/>

<sup>264</sup> "Will the Real J Street Stand Up . . . for Israel?," by Sara Greenburg, *Jerusalem Post*, Apr. 1, 2014, *supra*.

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Israelis as “war criminals,” etc. throughout the world. B’Tselem provided much of the false information in the Goldstone report, which falsely accusing Israel of committing war crimes in Gaza. (Goldstone later retracted his report.) In a *New York Times* op-ed, Biletzki defamed Israel and condemned the Jewish religion, saying: “*religion . . . is not really working for human rights.*” Biletzki’s defamatory op-ed stated that she and a colleague from another anti-Israel NGO (the so-called “*Rabbis for Human Rights*,” renamed “T’ruah”) “*work for human rights*” by “*squat[ing] in the mud trying to stop [Israeli] soldiers who have come to set a blockade around a [Palestinian] village or fight[ing] [Jewish] settlers who have come to uproot olive trees.*” B’Tselem’s other officials speak similarly. B’Tselem chair Oren Yiftachel called for “effective sanctions” against Israel, and its CEO Jessica Montell called Israel an “*apartheid state.*”

The **Smith College event announcement** also provided **links to anti-Israel pro-BDS websites** – and no pro-Israel or anti-BDS information or links.<sup>265</sup> The only “perspective” was the anti-Israel one.

- J Street U and J Street also sponsor other events by the virulently anti-Israel **B’Tselem**. For instance, J Street’s 2013 San Francisco conference, attended by J Street U members, featured B’Tselem USA director Anat Saragusti.<sup>266</sup>
- In March 2014, J Street organized and hosted an event at **Washington University** in St. Louis, MO, promoting a speaker from **Breaking the Silence (BtS)**, a group that partners with BDS campaigners and widely disseminates undocumented, anonymous false accounts of purported Israel Defense Forces human rights violations against Palestinian Arabs. European governments pay BtS to collect anonymous (false) “*testimonies*” about purported IDF “war crimes” – a propaganda effort aimed at falsely painting Israel as guilty of “*intimidation, instilling of fear, and indiscriminate punishment of the Palestinian population.*” A 2016 study, conducted by Israeli journalists who were previously partial to BtS’s claims, found that 8 out of 10 of BtS’s allegations were either completely false, grossly exaggerated to make the IDF appear in an unwarranted negative light; or impossible to verify.<sup>267</sup> BtS refuses to provide identifying details regarding its allegations, to try to prevent anyone from checking BtS’s invented claims. IDF veterans who have experienced the IDF’s real incredibly *humane*, ethical treatment of Palestinian Arabs are typically prevented from speaking out to correct false BtS presentations.<sup>268</sup>
- J Street U also sponsors BtS events defaming Israel at campuses throughout the country. J Street has also been pressuring Hillel to provide space for these events (or to even sometimes provide co-sponsorship), in violation of Hillel’s Standards of Partnership. For instance, **J Street U sponsored BtS events at NYU in October 2013**<sup>269</sup>; **at U Penn (Hillel) in 2013;**

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<sup>265</sup> “A Forum on the BDS” event announcement, *supra*.

<sup>266</sup> “*J Street Convenes in San Francisco*,” by Dan Pine, *The Jewish News of Northern California*, June 6, 2014, at <https://www.jweekly.com/2014/06/06/j-street-convenes-in-san-francisco-first-national-summit-taps-into-large-ba/>

<sup>267</sup> “*More proof of Breaking the Silence’s Lies*,” by Benny Tucker, *Israel Nat'l News*, July 15, 2016, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/215019>.

<sup>268</sup> See, e.g., “*IDF Soldiers Lambasted at Seattle’s Temple Beth Am*,” *The Mike Report*, June 17, 2015, at <https://mikereport.wordpress.com/2015/06/17/idf-vets-respond-to-accusations-made-at-temple-beth-am/> (describing how ten IDF veterans who showed up to a BtS event to correct BtS’s anti-IDF falsehoods were given no opportunity to speak).

<sup>269</sup> “*J Street U NYU Presents: Breaking the Silence*,” Oct. 21, 2013, J Street U NYU Facebook page, at <https://www.facebook.com/events/455987774514447/>

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**at Washington University in St. Louis (Hillel) in March 2014; at Brown University (Hillel) in March 2016; and at Columbia University (twice, once at Columbia U Hillel) in 2016.<sup>270</sup>**

- At UC Berkeley, J Street U invited anti-Israel groups including the **Sheikh Jarrah Solidarity Movement (“SJSM”)**, an NIF-funded NGO which opposes the idea of Israel as a Jewish homeland; collaborates with the anti-Israel BDS movement; defames Israel as a “*fascist state*”; talks about victories over “*cowardly Zionists who are perpetrating an apartheid state and ethnic cleansing in Jerusalem*”; holds frequent anti-Israel demonstrations calling for “*a true end to the occupation*,” and “*ending the occupation of east Jerusalem*”<sup>271</sup> (the location of Judaism’s holiest sites); and urges liquidation of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund. At a J Street U sponsored campus event, Sheikh Jarrah’s founder declared “*Jerusalem is a symbol of evil*.<sup>272</sup> Sheikh Jarrah “activists” viciously malign Israel at J Street events and elsewhere (see next item).

The campus Jewish Student Union at UC Berkeley voted to deny membership to J Street U, because the bylaws of the Jewish Student Union stipulate that a member organization must not host speakers who demonize Israel, and J Street U persisted in inviting such anti-Israel groups.

<sup>273</sup>

- J Street’s 2011 annual conference also honored and gave a major platform to **Sheikh Jarrah Solidarity Movement** activist **Sara Benninga**.<sup>274</sup> During her J Street speech, Benninga accused Israel of “*fascism*,” “*ethnic discrimination against its residents*,” “*dispossess[ion] of individuals from one ethnic affiliation and privileges those of another*,” “*blatant injustice and discrimination*,” “*national and racial prejudices*,” and “*constant harassment*,” and urged J Street conference attendees to join Sheikh Jarrah’s “*resistance to the occupation*.” Benninga also condemned Jews who try to reclaim their homes in eastern Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria, which Arabs had evicted the Jews from in 1948.<sup>275</sup>
- J Street U also arranged “*events around the country*”<sup>276</sup> featuring former **Gaza UNRWA director John Ging**, a “champion” of Gazan rights, who promoted political warfare against

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<sup>270</sup> “J Street Fools Hillel Into Breaking the Rules, by Hosting Breaking the Silence,” by Alexandra Markus, *Algemeiner*, Mar. 18, 2016, at <https://www.algemeiner.com/2016/03/18/j-street-fools-hillel-into-breaking-the-rules-by-hosting-breaking-the-silence/>. See also “Will The Real J Street Stand Up... For Israel?” by Sara Greenburg, *Jerusalem Post*, Apr. 1, 2014, at <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Op-Ed-Contributors/Will-the-real-J-Street-stand-up-for-Israel-347625>

<sup>271</sup> See, e.g., “Demonstration & March Solidarity Sheikh Jarrah 16.07.10,” – video, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hqzi4UeshGE>

<sup>272</sup> “Groups that Demonize Israel Place Themselves Outside the Tent,” *J Weekly*, Jan. 4, 2012, at <http://www.jweekly.com/2012/01/04/groups-that-demonize-israel-place-themselves-outside-the-tent/>

<sup>273</sup> “Will the real J Street Stand up... for Israel?,” by Sara Greenburg, *Jerusalem Post*, Apr. 1, 2014, at <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Op-Ed-Contributors/Will-the-real-J-Street-stand-up-for-Israel-347625>. See also “A Forum on the BDS” event announcement, at <https://smith.collegiatelink.net/organization/smithsjp/calendar/details/384090>

<sup>274</sup> “Sheikh Jarrah Activist Sara Benninga Honored @ J Street’s ‘Giving Voice to Our Values’ Conference” – video, Mar. 9. 2011, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuM9oj6tRBo>

<sup>275</sup> *Id.*

<sup>276</sup> “J Street U Brings John Ging to Campus,” *J Street* website, Nov. 12, 2010, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-u-brings-john-ging-to-campus/#.WlQjoCOZO\\_I](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-u-brings-john-ging-to-campus/#.WlQjoCOZO_I)

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Israel, demonized Israel with false allegations of an Israeli “massacre,” supported pro-Hamas flotillas, and called Israel’s blockade to prevent Hamas from importing more weapons into Gaza a “medieval seige.”<sup>277</sup>

- **J Street U’s 3-day “Student Town Hall” in 2014 at Johns Hopkins University** (which drew over 300 students from 57 colleges) featured a speech by the PLO’s chief envoy to the U.S., **Maen Areikat**<sup>278</sup> – who accuses Israel of “state terrorism,”<sup>279</sup> and blames *Israel* for Hamas’s rocket attacks on Israel.<sup>280</sup> Also, in a 2010 *Tablet* interview, Areikat refused to acknowledge there was a Jewish Temple in Jerusalem, falsely claimed that Israel launched the 1948 war (which was launched by six Arab nations invading Israel), denied that King David ruled in Jerusalem, and stated that “**Absolutely** any Jew who is inside the borders of Palestine will have to leave.”<sup>281</sup> That’s ethnic cleansing of Jews. J Street also brought Areikat to speak in Seattle in October 2016 and to J Street’s national conference in February 2017.
- Another session at J Street U’s 2014 Student Town Hall at Johns Hopkins University was a panel entitled “Homeland and Diaspora: Political Developments in the Palestinian Territories and Arab American Communities,” featuring anti-Israel propagandists, including<sup>282</sup>:
  - (i) Brookings Institute Fellow and former PA advisor **Khaled Elgindy**. Elgindy attributed Palestinian Arab stabbing murders of Jews in Jerusalem to the absence of a settlement freeze in Jerusalem (calling Jerusalem a “peace process free zone”).<sup>283</sup> He encouraged anti-Israel violence, tweeting: “*Uprisings . . . have thus far been the Palestinians’ most effective tool for altering Israel’s cost-benefit analysis of the occupation.*”<sup>284</sup>
  - (ii) **Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC)** National Policy Analyst **Mona Elshishtawy**. MPAC – like the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) and the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) – was founded by members of the Muslim Brotherhood. MPAC wrote a paper rejecting the United States’ designation of

<sup>277</sup> See “*The Role of John Ging, UNRWA Director in Gaza, in Political Warfare*,” NGO Monitor, Nov. 17, 2010, at [https://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/the\\_role\\_of\\_john\\_ging\\_unrwa\\_director\\_in\\_gaza\\_in\\_political\\_warfare/](https://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/the_role_of_john_ging_unrwa_director_in_gaza_in_political_warfare/); and “*UN director in Gaza Quits for New Post*,” The Guardian, Jan. 17, 2011, at <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/jan/17/un-gaza-john-ging-unrwa>

<sup>278</sup> “*J Street U Town Hall Draws National Crowd*,” Johns Hopkins News-Letter, Apr. 10, 2014, at <http://www.jhunewsletter.com/2014/04/10/j-street-u-town-hall-draws-national-crowd-18947/>

<sup>279</sup> “*Emergency Committee for Israel Writes Dennis Ross Before Upcoming J Street Address*,” by Daniel Halper, *The Weekly Standard*, Feb. 24, 2011 (listing anti-Israel J Street speakers), at <http://www.weeklystandard.com/emergency-committee-for-israel-writes-dennis-ross-before-upcoming-j-street-address/article/552472>

<sup>280</sup> “*Palestinians Rally Behind Hamas*,” – video, CNN, Wolf Blitzer interview of Maen Areikat, Nov. 16, 2012, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqDhgxcop5c>

<sup>281</sup> “*Q&A: Maen Rashid Areikat*,” by David Samuels, *Tablet*, Oct. 29, 2010, at <http://pages.citebite.com/y5h4v2m4poxlx>

<sup>282</sup> “*Elshishtawy Talks to J Street U Student Leaders*,” Muslim Public Affairs Council website, Apr. 17, 2014, at <https://www.mpac.org/programs/young-leaders/elshishtawy-talks-to-j-street-u-student-leaders.php>

<sup>283</sup> “*Violence in Jerusalem*,” Charlie Rose program appearance of Khaled Elgindy transcript, Oct. 15, 2015, at <https://charlierose.com/videos/26072>

<sup>284</sup> Khaled Elgindy twitter, @elgindy\_, 5:58 AM - 29 Jun 2017, at [https://twitter.com/elgindy\\_/status/880410210128592896](https://twitter.com/elgindy_/status/880410210128592896)

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Hezbollah and Hamas as terrorist organizations, and insisted that the Jewish state of Israel be designated as a state sponsor of terrorism.<sup>285</sup> At a White House Iftar event in July 2014, Elshishtawy and MPAC condemned then-President Obama after Obama stated that “*no country can accept rockets fired indiscriminately at citizens*” and “*Israel has the right to defend itself against what I consider to be inexcusable attacks from Hamas.*” Elshishtawy stated: “*it is appalling that the President continues to give Israel a green light to resume their assault on Palestinians.*”<sup>286</sup>

(iii) **Rebecca Abou-Chedid**, former outreach director for James Zogby’s virulently anti-Israel **Arab-American Institute**, and co-Chair of “**Just Vision**.” Abou-Chedid tweeted that: “*Because Arab and Muslim Americans will not be bullied into silence, I will always march with my sister, Linda Sarsour.*” (Sarsour promotes anti-Israel boycotts, and said that she wants to take the vaginas away from Muslim women who criticized violent Islamist practices; that “there is nothing creepier than Zionism”; and that women cannot be both Zionists and feminists.) Abou-Chedid also called real concerns about Keith Ellison’s anti-Israel and anti-Semitic record a “smear campaign,” and issued numerous similar tweets, including that: “*The need to defend the indefensible in Isr[ael] is leading to the demonization of [Keith Ellison]. . .*”<sup>287</sup> Abou-Chedid’s “Just Vision” says “*that ending the occupation alone will not resolve the conflict*” – and also demands “*refugee rights*” (meaning letting descendants of supposed Palestinian refugees overrun and drive Israel out of existence). “Just Vision” also praises the violent First Intifada, produces anti-Israel propaganda films, and partners with anti-Israel groups including +972 Magazine and Breaking the Silence.

### (2) J Street U Mistreats and Dismisses IDF Veterans on Campus

Israeli students and speakers who have served in the Israel Defense Forces have described how J Street dismisses Israelis’ first-hand experiences, and instead patronizingly proclaims that J Street knows better. Israeli veterans have reported how J Street U partners with Israel’s enemies, and poisons college students against the IDF – against Israelis who have honorably served and protected their country.

For instance, a former IDF officer whose IDF work consisted of providing humanitarian aid to Palestinian Arabs (and who is a self-described Israeli leftist), wrote:

*“During one of my speaking events [on a U.S. college campus, about my experiences as an Israel Defense Forces officer, helping Palestinian Arab civilians in the West Bank and Gaza with humanitarian aid], a student raised her hand to ask a question. The young woman wanted to know what I thought about J-Street and other ‘left-wing’ Jewish groups which criticize Israel. Assuming she was seeking an honest answer, I told her the truth; ‘I am very uneasy about their work . . .’ I started, but she*

<sup>285</sup> “The Muslim Brotherhood Comes to the White House,” by Jordan Schachtel, *Breitbart*, Feb. 7, 2015, at <http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2015/02/07/the-muslim-brotherhood-comes-to-the-white-house/>

<sup>286</sup> “President Obama Voices Support for Israel at White House Iftar,” by 5Pillars, July 16, 2014, at <http://5pillarsuk.com/2014/07/16/president-obama-voices-support-for-israel-at-white-house-iftar/>

<sup>287</sup> Rebecca Abou-Chedid @bintlabaratte twitter, Dec. 6, 2016, at <https://twitter.com/bintlabaratte/status/806223328436490240>

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*interrupted: ‘Well, I’m the head of the J Street club on my campus and what you don’t understand is that we see Israel as our younger sister. We want our younger sister to be better – we love her and care about her.’*

*Disappointed by her lack of interest in dialogue, and offended by her analogy, I replied: ‘So according to you, if I love my younger sister, I need to go around the United States and tell everyone how bad she is? How she doesn’t know what’s good for her? How we must collectively pressure her? And if I truly love my sister, I should tell my parents to cut her off financially? I should publicize her every mistake and defame her on every platform I can? Or if I really care, should I instead work together with her?’ . . .*

*My message to J Street is this: if you are truly pro-Israel, stop patronizing us. Stop lecturing us, publicly defaming us, and using a foreign government to pressure our democratically elected government from thousands of miles away. If you love us and want to support us—then listen to our voices and speak to us as equals. And every once in a while, since you profess to be ‘pro-Israel,’ perhaps you can say something nice about my country.”<sup>288</sup>*

### (3) J Street U Targets Campus Hillel Houses:

For decades, Hillel houses have been a center of Jewish life and refuge for Jewish students on U.S. college campuses. J Street U works to change that.

J Street U is not satisfied with hosting anti-Israel speakers at neutral locations. Instead, J Street U – together with its partner “Open Hillel” (comprised mainly of J Street U students) demands that Hillel houses must open their doors to J Street’s anti-Israel speakers. As the Jerusalem Post reported, J Street U’s director

*“was a featured speaker at the so-called ‘Open Hillel’ conference at Harvard [in the fall 2014] where participants discussed and implemented a plan to conduct opposition research against Hillel’s donors, with Jewish Voice for Peace’s help, in order to attack the donors. In fact, J Street U was called ‘the gateway drug to Open Hillel,’ several of whose members are active in and employed by Jewish Voice for Peace, regarded as a leading anti-Zionist organization by NGO Monitor and many others.”<sup>289</sup>*

J Street U and “Open Hillel” have also been waging a battle to pressure Hillel to rescind Hillel’s guidelines forbidding Hillel facilities from being used to host speakers that demonize Israel, oppose Israel’s right to exist, and promote anti-Israel boycotts.<sup>290</sup>

A former IDF soldier who was badly wounded by Hamas terrorists in Gaza described the following alarming experiences with J Street U and its partners subverting his campus Hillel, which made

288 “An Israeli Leftist to J Street: Stop!,” by Hen Mazzig, *Times of Israel*, Sept. 20, 2015, at <http://blogs.timesofisrael.com/an-israeli-leftist-to-j-street-stop/>

289 “J Street U’s ‘March on Hillel’: J Street U Students Have Repeatedly Lambasted The Donors Who Care That Their Money Is Spent On Genuinely Pro-Israel Events,” by Daniel Mael, Mar. 26, 2015, at <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=395269>

290 *Id.*

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this heroic injured Jewish Israeli student's college campus so unsafe for him that he was forced to end his American education early:

*"In 2007, I was severely wounded and nearly killed by a Hamas rocket while serving in the IDF. I eventually recovered (from near fatal brain damage), and enrolled at UCLA in 2009.*

*My troubles there started on Day One, when I visited UCLA Hillel. Hillel was well-known to be a pro-Israel organization. I was certain I would feel at home. As I got to Hillel, I saw a few students leaving. I heard one of them speak Arabic, and then I heard something horrible: these were the leaders of Students for Justice in Palestine.*

*Hillel's student administration had agreed to work with Students for Justice in Palestine! SJP is associated with the Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas, and actively works to defame and delegitimize Israel on every college campus where it has an active chapter. . . .*

*On my second day at the UCLA Hillel, I met a Jewish girl to whom I told my story. She didn't take my side, however. To her, I was an extremist baby-killer because I had served in the IDF. I soon found out that she was a member of J Street, then the rulers of the UCLA Jewish community: either you believed their lies or you supported oppressing and murdering the Palestinians. . . .*

*The next year, things got worse. I was kicked out of a pro-Israel group for no reason at all once it was taken over by J Street followers. I also felt an increased anti-IDF sentiment. Being anti-IDF is also being antisemitic; without an army, Israel would be instantly destroyed by the Palestinian leaders who want "peace. . . .*

*To my American friends: wake up to what is happening on your college campuses. As an Israeli student and IDF veteran, I was unsafe on campus. I felt extremely isolated, disheartened and betrayed.<sup>291</sup>*

### (4) **J Street's Gives Phony Excuses for Bringing Anti-Israel Speakers to College Campuses and Conferences:**

J Street gives two excuses for bringing anti-Israel speakers to college campuses and national conferences: “to obtain diverse viewpoints” and “to argue against them.” Both of these purported justifications are obviously false: J Street’s so-called “diversity” ranges from speakers who harshly criticize Israel to speakers who openly or covertly seek Israel’s destruction. Speakers who defend Israel and her rights are not invited – and the extremely rare leftwing speaker who says anything to defend Israel is booed off the stage. Moreover, J Street agrees with – rather than argues against – the goals of its hostile-to-Israel speakers.

#### **J Street's Phony “Diverse Perspectives” Excuse:**

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<sup>291</sup> “How I Was Harassed by UCLA’s Jewish Community for Being an IDF Veteran,” by Avi Dorfman, *Algemeiner*, Feb. 11, 2016, at <http://www.algemeiner.com/2016/02/11/how-i-was-harassed-by-uclas-jewish-community-for-being-an-idf-veteran/>

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J Street's website admitted that J Street U co-sponsored the above-mentioned BDS event with SJP at Smith College in March 2014. J Street then tried to excuse J Street's involvement with this virulent anti-Israel group by claiming that there was supposed to be one allegedly pro-Israel speaker (out of 4 speakers on the panel), who withdrew at the last minute, so J Street "*believ[ed] that it provided a good opportunity for the campus to air different perspectives regarding the boycott movement.*"<sup>292</sup>

J Street's "*an opportunity to air different perspectives*" excuse for partnering with anti-Israel groups and bringing anti-Israel speakers to campuses and conferences was clearly phony. The allegedly "pro-Israel" speaker who withdrew from the J Street-SJP Smith College event was a film studies professor who writes that early Israeli films were "*Zionist propaganda films,*" and writes about "*marginalized cultural universes within Israel*" and other film topics critical of Israel. It thus seems unlikely that she could have provided any real counterpoint to three professional anti-Israel pro-BDS propagandists.

Ben-Ami also gave similar false "diversity of views" rationalizations for inviting and featuring Jew-hating Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC) co-founder and executive director Salam Al-Marayati to J Street's 2009 and 2017<sup>293</sup> annual conferences and J Street U events on college campuses.

Al-Marayati has called for Israel's destruction, stating that "*the establishment by force, violence and terrorism of a Jewish state in Palestine in 1948*" was "*unjust*" and "*a crime,*" vowed to "*work to overturn the injustice.*" Al-Marayati stated that "*We should put the State of Israel on the suspect list*" of possible 9/11 perpetrators; likened Israel's supporters to Hitler; and said that Hezbollah's attacks against Israel should be seen as "*legitimate resistance.*" His organization MPAC blamed Israeli policies for the Palestinian Arab terrorist attack on the Sbarro Pizzeria in Jerusalem on Aug. 8, 2001, in which 15 innocent Jewish civilians were killed, including 7 children and a pregnant woman, and 130 were wounded. MPAC has also said that designated terrorist group Hezbollah fights for "*American values.*" MPAC also sponsored a March 2009 protest to "*Defend al-Aqsa Mosque and al-Quds,*" during which the demonstrators chanted slogans encouraging Palestinians to wipe out Israel: "*From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free. From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.*"<sup>294</sup>

Yet, Ben-Ami attempted to explain away his invites to Al-Marayati with the same false "diversity of views" excuse. A 2009 profile of Ben-Ami reported: "*Ben-Ami remains unapologetic about inviting Al-Marayati. 'We want a diversity of views,' [Ben-Ami] said, "and that includes*

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292 "Myths & Facts: Our Relationship With The Jewish Community," J Street website, at [http://jstreet.org/about-us/myths-facts-about-j-street/our-relationship-with-the-jewish-community/#.WRffrlMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/about-us/myths-facts-about-j-street/our-relationship-with-the-jewish-community/#.WRffrlMy_s)

293 "J Street National Conference – DC – Combatting Islamophobia Panel," Feb. 26, 2017, Feb. 26, 2017, Muslim Public Affairs Council website, at <https://www.mpac.org/events/j-street-national-conference.php>; and "J Street News Roundup for March 13, 2017," J Street website, at <http://jstreet.org/news-roundups/news-roundup-march-13-2017/#.WVoah8aZNYg>

294 "J Street Should Rescind Its Invitation to Al-Marayati," by Morton Klein, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Sept. 9, 2009, at <http://www.jta.org/2009/09/09/news-opinion/opinion/op-ed-j-street-should-rescind-its-invitation-to-al-marayati>; and "The Muslim Brotherhood Comes to the White House," by Jordan Schachtel, Breitbart, Feb. 7, 2015, at <http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2015/02/07/the-muslim-brotherhood-comes-to-the-white-house/>; and "Muslims in America" Jefferey Kaye of KCET-Los Angeles transcript, at <https://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/misc/844.pdf>

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[Al-Marayati].”<sup>295</sup> Ben-Ami also tried to justify inviting Al-Marayati by pointing out that other conference speakers included two former Israeli officials and a U.S. Senator.<sup>296</sup> Ben-Ami conveniently omitted that all three of those officials also shared far leftwing or unfriendly-to-Israel views. As discussed below, Ben-Ami has also falsely invoked his second phony excuse for repeatedly featuring Al-Marayati at J Street and J Street U events.

### J Street's Phony “We Only Bring Them to Argue Against Them” Excuse:

After J Street President Ben-Ami gave a speech the Westchester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, New York in December 2015, Ben-Ami was asked about J Street U’s practice of bringing anti-Israel speakers to college campuses. Ben-Ami responded by invoking a false “we bring them to argue against them” excuse – and then revealed that J Street in fact agreed with its anti-Israel pro-BDS speakers’ goals. ZOA’s report on the event related:

*“Ben-Ami admitted that J Street brings pro-BDS speakers to college campuses and conferences – but then falsely claimed that J Street only does so to “argue against them.” In fact, J Street honors and gives platforms to the heads of the BDS movement- with no argument against them. Ben-Ami also revealed that J Street’s supposed argument “against” BDS consists of agreeing with and reinforcing BDS’s ideology and aims! Ben-Ami stated: “The best argument against BDS is to say that we agree with the right of Palestinians to get out from under the occupation.”<sup>297</sup>*

J Street’s utter failure to “argue against” its anti-Israel speakers, and J Street’s agreement with such speakers’ destructive goals, was on full display at the “MPAC-J Street Peacemaking Forum” at **Georgetown University** in Washington DC on April 12, 2010. The forum, which was a collaboration between the anti-Israel Muslim Public Affairs Council and J Street, featured MPAC’s Salam Al-Marayati and J Street President Ben-Ami.<sup>298</sup>

During the MPAC-J Street Forum, Al-Marayati repeatedly falsely condemned Israel and promoted policies that were inimical to Israel’s continued existence – while Ben-Ami failed to correct even a single one of al-Marayati’s falsehoods, and never mentioned or condemned the long history of Palestinian Arab terrorism and war against the Jewish State.

Instead of “arguing against” and correcting Al-Marayati’s falsehoods, and instead of explaining the truth of Israel’s rights and actions to the susceptible, ill-informed college audience, Ben-Ami characterized telling the truth as an unwinnable “desire to own the truth” and “a huge mental barrier.” Further, Ben-Ami piled on more anti-Israel mistruths, and stated that he agreed with Al-Marayati’s goals.

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<sup>295</sup> “Head of Liberal Jewish Lobby Pushes Back Against His Critics,” by Dan Pine, *Jewish News of Northern California*, Sept. 18, 2009, at <http://www.jweekly.com/2009/09/18/head-of-liberal-jewish-lobby-pushes-back-against-his-critics/>

<sup>296</sup> *Id.*

<sup>297</sup> “ZOA: J Street’s Ben-Ami Pushes Dangerous ‘67 Borders, Praises Arafat as Peacemaker at Westchester Reform Temple,” Dec. 21, 2015, at <http://zoa.org/2015/12/10307872-zoa-j-streets-ben-amipushes-dangerous-67-borders-praises-arafat-as-peacemaker-at-westchester-reform-temple/>

<sup>298</sup> Salam al-Marayati twitter page, May 6, 2010, at <https://twitter.com/SalamAlmarayati/status/13497451209>; and “From Washington to Jerusalem: How Can Jewish and Muslim Americans Bring Peace to the Middle East?,” MPAC National, at <https://vimeo.com/11512564>

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For instance, at the Georgetown University J Street-MPAC forum:

- Al-Marayati asserted that there was “*a history of injustice of the displacement of the Palestinian people*” and “every day suffering of the Palestinian people.” Ben-Ami apparently agreed: Ben-Ami spoke about “*how we [Jews] treat another people that are oppressed [Palestinian Arabs]*.”
- Al-Marayati falsely asserted that “*the settlements are the major impediment, a major obstacle.*” Again, Ben-Ami apparently agreed, and insisted that there had to be a “*rollback of at least some settlements.*” Ben-Ami never mentioned that the real obstacle to peace is Palestinian Arab terrorism and the Palestinian Arab goal of eliminating Israel.
- Al Marayati accused Israel of “*war crimes*” and “*atrocities... against the people of Gaza and the territories*” and insisted that we have to “*end the occupation.*” Again, Ben-Ami failed to “*argue against*” Al-Marayati’s false charges that Israel committed atrocities.
- Al Marayati falsely asserted that “*the right of return is a principle that I cannot negotiate away for the Palestinian people*” and that UN Resolution 194 guarantees Palestinians a “*right of return.*” Ben-Ami again utterly failed to correct Al-Marayati’s misleading statement.

In fact, UN Resolution 194 never spoke of “Palestinian refugees,” nor was it so limited. Resolution 194 spoke of “refugees” – a term that included the close to one million Jewish refugees driven out of their homes in Arab nations and in eastern Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria, by the six Arab nations’ armies that invaded Israel in 1948. Moreover, a desire to live in peace is a pre-requisite. Res. 194 stated that “*refugees wishing to return to their homes and live at peace with their neighbours should be permitted to do so at the earliest practicable date, and that compensation should be paid for the property of those choosing not to return and for loss of or damage to property which, under principles of international law or in equity, should be made good by the Governments or authorities responsible.*” Notably, the governments responsible for creating both the Arab and Jewish refugees (and thus responsible for compensation) were the governments of the six Arab nations that invaded Israel and directed the Palestinian Arabs to leave Israel.<sup>299</sup>

- Al-Marayati also advocated for placing financial sanctions on Israel to end settlements. In response, Ben-Ami stated that he agreed with the “*larger goal*” of “*ending the occupation,*” but just had a “*disagreement about tactics.*” Ben-Ami said that he was not yet ready for financial penalties “*now,*”<sup>300</sup> and instead advocated for exerting U.S. pressure “*actively knocking heads,*” imposing timelines, and dictating to the parties the outcome that they needed to reach.
- Al-Marayati also asserted the half-truth that his potential appointment to a national commission on terrorism in 1998 was rescinded because of pressure from the ZOA, ADL, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and AJC (American Jewish Committee) – and called these groups “*one segment of the Jewish that says they don't want to give us*

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299 UN General Assembly Res. 194, Dec. 11, 1948, UN website, at <https://unispal.un.org/DPA/DPR/unispal.nsf/o/C758572B78D1CD0085256BCF0077E51A>, para. 11. Incidentally, para. 8 of UN Res. 194 resolved that all faiths should be guaranteed access to their holy sites in Jerusalem – but Jordan denied the Jewish people access to their holy sites in Jerusalem during the entire time when Jordan illegally occupied eastern Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria (1948-1967).

300 See however, Section V of this Report, describing J Street’s support for anti-Israel labelling regulations, targeted BDS, and BDS’s sponsors and goals.

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*credibility.*" Ben-Ami then added a total lie to Al-Marayati's half-truth. Ben-Ami blamed the rescission of Al-Marayati's appointment on anti-Muslim prejudice, saying: "*People say you can't be on some national commission because you have a Muslim name.*"

In fact, Al-Marayati's own anti-American, anti-Israel and pro-Hezbollah statements and activities were ultimately responsible for the rescission of Al-Marayati's appointment; Rep. Richard Gephardt (who initially appointed Al-Marayati) "*rescinded the appointment, saying it would take too long for Al- Marayati to obtain a security clearance.*"<sup>301</sup>

Simply put, J Street and J Street U do **not** "argue against" their anti-Israel speakers.

### (5) J Street U Focuses on the Pro-Palestinian Goal of "Ending the Occupation" (and Viciously Maligns Israel)

J Street U chapters throughout the country openly admit that their goal is "*ending the occupation.*"<sup>302</sup> That's a euphemism for either forcing Israel to retreat to indefensible borders, and ending Israel's existence entirely. It's the same goal as Israel's enemies.

In March 2015, a mob of J Street U members besieged Hillel headquarters, demanding a meeting with Hillel CEO Eric Fingerhut. Hillel's CEO responded by appearing at J Street U's August 2015 leadership meeting, and tried to speak about working together to combat BDS. J Street U and its members mocked the Hillel CEO, and demanded that Fingerhut should say that Israeli "occupation" is the reason for BDS. J Street U and its leadership posted a barrage of social media messages such as

*".@eric\_fingerhut repeatedly calls for common ground b/w @jstreetu & @HillelIntl. We will never compromise on condemning occupation."*<sup>303</sup>

During Q&A after Fingerhut spoke, then-J Street U's Muslim President Amna Farooqi bluntly said:

**"We are not here to talk about the pro-Israel conversation on campus. We are here to talk about the occupation."**<sup>304</sup>

Farooqi also announced at the same event that in 2015, J Street U was going to focus on "*their favorite topic: year-long anti-occupation work.*"<sup>305</sup>

J Street U's Amna Farooqi also urged J Street U members to use financial pressure tactics (including demanding "financial transparency" over the green line - a form of targeted BDS) to press American Jewish organizations and the larger Jewish community to "address the

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<sup>301</sup> See "Muslims in America" Jefferey Kaye of KCET- Los Angeles transcript, at <https://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/misc/844.pdf>

<sup>302</sup> See, e.g., "J Street U at UChicago," at <https://blueprint.uchicago.edu/organization/jstreetu>

<sup>303</sup> "Hillel CEO Mocked at J Street U's Student Leadership Event: Hillel CEO Tries To Speak About Common Position Against BDS, J Street U Students Want Him To Say 'Occupation' Is The Reason For BDS," by Lori Lowenthal Marcus, *Jewish Press*, Aug. 18, 2015, at <http://www.jewishpress.com/news/breaking-news/hillel-ceo-mocked-at-j-street-us-student-leadership-event/2015/08/18/>

<sup>304</sup> *Id.*

<sup>305</sup> *Id.*

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occupation.”<sup>306</sup> Farooqi also said during her major speech at J Street’s national conference:

*“We must take . . . make the difficult choices to end the occupation . . . [T]he American Jewish community and the pro-Israel community hold an enormous amount of power on this issue. We must use the power...J Street U is taking the lead in pushing our communal organizations to disclose how their funding supports settlements and other obstacles to peace. . . . We are holding our institutions accountable for their role in perpetuating the occupation. . . . If there was ever a time to go all in, with everything we have, to hold our institutions accountable, to follow the money, to an end to occupation, it is now. We must . . . create the future that we want to see: an end to the occupation, a free Palestine . . . ”<sup>307</sup>*

In a revealing interview, then-J Street U President Farooqi candidly admitted that she has “Muslim solidarity with Palestinians” and that she is using a “Jewish” organization to pressure Israel because Muslim groups cannot do the job as effectively:

*“The work I do [about Israel] is the best expression of Islam ... Because I was Muslim I had a sense of Muslim solidarity with Palestinians ... I got involved in this because I want to make change and I think the American Jewish community has more agency. If I thought moving the American Muslim community would move this – they just don’t have the role in it.”*

<sup>308</sup>

Commentator Daniel Greenfield summed it up:

*“In short, if Amna Farooqi thought that Muslim groups were more effective in fighting Israel, she would be over there. But she tried it and it didn’t work. Also Muslim groups will sometimes have a glass ceiling for women. So she decided to work through Jewish groups which have more ‘agency’ and more power to push her anti-Israel agenda.”<sup>309</sup>*

Farooqi’s tweets were full of foul-mouthed anti-Israel venom, expletives such as “f---ing” and gratuitous insults of Israel’s leaders such as: “why is Bibi is [sic] a douchebag serious question.”<sup>310</sup> As described in this report’s Section VIII.(9), after the 2014 Gaza war, instead of condemning Hamas’s war crimes, Farooqi falsely accused Israel of “inflicting horror” on Gaza, and praised Gazan/Hamas “resistance”<sup>311</sup> - a well-known euphemism for Hamas and other Palestinian-Arab

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306 “J Street U’s New Muslim President Says She’s ‘Culturally Jewish’,” by Melissa Apter, *Jewish Exponent*, Sept. 3, 2015, at <http://www.jewishexponent.com/headlines/2015/09/j-street-u-s-new-muslim-president-says-she-s-culturally-jewish>

307 “J Street U Student Board Member Amna Farooqi’s Incredible J Street Talk,” Mar. 25, 2015, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuTHJy6hNMw>

308 “Amna Farooqi Joined J Street Because Jews Have More Power Than Muslims,” by Daniel Greenfield, *FrontPage Mag.*, Sept. 2, 2015, at <http://www.frontpagemag.com/point/259998/amna-farooqi-joined-j-street-because-jews-have-daniel-greenfield>

309 *Id.*

310 Farooqi twitter account, Nov. 10, 2014, at <https://twitter.com/afarooqi99/status/531988720460001280> (since deleted).

311 Farooqi twitter account, Nov. 14, 2014, at <https://twitter.com/afarooqi99/status/533385735991492608>

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attacks on innocent Israeli civilians. Farooqi also tweeted her support of BDS.<sup>312</sup> (See this report's Section V.(8).) Farooqi also falsely accused Israel of pervasive racism and oppression in her keynote speech to J Street's 2015 annual conference.<sup>313</sup> (See this report's Section III.(5).)

The fact that a virulently anti-Israel Muslim was placed at the helm of J Street U, to focus J Street U members on J Street's anti-Israel pro-Palestinian "anti-occupation" agenda and spew anti-Israel hatred, leaves absolutely no doubt that J Street and its student arm are anti-Israel organizations.<sup>314</sup>

J Street's "anti-occupation" tactics also include encouraging Jewish students to go to Israel to join anti-Israel Palestinian Arab protests. At J Street's 2015 national conference plenary, BDS promoter, frequent J Street speaker and honoree Peter Beinart called for young Jews to "*amplify Palestinian non-violent protest in the West Bank*" by joining these demonstrations.<sup>315</sup> These demonstrations are often violent: Palestinian Arabs throw huge boulder-sized rocks and bricks and other lethal projectiles at Israelis, and the IDF responds – when endangered – by attempting to stop the violence directed at them using non-lethal means such as tear gas. (Jews have been murdered by Palestinian Arab rock throwers.<sup>316</sup>)

Sickeningly, Beinart analogized Jews joining anti-Israel demonstrations to whites joining civil rights protests in Mississippi – and said that it will awaken America's conscience when the IDF tear-gasses young Jewish "protestors"<sup>317</sup>! Helping American blacks obtain voting rights of course bears no similarity to aiding and abetting enemies who want to murder and expel Jews from the Jewish homeland.

Also, at the same J Street national conference session, J Street Executive Council member and anti-Israel lesbian Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum stated: "*it's essential for those of us who consider ourselves religious Jews, but not orthodox Jews, to speak out against the occupation.*"<sup>318</sup> (Ironically, despite Israel's stellar record of protecting LGBTQ rights, and Palestinian Arab discrimination and violence directed at LGBTQ persons, Rabbi Kleinbaum and her LGBTQ synagogue engage in "*open hostility to the Jewish state,*" causing prominent gay pro-Israel

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312 Farooqi twitter account, Nov. 14, 2014, at <https://twitter.com/afarooq199/status/533382294036545536>

313 "J Street U Student Board Member Amna Farooqi's Incredible J Street Talk," Mar. 25, 2015, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuTHJy6hNMw>

314 "New J Street U Pres. is Profoundly Anti-Israel, Promotes Violence, Ugly Lies, and Boycotts Against Israel: J Street Has Lost its Right to Claim it is 'Pro-Israel, Pro-Peace,'" ZOA press release, Sept. 3, 2015, at <http://zoa.org/2015/09/10295826-zoa-new-j-street-u-president-is-a-radical-muslim-who-promotes-violence-ugly-lies-and-boycotts-against-israel/>; and "ZOA Letter in Jewish Papers: J Street College Pres. is Pro-BDS Israel Hater," by Morton Klein, Oct. 15, 2015, at <http://zoa.org/2015/10/10300172-zoa-letter-on-new-j-street-president/>

315 "Plenary Session - Does Liberal Zionism Have a Future?" – video, J Street national conference, Mar. 22, 2015, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZI9C2bHFyLg>; and "J Street Pushes Back," by Dmitriy Shapiro and David Holzel, *Washington Jewish Week*, Mar. 24, 2015, at <http://washingtonjewishweek.com/20647/j-street-pushes-back/featured-slider-post/>

316 See, "Israeli Father, Baby Killed After Palestinians Threw Rocks at Their Car," by Madeleine Morgenstern, *Blaze*, Sept. 25, 2011, at <http://www.theblaze.com/news/2011/09/25/israeli-father-baby-killed-in-terrorist-attack-after-palestinians-threw-rocks-at-their-car-causing-it-to-overturn/>

317 "Plenary Session - Does Liberal Zionism Have a Future?" – video, J Street national conference, Mar. 22, 2015, *supra*; and "J Street Pushes Back," *Wash. Jewish Week*, Mar. 24, 2015, *supra*.

318 *Id.*, video at minute 39.

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congregants to publicly leave Kleinbaum's synagogue.<sup>319)</sup>

### (6) J Street U Brings College Students on Anti-Israel Trips, Including Visits to Honor Terrorist Yasser Arafat's Grave and Meetings with Anti-Israel NGOs in Israel

Apparently, bringing anti-Israel NGOs and hostile Palestinian Arab leaders to U.S. college campus is insufficient for J Street U. J Street U also takes American college students to visit anti-Israel NGOs, memorials honoring Jew-killers, and hostile Palestinian leaders in Israel.

A highlight of J Street's 2013 annual conference was a panel entitled "J Street U Presents: Unpacking Birthright," discussing how J Street U could subvert the Birthright Israel program.<sup>320</sup> (Birthright Israel is a pro-Israel educational trip for young adults to strengthen their Jewish identity and connection with and understanding of Israel, paid for by pro-Israel donors.)

J Street subverts Birthright Israel trips by persuading students who are in Israel after completing a Birthright trip, or otherwise traveling in Israel, to go on an "add on" J Street trip to Ramallah and other PA areas. On these add on trips, J Street takes students to visit the gravesite and memorial to terrorist Yasser Arafat, and to meet with anti-Israel NGOs, such as the Soros- and NIF-supported "Machsom Watch" that feed the students false stories about Israeli "human rights violations."<sup>321</sup>

J Street's tour guides on these trips are also accomplished anti-Israel propagandists. On a recent trip, the tour guide falsely told gullible students that the "*Israeli occupation*" restricts Palestinian Arabs' access "*to their own water*." A student on the trip then accused Israel of "appalling" violations of Palestinian Arabs' human rights to water, on a J Street blog.<sup>322</sup>

In fact, "*under Israeli rule, the Palestinian water supply has become larger, more technologically sophisticated, of higher quality, and much easier to access; almost entirely due to Israeli efforts.*"<sup>323</sup> A water expert recently recounted in the *New York Times* how Israeli-Palestinian joint water projects steadily improved "*water infrastructure for both Israeli settlements and every Palestinian city and town*" – but then, "*beginning in 2008, the Palestinian leadership decided to turn water into a political tool to bludgeon Israel.*" The PA manufactured a sham water crisis by halting joint cooperation projects, and then falsely blamed Israel – even though

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319 "A Zionist Porn Star, a Lube Merchant, and a Lesbian Rabbi Walk into a Gay Synagogue," by James Kirchick, *Tablet*, Aug. 21, 2014, at <http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-news-and-politics/182756/cbst>

320 See "Film Exposé of J Street Reveals Decaying Core of Moral Narcissism," by Lori Lowenthal Marcus, *Jewish Press*, Feb. 21, 2014, at <http://www.jewishpress.com/news/film-expose-of-j-street-reveals-decaying-core-of-moral-narcissism/2014/02/21/>; and "Hillel Director Slams Birthright For Refusing Students' Requests To Meet Palestinians And See Checkpoints," by (virulently anti-Israel blogger) Phillip Weiss, Mondoweiss (anti-Israel blog), Oct. 2, 2013, at <http://mondoweiss.net/2013/10/birthright-palestinians-checkpoints/>

321 See "To Ramallah And Back," by Mollie Adatto, *Jerusalem Post*, July 20, 2013, at <http://www.jpost.com/Op-Ed-Contributors/To-Ramallah-and-back-320479>; and NGO Monitor fact sheets on Machsom Watch, at [http://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/machsom\\_watch/](http://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/machsom_watch/)

322 "Hard Truths On My Trip To Ramallah," by Naomi Fireman, J Street website, Feb. 8, 2017, at <http://jstreet.org/hard-truths-trip-ramallah/#.WXZNh8aZPzI>

323 "The Myth of the Thirsty Palestinian: The latest line of anti-Israel attack claims the Jewish state withholds water from the Palestinians. As usual, the haters have their facts wrong," by Akiva Bigman, *The Tower*, Apr. 2014, at <http://www.thetower.org/article/the-myth-of-the-thirsty-palestinian/>

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*“Israel was scrupulously adhering to the Oslo Agreement and providing more than half of all the water used by Palestinians in the West Bank.”<sup>324</sup>*

Sickeningly, J Street brings students to lifelong terrorist Yasser Arafat’s grave to falsely portray Arafat as a reformed man of peace. At a synagogue speech in Westchester County, New York by J Street President Ben-Ami, a woman in the audience asked: *“Why is J Street bringing Jewish students to Ramallah to pay homage to Yasser Arafat’s grave?”* Ben-Ami responded that J Street brings students to Yasser Arafat’s grave to teach the students that a former Palestinian terrorist renounced and abandoned violence in 1993, and became a man of peace who even won the Nobel prize because he successfully made a peaceful transformation!<sup>325</sup> In fact, Arafat – the bloodthirsty terrorist responsible for murdering 22 Jewish school children at Ma’alot in 1974 – remained intent on murdering Jews and destroying Israel throughout his entire life. Arafat announced in Arabic that the 1993 Oslo accord was merely a step towards destroying Israel in stages. Arafat rejected a generous statehood offer in 2000, and instead instigated and directed the Second Intifada from 2000 through 2005 – also called “Arafat’s War” – in which Palestinian Arab terrorists murdered almost 2,000 innocent Israeli Jews (and American Jews) and injured over 10,000 innocent Jews.

### (7) J Street U Incubated the Openly Anti-Zionist, Lawless “If Not Now” Organization

Radical groups tend to seed and spawn even more extreme radical groups and front groups. Individuals that radical groups indoctrinated into their hateful ideology form new groups that use even more extreme methods to advance the same ideology. Often, the new group is simply a front for the original group, and enables the original group to portray some degree of moderation while doing its dirty work through the new entity. For instance, the Iranian-funded designated terrorist organization Hamas – which is dedicated to murdering every Jew and wiping Israel off the map – sometimes wants to put on a more “moderate” face, by for instance, agreeing to a temporary cease fire. Thus, Iran has backed new vicious rejectionist terrorist groups, such as al-Sabireen and Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

Top J Street U student leaders (including J Street U’s former board president) formed a new radical organization called “If Not Now.” “If Not Now”’s stated anti-Israel agenda – *“end the occupation”* and *“stop the war on Gaza”* – is virtually identical to J Street’s agenda. However, “If Not Now” has abandoned J Street’s hypocritical “fig leaf” of claiming to be “pro-Israel” and has adopted even more radical methods. “If Not Now” rejects dialogue; chains itself to tables; unlawfully blockades headquarters and events of American Jewish communal organizations; demands that these Jewish communal organizations disavow Israel’s government; and boasts when its members are arrested.<sup>326</sup>

Commentator Daniel Greenfield explained that J Street U’s seeding of this new group appears to be a deliberate J Street tactic, as follows:

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324 A Good Story About Israelis and Palestinians, by Seth M. Siegel, *NY Times*, July 13, 2017, at <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/07/13/opinion/israelis-and-palestinians-water-deal.html>

325 “ZOA: J Street’s Ben-Ami Pushes Dangerous ‘67 Borders, Praises Arafat as Peacemaker at Westchester Reform Temple,” Dec. 21, 2015, at <http://zoa.org/2015/12/10307872-zoa-j-streets-ben-amipushes-dangerous-67-borders-praises-arafat-as-peacemaker-at-westchester-reform-temple/>

326 NGO Monitor listing of If Not Now activities, at <http://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/if-not-now/>

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*"Since J Street U is very obviously the creature of the money and power behind J Street, the latest tactical development appears to be to use J Street U to 'seed' new anti-Israel front groups that are more youth oriented. These groups then join with J Street U's campaigns against the Jewish state while claiming that they represent 'millennials' and that Jewish organizations must listen to younger voices.*

*If Not Now appears to be a typical example. It postures as an independent volunteer grass roots anti-Israel group. In fact it's a group of J Street U people trying out a new brand.*

*Simone Zimmerman, the most prominent figure associated with the new hate group, was the J Street U National Student Board President. She claims to be in Brooklyn, but If Not Now's headquarters is listed in a residential building in Washington D.C. That's where the J Street mothership is also located.*

*While Simone Zimmerman attempts to cultivate the fake moderate image that is a signature of the J Street brand, the If Not Now hate group evolved out of anti-Israel protests during Hamas' attacks on Israel, and Simone Zimmerman retweets violently anti-Israel bigots, including Max Blumenthal, who has called for the ethnic cleansing of Jews from Israel and helped inspire the Kansas City Jewish Community Center shooter, along with Hamas apologists like Glenn Greenwald and Yousef Munayyer.*

*There's nothing moderate about that listing or about Simone Zimmerman. This is what your social media looks like if you hate Israel and want to see it destroyed.*

*Other If Not Now activists were also top J Street U people. Tamara Shapiro was J Street U's director, Yonah Lieberman co-created a J Street U chapter, Max Berger worked for J Street, Emily Mayer was with J Street U at Haverford.*

*The official narrative is that If Not Now parted ways with J Street because the group was insufficiently opposed to the Jewish State and insufficiently supportive of Hamas. As a practical matter though this is how radical groups have always operated, with a front group that makes efforts to appear moderate while incubating radical organizations within itself that 'split off' but still pursue the same agenda.*

*Despite claims of a split, If Not Now is just pursuing the exact same agenda as J Street U, protesting Jewish charities for supporting Israel, while claiming to be the voice of a new generation.*

*It's the same scam with a new brand and slightly less of a paper trail.*

*If Not Now is J Street. J Street is JVP. The same goes for the rest of the paper organizations of the anti-Israel left which are pursuing the same tired discredited anti-Zionist agenda that they have for a century now. This agenda predated the '67 war and the liberation of '67 Israel. It*

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*predated the reborn state's independence. It is premised only on the hard left's rejection of a Jewish national state for racist reasons. Everything else, including the lies about "Palestinian suffering" is window dressing and propaganda for the anti-Semitic left and its Jewish collaborators.*

*The brand is constantly being refreshed in a feverish effort to make an old hateful ideology seem youthful and new. New organizations are constantly being created and destroyed. But they all share one agenda. The destruction of the Jewish State.*<sup>327</sup>

### XIII. J STREET-PAC WORKS & RAISES MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO ELECT HOSTILE-TO-ISRAEL U.S. CONGRESSPERSONS & TO DEFEAT ISRAEL'S BEST FRIENDS IN CONGRESS:

#### (1) J Street PAC's Deceptive Practices:

J Street PAC misleadingly calls anti-Israel Congresspersons "pro-Israel" and vice versa, to deceive voters. As one commentator put it: "*What mainstream pro-Israel activists rightly brand as anti-Israel, J Street lists as supporters of Israel.*"<sup>328</sup>

For instance, J Street PAC glowingly describes a hostile-to-Israel Senator who accused Israel of war crimes as "*a strong supporter of Israel and two-state peace.*"<sup>329</sup> Likewise, J Street PAC gushes that a J Street PAC endorsee "*is a true champion of the pro-Israel, pro-peace movement*" – when that endorsee was in fact the co-author of a Congressional letter falsely portraying as a "moderate" Iran's new president – who was implicated in blowing up the AMIA Jewish Center.  
<sup>330</sup>

Conversely, as discussed in subpart (3) below, J Street ran Orwellian campaigns falsely accusing Israel's best friends in Congress of "*endorsing policies that are not pro-Israel,*" and called pro-Israel opponents of the disastrous-to-Israel-and-America Iran deal "*obstructionists.*"

J Street also helps its endorsees obtain campaign volunteers, via J Street's website, and a designated J Street employee<sup>331</sup>.

#### (2) J Street PAC Supports Hostile-to-Israel Congresspersons:

The Washington Free Beacon's 2012 analysis of over 50 candidates endorsed by J-Street revealed that:

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<sup>327</sup> "If Not Now, J Street's Latest Anti-Israel Front Group," by Daniel Greenfield, *FrontPage Mag.*, Mar. 1, 2016, at <http://www.frontpagemag.com/point/262011/if-not-now-j-streets-latest-anti-israel-front-daniel-greenfield>

<sup>328</sup> "J Street Deceives Supporters After 2014 Election Disaster," by Paul Miller, *Algemeiner*, Nov. 13, 2014, at <http://www.algemeiner.com/2014/11/13/j-street-deceives-supporters-after-2014-election-disaster/>

<sup>329</sup> Compare J Street PAC endorsement for Sen. Tammy Baldwin, at <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/candidate/tammy-baldwin/>; to Israel Emergency Committee's discussion of her record below.

<sup>330</sup> Compare J Street PAC endorsement for Cong. David Price, at <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/candidate/david-price/> to discussion of his record below.

<sup>331</sup> "Volunteer for a Campaign," J Street website, at <http://jstreet.org/get-involved/volunteer-for-a-campaign/#.WXRdIMaZPzI>

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*“The self-described “pro-Israel, pro-peace” liberal advocacy group J Street is soliciting funds for Congressional candidates who are openly hostile to Israel while simultaneously targeting for defeat explicitly pro-Israel lawmakers who do not agree with its radical Middle East agenda.”*<sup>332</sup>

Former AIPAC executive director Morris Amitay stated:

*“[J Street] is showing their true colors. . . [L]ook at who they’re supporting—it’s people most observers would consider to not be friendly to Israel. . . . They sort of help the bad guys on this issue.”*<sup>333</sup>

Former U.S. diplomat Elliot Abrams stated:

*“It is ironic that J Street turns out to want American Jews to be one issue voters. J Street supports candidates critical of Israel and opposes candidates who are very pro-Israel. Doesn’t much matter where they stand on anything else. Maybe, we should salute J Street’s bipartisanship: They barely care what party you’re in as long as you think undermining the Government of Israel is a good idea.”*<sup>334</sup>

J Street’s forty-one 2010 candidates included twenty-eight signers of J Street’s anti-Israel “Gaza 54” letter falsely condemning Israel for defending her population from Hamas’ thousands of rocket attacks on Israeli civilians, and demanding that the Gaza weapons blockade be eased. J Street even supported Rep. Keith Ellison, who spearheaded the “Gaza 54” letter.<sup>335</sup>

Interestingly, J Street’s own website – while trying to argue that it is a “myth” that J Street supports anti-Israel candidates – *confirms* that J Street PAC requires its candidates to support creating a Palestinian state (a so-called two-state solution), U.S. pressure (which J Street euphemistically calls “active U.S. leadership to help end the conflict”), and U.S. funding to the Palestinian Authority, saying:

***“To be eligible for JStreetPAC endorsement, a political candidate must demonstrate that they support a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, active US leadership to help end the conflict, the special relationship between the US and Israel, continued aid to the Palestinian Authority . . .”***<sup>336</sup>

J Street vice president for campaigns Carinne Luck, admitted that the Obama administration and people “on the Hill” (meaning, pro-Palestinian Congresspersons) wanted J Street to “move

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<sup>332</sup> “The Anti-Israel Lobby: ‘Pro-Israel, Pro Peace’ J-Street Backs Congressmen Who Do Not Support Israel,” by Adam Kredo, *Washington Free Beacon*, May 23, 2012), at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/the-anti-israel-lobby/>

<sup>333</sup> *Id.*

<sup>334</sup> *Id.*

<sup>335</sup> “J Street Supported ‘Gaza 54’ Re-Election Campaigns,” by Michael C. Duke, *Jewish Herald-Voice*, Nov. 11, 2010, at <http://jhvonline.com/j-street-supported-gaza-reelection-campaigns-lobby-groups-connectio-p10009-96.htm>

<sup>336</sup> “Myth: J Street Supports Anti-Israel Political Candidates,” J Street website statement, at <http://jstreet.org/about-us/myths-facts-about-j-street/our-endorsed-candidates/#.WWFgxcaZMk8>

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*Jews*" further to the left.<sup>337</sup> That's the opposite of "pro-Israel."

J Street's candidates have failed to sign bipartisan pro-Israel letters; voted *against* bi-partisan resolutions affirming the U.S.-Israel alliance; rejected Israel's right to defend herself from terrorists; signed the infamous "Gaza 54" a/k/a "Hamas 54" letter demanding that Israel end her defensive measures against the terrorist group Hamas; opposed sanctioning Iran; and continue to support funding the PA and the disastrous Iran deal.

Further, ZOA's analysis reveals that ***all of J Street's 2016 candidates supported the catastrophic Iran deal.*** This was confirmed after the 2016 election, when J Street President Ben-Ami wrote a letter to J Street's members boasting about J Street's "successful" support for pro-Iran deal Congresspersons and defeat of two (pro-Israel) opponents of the Iran deal. Ben-Ami bragged:

*"[A record] 99 Members of the incoming Congress (over half the Democratic Caucus) and 19 Senators are J Street-endorsed . . . We supported 124 candidates with a record \$3.6 million, raising more through our PAC than nearly all other pro-Israel PACs combined. . . . Not one Member of Congress who we endorsed and who supported the Iran deal lost their seat to a deal opponent. Instead, two of the most persistent opponents of the [Iran deal] were defeated."*<sup>338</sup>

As the author of an article discussing Ben-Ami's letter commented, that's "*nothing to be proud of, considering the direction Iran has taken since the deal.*"<sup>339</sup>

J Street's troubling endorsees, who J Street raises funds for, include, for example:

- **Rep. Keith Ellison:** Muslim Congressman Ellison has one of the worst anti-Israel, anti-Semitic records in Congress, detailed in this report's Section XVI ("J Street Supports Anti-Israel Appointments"). Very briefly: Ellison was involved with Farrakhan's anti-Semitic Nation of Islam for a decade; and was taped making anti-Semitic comments at one of his many fundraiser appearances for organizations related to Hamas. Ellison spearheaded and persuaded 53 other Democratic Congresspersons to sign his infamous "Gaza 54" letter to President Obama (written by J Street), which falsely accused Israel of humiliating and wreaking "collective punishment" on Gaza residents and demanded that President Obama should pressure Israel to lift the Gaza weapons blockade; and co-authored and spearheaded a letter opposing Netanyahu's timely speech to Congress. Ellison was one of only 8 Congresspersons who voted against a 2014 bi-partisan bill to provide \$225 million to Israel's "Iron dome" missile defense system. Yet, J Street

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<sup>337</sup> "J Street Leader: Our Job is to 'Move Jews' to Support Washington Politicians," by Z Street, Jewish Press, May 17, 2012, at <http://www.jewishpress.com/news/israel/j-street-leader-our-job-is-to-move-jews-to-support-washington-politicians/2012/05/17/>

<sup>338</sup> "J Street Mourns, Pledges, and Boasts: Sad But Combative Letter Highlights How Far Removed J Street Is From American And Israeli Electorates," by Hillel Fendel, Israel Nat'l News, Nov. 10, 2017, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/220111>

<sup>339</sup> *Id.*

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repeatedly threw its support behind Ellison,<sup>340</sup> and is endorsing and fundraising for Ellison yet again for the 2018 election.<sup>341</sup>

- **Rep. John Dingell and Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI-12):** The Jewish Press cited “Gaza 54” letter signer John Dingell (who represented the largest Arab-American district in the U.S.) as a prime example of J Street’s support for hostile-to-Israel candidates, noting:

*“J Street also supported Rep. John Dingell of Michigan, one of the most widely recognized anti-Israel members of Congress. With a +3 rating by the Arab American Institute, Dingell voted No on withholding US contributions until the UN retracts accusations of Israeli war crimes, on opposing any unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state, and Absent on a bill to ensure that United States taxpayer dollars are not used to fund terrorist entities in Lebanon. What point is J street making by giving him PAC money, and why are they so happy he won?”<sup>342</sup>*

Upon Dingell’s retirement after the 2014 Congressional session, the Arab American Institute (AAI) honored their “great friendship” with Dingell and “his support of a sovereign Palestinian state,” and supported his wife Debbie Dingell to replace him (over a potential Arab-American candidate) “because Arab American Democrats in Dearborn have been an integral part of Rep. Dingell’s team.”<sup>343</sup>

Since 2014, J Street – like the Arab American Institute – continues to support Debbie Dingell’s repeated successful runs for her husband’s former seat. Debbie Dingell supports a Palestinian state and the Iran deal,<sup>344</sup> and called the Congressional invitation to Israeli PM Netanyahu a “political sideshow.”<sup>345</sup>

Together with fellow anti-Israel J Street candidates Keith Ellison and **John Yarmuth (D-KY, – another “Gaza 54” letter signer)**, Debbie Dingell spearheaded a letter that blamed Israel for Palestinian Arab violence, and praised as “agents of peace” anti-Israel activists, an Intifada supporter, and key members of groups dedicated to “ending the occupation of Palestinian lands.”<sup>346</sup> Dingell and the new PLO Representative to the U.S. were honorees and speakers at an

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340 E.g., “*J Street PAC Tops 2008 Totals, On Pace To Raise \$1 Million*,” J Street press release, July 1, 2010, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/jstreetpac-tops-2008-totals-on-pace-to-raise-1-million\\_1/#.WWHb4saZPzI](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/jstreetpac-tops-2008-totals-on-pace-to-raise-1-million_1/#.WWHb4saZPzI)

341 J Street candidate profile, at <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/candidate/keith-ellison/>

342 “*J Street Boasting of Defeating Israel’s Friends*,” *supra*, by Lori Lowenthal Marcus, *Jewish Press*, Nov. 12, 2012, at <http://www.jewishpress.com/news/breaking-news/j-street-boasting-of-defeating-israels-friends-but-its-relevance-is-questionable/2012/11/12/>

343 “*Arab American Institute: Honoring John Dingell’s Service to Michigan, the Country, and the Arab American Community*,” Feb. 25, 2014, at <http://www.aaiusa.org/honoring-john-dingell>

344 J Street candidate profile, at <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/candidate/debbie-dingell/>

345 “*Congresswoman Dingell on Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu’s Address to Congress*,” Mar. 3, 2015 Press release, at <https://debbiedingell.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/congresswoman-dingell-israeli-prime-minister-netanyahu-s-address>

346 “*Democratic House Members Valorize Anti-Israel Activists, Intifada Supporter*,” by Adam Kredo, *Washington Free Beacon*, Nov. 17, 2015, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/democratic-house-members-valorize-anti-israel-activists-intifada-supporter/>

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April 2017 “Arab America” event sponsored by AAI and the Qatar Foundation International.<sup>347</sup> In January 2017, Dingell voted *against* the bi-partisan Congressional resolution condemning viciously anti-Israel United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334.<sup>348</sup>

• **Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA):** Capps sided *against* Israel on key Congressional resolutions and letters – while J Street’s financial support helped her win her sometimes close election races in 2008,<sup>349</sup> 2010,<sup>350</sup> 2012,<sup>351</sup> and 2014.<sup>352</sup>

In 2009, Capps was one of the small minority (8%) of House members who voted *against* a bi-partisan resolution that both affirmed Israel’s right to defend herself and condemned the anti-Israel Goldstone Report.<sup>353</sup> Also in 2009, Capps declined to join the majority (327) of House members who signed the bipartisan Steny Hoyer (D-MD)–Eric Cantor (R-VA) letter reaffirming the U.S.-Israel alliance.<sup>354</sup> In 2010, Capps signed the infamous “Gaza 54” J Street-orchestrated letter asking then-President Obama to pressure the Israel to end defensive measures against Hamas in Gaza.<sup>355</sup> Also in 2010, Capps declined to join the majority (338) of House members who signed the bipartisan Ted Poe (R-TX)–Gary Peters (D-MI) letter reaffirming Israel’s right to defend itself in the wake of the “Gaza Freedom Flotilla” incident,<sup>356</sup> during which pro-Hamas activists attacked and viciously beat Israeli soldiers/ship inspectors with knives, clubs and metal rods.<sup>357</sup>

In 2011, Capps was one of the 44 signers of the Price-Welch J Street letter advocating for continuing funding the Palestinian Authority, despite PA attempts to obtain statehood without

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347 “AAI: Arab American Heritage Month Kicked Off With Style in DC,” by Heba Mohammed, Apr. 6, 2017, at [http://www.aaiusa.org/arab\\_american\\_heritage\\_month\\_kicked\\_off\\_with\\_style\\_in\\_dc](http://www.aaiusa.org/arab_american_heritage_month_kicked_off_with_style_in_dc); and “Arab America: Nat'l Arab American Heritage Month,” at <https://vimeo.com/212925083>

348 “Which Members of Congress Are Anti-Israel?,” at <http://chelm.freeyellow.com/anti-israel.html>

349 “Our Second Round of Candidate Endorsements,” July 28, 2008, at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/our-second-round-candidate-endorsements/#.WWHTO8aZPzI>

350 “J Street PAC Launches 2010 Campaign; Endorses 41 Candidates,” J Street website, Jan. 21, 2010, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/jstreetpac-launches-2010-campaign-endorses-41-candidates\\_1/#.WWHRL8aZPzI](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/jstreetpac-launches-2010-campaign-endorses-41-candidates_1/#.WWHRL8aZPzI)

351 “J Street PAC Scores Big in 2012 Election,” Nov. 7, 2012, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/jstreetpac-scores-big-in-2012-election-\\_1/#.WWHTycaZPzI](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/jstreetpac-scores-big-in-2012-election-_1/#.WWHTycaZPzI)

352 “J Street 2014 Election Night Scorecard,” at [http://libcloud.s3.amazonaws.com/862/5f/c/312/J\\_Street\\_PAC\\_2014\\_Scorecard\\_-\\_79.pdf](http://libcloud.s3.amazonaws.com/862/5f/c/312/J_Street_PAC_2014_Scorecard_-_79.pdf)

353 H. Res. 867(111th Cong.): “Calling on the President and the Secretary of State to oppose unequivocally any endorsement or further consideration of the ‘Report of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict’ in multilateral fora,” at <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/111/hres867>; votes listed at <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/votes/111-2009/h838>

354 “Signatories to Hoyer-Cantor Letter Reaffirming the U.S.-Israel Alliance,” at [http://api.ning.com/files/SERpaLSGtw-H8JMT7plUg\\*m1X9Y03FykI-gCHj7UontBtyUEizFAwI5uDWzWXiCBaXMRMDl322nFsJYVEnoYyaRChsd7RcXG/Signatories\\_to\\_HoyerCantor\\_Letter.pdf](http://api.ning.com/files/SERpaLSGtw-H8JMT7plUg*m1X9Y03FykI-gCHj7UontBtyUEizFAwI5uDWzWXiCBaXMRMDl322nFsJYVEnoYyaRChsd7RcXG/Signatories_to_HoyerCantor_Letter.pdf)

355 “J Street Supported ‘Gaza 54’ Re-Election Campaigns,” by Michael C. Duke, *Jewish Herald-Voice*, Nov. 11, 2010, at <http://jhvonline.com/j-street-supported-gaza-reelection-campaigns-lobby-groups-connectio-p10009-96.htm>

356 “Signatories to the Poe-Peters Letter on the Gaza Flotilla Incident,” at [http://www.aipac.org/-/media/publications/policy-and-politics/source-materials/congressional-action/2010/signatories\\_to\\_poe-peters\\_letter.pdf](http://www.aipac.org/-/media/publications/policy-and-politics/source-materials/congressional-action/2010/signatories_to_poe-peters_letter.pdf)

357 “Footage of Mavi Marmara Passengers Attacking IDF Soldiers,” at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMmDfvAMTqc>

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recognizing Israel, and the PA's continued support for terrorism.<sup>358</sup> In 2012, Capps was the only House member to vote "no" on H. Res. 556 condemning Iran for persecuting and imprisoning a Christian Pastor (but then said her vote was a mistake).<sup>359</sup> Capps announced that the Iran deal had her "*full support.*"<sup>360</sup> Capps retired after the 2015-2016 session. J Street then supported Capps' replacement – another Iran deal supporter **Salud Carbajal (D-CA)**, who won with J Street's assistance.

• **Rep. George Miller (D-CA):** Miller likewise signed the infamous "Gaza 54" 2010 letter, as well as the Price-Welch letter to continue sending U.S. tax dollars to the PA,<sup>361</sup> and the Price-Dent letter falsely portraying Iranian Pres. Rouhani as a moderate. Miller was also one of the few in Congress who voted *against* bi-partisan H. Resolution 392 (May 2002; passed 352-to-21), which voiced "*solidarity with Israel*" in the struggle against Palestinian terrorism. This was during the deadly Second Intifada, in which Palestinian Arab suicide bombers murdered and maimed close to 10,000 Jews. When asked to explain his vote, Miller complained that H. Res. 392 didn't call for a Palestinian state.<sup>362</sup> Miller also did *not* support (and instead was one of the few Congresspersons who merely voted "present") a January 2009 bi-partisan bill overwhelmingly supporting Israel's right to defend herself against Hamas attacks from Gaza.<sup>363</sup> (Miller retired in 2015.)

• **Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI):** Baldwin was another "Gaza 54" letter signer supported by J Street PAC. Baldwin also voted *against* a 2009 Iran sanctions bill<sup>364</sup> and condemned Israel for defending against armed militants aboard the "Freedom Flotilla."<sup>365</sup> Baldwin also supported the Iran deal.<sup>366</sup> During her 2012 Senate race, the Emergency Committee for Israel (a real pro-Israel group), ran ads against her, explaining that:

*"Throughout her career in the House of Representatives, Baldwin has been... hostile to the U.S.-Israel alliance. She has accused Israel of war crimes,*

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358 "J Street Hails Efforts By 44 Members of Congress to Protect Israel Through Continued U.S. Assistance To Palestinian Authority," J Street Press Release with link to letter, Nov. 8, 2011, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-hails-efforts-by-44-members-of-congress-to-protect-israel-through-continued-us-assistance-to-palestinian-authority\\_1/#.WWHJ7saZMk8](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-hails-efforts-by-44-members-of-congress-to-protect-israel-through-continued-us-assistance-to-palestinian-authority_1/#.WWHJ7saZMk8)

359 "House Condemns Iran for Imprisonment of Christian Minister," Times-Picayune, Mar. 2, 2012, at [http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/03/house\\_condemns\\_iran\\_for\\_impris.html](http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/03/house_condemns_iran_for_impris.html)

360 "The Hill's Whip List: House Iran Vote," The Hill, Aug. 4, 2015, at <http://thehill.com/policy/national-security/250261-the-hills-whip-list-house-dems-divided-on-iran-deal>

361 See signatories listed in footnoted articles to Lois Capps section, *supra*.

362 "Rep. George Miller Explains Mideast Vote in Vallejo," J Weekly, Sept. 6, 2002, at <http://www.jweekly.com/article/full/18404/rep-george-miller-explains-mideast-vote-in-vallejo/>; and H. Res. 392, at <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/house-resolution-expressing-solidarity-with-israel-may-2002>

363 "Final Vote Results For Roll Call 10," at <http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2009/rollo10.xml>

364 <http://tammybaldwin.house.gov/news/press-releases/2009/12/statement-on-house-passage-of-the-iran-refined-petroleum-sanctions-act-hr-2194.shtml>

365 "The Anti-Israel Lobby: 'Pro-Israel, Pro-Peace' J Street Backs Congressmen Who Do Not Support Israel," by Adam Kredo, Washington Free Beacon, May 23, 2012, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/the-anti-israel-lobby/>

366 "U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin Statement In Support Of Iran Nuclear Agreement," Aug. 7, 2015, at <https://www.baldwin.senate.gov/press-releases/us-senator-tammy-baldwin-statement-in-support-of-iran-nuclear-agreement>

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*befriended anti-Israel groups, refused to sign bipartisan letters of support for Israel....*<sup>367</sup>

Yet, J Street ran ads defending Baldwin. J Street endorsed and raised funds for Baldwin's 2010 House race, gave her a critical \$55,000 boost for her successful 2012 Senate election,<sup>368</sup> and is again fundraising for her 2018 Senate race.<sup>369</sup>

- **Rep. David Price (D- NC):** Price also signed the "Gaza 54" letter, and supported the Iran deal. Also, together with Rep. Peter Welch, Price spearheaded a letter asking President Obama to continue sending U.S. aid to the Palestinian Authority despite the PA's attempts to unilaterally establish statehood at the United Nations without recognizing Israel.

Price also co-authored the Price-Dent letter to Obama (in conjunction with J Street, which asked Congresspersons to sign the letter) that falsely portrayed Iran's then-newly elected president Hassan Rouhani as a moderate who would "*pursue a policy of reconciliation and peace*," urged nuclear negotiations and diplomacy with Iran, and urged that the U.S. should do nothing to "*delegitimize*" or "*weaken*" Rouhani's presidency.<sup>370</sup> This false moderate portrayal of Rouhani was concocted to promote the then-upcoming disastrous Iran deal. Rouhani was implicated in one of the worst terrorist attacks on innocent Jews in modern times. Shortly before Argentine prosecutor Alberto Nisman was murdered in January 2015, Nisman advised that he had evidence tying Rouhani to the Iran-directed Hezbollah 1994 bombing of the AMIA Buenos Aires Jewish Center, in which 85 innocents (mostly Jews) were murdered and hundreds were wounded.<sup>371</sup> J Street repeatedly supported Price, and is again supporting him for 2018.

- **Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT):** Welch likewise signed the infamous "Gaza 54" letter and Price-Dent letter, and supported the Iran deal. In addition, in November 2011, together with David Price, Welch spearheaded a J Street-supported letter urging that U.S. aid to the Palestinian Authority should continue, despite the PA's attempts to unilaterally establish statehood at the United Nations without recognizing Israel, which violated the Oslo accords.<sup>372</sup> Welch has a "+2" rating from the Arab American Institute, meaning that he has a "*pro-Arab pro-Palestine voting*

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367 "Pro-Israel Group Attacks Baldwin; Another Lauds Her," by Lee Bergquist, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, Oct. 11, 2012, at <http://archive.jsonline.com/blogs/news/173744341.html>

368 "Senate Scorecard: Who Won, and Whom They Owe," by Becca Heller, *Sunlight Foundation*, Nov. 8, 2012, at [https://sunlightfoundation.com/2012/11/08/senate\\_scorecard\\_who\\_won/](https://sunlightfoundation.com/2012/11/08/senate_scorecard_who_won/)

369 J Street 2018 Candidate listing, at <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/candidate/tammy-baldwin/>

370 See Price-Dent letter, at <https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/Price-Dent.pdf>; J Street post urging readers to tell their representatives to sign the Price-Dent letter, at <http://act.jstreet.org/sign/pdcletter/?akid=2315.183166.P4UfIx&rd=1&t=1>

371 "Argentine Prosecutor: Rouhani Involved in AMIA Bombing Decision: Said Privately He Had Evidence Rouhani Was Involved In Decision To Authorize Bombing," by Alana Goodman, *Washington Free Beacon*, Jan. 26, 2015, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/argentine-prosecutor-rouhani-involved-in-amia-bombing-decision/>

372 "Fight Over Aid to Palestinian Authority Heating Up," by Josh Rogin, *Foreign Policy*, Nov. 8, 2011, at <http://foreignpolicy.com/2011/11/08/fight-over-aid-to-palestinian-authority-heating-up/>; "Pro-Israel, Pro-Peace Leaders Lobby For New Congressional Letter Urging Continued Palestinian Aid," J Street website, Sept. 16, 2011, at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/proisrael-propeace-leaders-lobby-for-new-congressional-letter-urging-continued-palestinian-aid/#.WXAZtcaZPzI>

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record.”<sup>373</sup> J Street supported Welch in every Congressional race since J Street’s inception (2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016), and is again fundraising for Welch’s 2018 election campaign.<sup>374</sup>

• **Blatantly Anti-Israel Congressman Nick Joe Rahall II (D-WV):** Arab-American Nick Rahall was known as one of the most blatantly anti-Israel voices in Congress. Rahall referred to Israel as a “monster,” a “spoiled child,” “bullies,” and the “*Israeli Occupation Forces*.” He consistently voted against Israel; and signed the infamous Gaza 54 letter,<sup>375</sup> and Price-Dent letter.<sup>376</sup> In addition, Rahall stated: “*Israel can’t continue to occupy, humiliate and destroy the dreams and spirits of the Palestinian people and continue to call itself a democratic state.*” He was one of only 8 House members to vote against a resolution supporting Israel’s right to defend herself, which was supported by 410 House members; and was the *only* member of the House to oppose the 1993 resolution urging Arab states to end their Arab boycott of Israel.<sup>377</sup> Despite J Street’s support, Rahall was finally defeated in 2014, after 38 years in Congress.

• **Rep. Joe Garcia (D-FL):** As a one-term Congressman, Garcia did not have a substantial record on Israel issues. However, Garcia accepted campaign donations and spoke at the annual fundraising dinner for the radical Islamist group EMERGE USA, along with Dr. Sayed Ammar Nakshawani, who stated: “*It is barbaric that this Zionist state is allowed to continue.*”<sup>378</sup> Garcia was defeated in 2014, despite J Street’s support.<sup>379</sup>

• **Rep. Donna Edwards (D-MD):** Edwards also signed the “Gaza 54” letter and Price-Dent letter – and was one of J Street’s first endorsed candidates in 2008. In 2009, Edwards voted “present” – rather than “yes” – on a near-unanimous resolution endorsing Israel’s right to defend herself against Gaza rocket attacks.<sup>380</sup> Edwards also demanded “full settlement closures,” and characterizes Jewish communities as an impediment to peace. Edwards’ controversial anti-Israel statements included: “*America would be making a big mistake if it allows Israel to substitute ‘outpost closures’ for full ‘settlement closures’ throughout the country*; “*large Jewish settlements . . . impede any lasting peace agreement*; “*natural growth [of Jewish communities*

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373 Peter Welch On the Issues, at [http://www.ontheissues.org/House/Peter\\_Welch\\_Foreign\\_Policy.htm](http://www.ontheissues.org/House/Peter_Welch_Foreign_Policy.htm)

374 J Street candidate endorsement, at <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/candidate/peter-welch/>

375 See “Massacre on JStreet,” by Adam Kredo, *Washington Free Beacon*, Nov. 5, 2014, <http://freebeacon.com/politics/j-street-endorsees-crushed-at-polls/>; and “J Street Deceives Supporters After 2014 Election Disaster,” by Paul Miller, *Algemeiner*, Nov. 13, 2014, at <http://www.algemeiner.com/2014/11/13/j-street-deceives-supporters-after-2014-election-disaster/>

376 Al Monitor list of Price-Dent letter signers, at <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/sites/almonitor/contents/articles/originals/2013/07/rouhani-obama-iran-diplomacy-israel-price-dent-p51-e33-us.html>

377 “Arab Americans: Nick Rahall II,” Arab America, at <http://www.arabamerica.com/arabamericans/nick-rahall-ii/>

378 “Florida Congressman Accepts Money From Radical Muslim Group: Joe Garcia Gets In Bed With The Enemy,” by Joe Kaufman, *Frontpage Mag.*, May 29, 2014, at <http://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/226560/florida-congressman-accepts-money-radical-muslim-joe-kaufman>

379 “J Street Deceives Supporters After 2014 Election Disaster,” by Paul Miller, *Algemeiner*, Nov. 13, 2014, at <http://www.algemeiner.com/2014/11/13/j-street-deceives-supporters-after-2014-election-disaster/>

380 “In Senate bid, Rep. Donna Edwards Faces Scrutiny Over Her Views On Israel,” by Rachel Weiner, *Washington Post*, Apr. 30, 2015, at [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local-md-politics/in-senate-bid-rep-donna-edwards-faces-scrutiny-over-her-views-on-israel/2015/04/30/od74997e-eac7-11e4-9767-6276fc9boada\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.7a2e1620e7a6](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local-md-politics/in-senate-bid-rep-donna-edwards-faces-scrutiny-over-her-views-on-israel/2015/04/30/od74997e-eac7-11e4-9767-6276fc9boada_story.html?utm_term=.7a2e1620e7a6)

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*is] an obstacle to a functional two-state solution"; and "It will be impossible to [form a separate Palestinian state] if [Jewish] settlements are allowed to continue to develop."*<sup>381</sup>

When pro-Israel Democrats who were alarmed by Edwards' anti-Israel statements sought to support a Democratic primary candidate against Edwards in 2009, J Street PAC sent out an urgent fundraising appeal to assist Edwards, and raised tens of thousands of dollars to help Edwards fend off a pro-Israel Democratic primary challenger.<sup>382</sup> "Open Secrets" shows that J Street PAC is Edwards' third largest lifetime contributor.<sup>383</sup>

**Pro-BDS Candidate Zephyr Teachout (D-NY):** In 2016, J Street (unsuccessfully) supported Teachout for an open Congressional seat. During a September 2016 debate, Teachout (wrongly) claimed that the Iran deal has been "successful"<sup>384</sup> (ignoring Iran's violations and intercontinental ballistic missile launches). Teachout also initially refused to take a position on BDS; then said she opposes it; and then said that *she opposes New York Governor Cuomo's anti-BDS executive order.* (Her final position was thus pro-BDS.)<sup>385</sup> An organization that really opposed anti-Israel boycotts would not support such a candidate.

And this is only a small sampling of J Street PAC's hostile-to-Israel candidates!

#### (3) J Street PAC Targets Pro-Israel Congresspersons for Defeat:

As the Washington Free Beacon's analysis revealed, J Street "target[s] for defeat explicitly pro-Israel lawmakers who do not agree with its radical Middle East agenda."<sup>386</sup>

Strong pro-Israel Congresspersons targeted by J Street have included the following, among many others:

• **Pro-Israel Senators Who Co-Sponsored a Bill to Increase MOU funding to Israel: Senators Mark Kirk (R-IL), Kelly Ayotte (R-NH), Marco Rubio (R-FL) and John McCain (R-AZ):** J Street PAC maliciously targeted and raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to try to defeat the staunch pro-Israel Senators (Marco Rubio, Mark Kirk, Kelly Ayotte and John McCain) who co-sponsored a 2016 bill to increase MOU funds to Israel. (See this report's Section VII.(1).) The proposed aid increase was designed to help Israel defend against Iran's increased support for anti-Israel terrorism after Iran received billions in Iran deal sanctions relief. The same targeted senators also opposed the Iran deal, and also supported numerous other pro-Israel bills and resolutions. Two of those great pro-Israel Senators, Mark Kirk and Kelly Ayotte, were sadly defeated in the 2016 election.

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381 "J Street: Donna Edwards' Re-election, No Sweat!," Daily Kos, June 10, 2009, at <https://www.dailykos.com/story/2009/06/11/741023/-J-Street-Donna-Edwards-Re-election-No-Sweat>

382 *Id.*; See also "The Man on J Street: The Story of Jeremy Ben Ami," Moment Magazine, April/May 2010, at <http://www.momentmag.com/the-man-on-j-street-the-story-of-jeremy-ben-ami/5/>

383 "Open Secrets: Donna Edwards Top Contributors," at <https://www.opensecrets.org/politicians/contrib.php?cycle=Career&cid=N00028249&type=I>

384 "Zephyr Teachout Calls Iran Deal Successful," C-Span video, Sept. 15, 2016, at <https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4620946/zephyr-teachout-calls-iran-deal-successful>

385 "Zephyr Teachout Gives Mixed Signals on Israel Position," by Fredric Dicker, NY Post, June 27, 2016, at <http://nypost.com/2016/06/27/zephyr-teachout-gives-mixed-signals-on-israel-position/>

386 "The Anti-Israel Lobby: 'Pro-Israel, Pro-Peace' J Street Backs Congressmen Who Do Not Support Israel," by Adam Kredo, Washington Free Beacon, May 23, 2012, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/the-anti-israel-lobby/>

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- **Pro-Israel Senators Who Opposed the Iran Deal, Including Pat Toomey (R-PA), Rob Portman (R-OH), Ron Johnson (R-WI), Richard Burr (R-NC), Kirk, Ayotte, Rubio and McCain, and Senate Candidate Congressman Joe Heck (R-NV):**

In 2016, J Street specifically targeted Senators (and Representatives) who had opposed the Iran deal. For instance, during the 2016 campaign, J Street produced video ads praising the Iran deal and condemning Senators Toomey and Ayotte, etc. for opposing the deal.<sup>387</sup> In a “campaign spotlight,” J Street PAC accused Senator Toomey of: “*join[ing] in with several aggressive Republican attempts to undermine the negotiations that led to the Iran nuclear agreement.*”<sup>388</sup>

Similarly, J Street PAC’s “campaign spotlight” condemned Dr. Joe Heck (a Congressman who was running for Senate) as “*an outspoken opponent of diplomatic solutions*” because Dr. Heck voted against the Iran deal and called it a “bad deal.”<sup>389</sup>

And, after pro-Israel stalwart Senator Mark Kirk was defeated, J Street PAC bragged: “*JStreetPAC was a lead supporter of Tammy Duckworth in her successful effort to unseat Congress’ most persistent Iran deal obstructionist, Mark Kirk.*”<sup>390</sup>

- **Pro-Israel Congressman Joe Walsh (R-IL):** In 2012, J Street targeted for defeat first-term Congressman Joe Walsh, who was one of Israel’s staunchest champions in Congress.

Walsh co-sponsored strong pro-Israel House Resolution 392: “*Supporting Israel’s right to annex Judea and Samaria in the event that the Palestinian Authority continues to press for unilateral recognition of Palestinian statehood at the United Nations,*” which noted that the PA’s attempts to bypass negotiations with Israel by going to the UN violated the Oslo accords and other agreements.<sup>391</sup> Walsh also authored a *Washington Times* op ed “*Myth of a Two-State Solution,*” which eloquently explained that it is a myth that creating a Palestinian Arab state will bring peace, saying:

*“The two-state solution can never work when one of the domains, the Palestinian state, does not even acknowledge the other state’s (Israel’s) right to exist and has as its entire purpose in life wiping Israel off the face of the earth. Never will peace come when one side possesses such hate and routinely expresses that hate through violence and blood. It is time to let go of the two-state-solution insanity and adopt the only solution that will bring true peace to the Middle East: a single Israeli state from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. Israel is the only country in the region dedicated to peace and the only power capable of stable, just and democratic government in the region.”*<sup>392</sup>

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387 “*J Street PAC Campaign Spotlight: Senate Challengers In Nevada And Pennsylvania,*” Oct. 18, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/campaign-spotlight-senate-challengers-nevada-pennsylvania/> & “*Pat Toomey: Like Donald Trump, He’s Wrong*” – video ad, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=keYflJTjPVQ>

388 *Id.* (J Street PAC Campaign Spotlight).

389 *Id.* The targeted Senators also opposed the Iran deal, and also supported numerous other pro-Israel bills and resolutions

390 “*J Street PAC: Our Track Record,*” at <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/our-track-record/>

391 H. Res. 392 (112th), Govtrack, <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/112/hres394/text>

392 “*Myth of a Two-State Solution,*” by Joe Walsh, *Washington Times*, May 3, 2012, at <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2012/may/3/myth-of-a-two-state-solution/>

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And in May 2011, when then-President Obama called for Israel's retreat to the indefensible 1967 lines, Cong. Walsh leapt to Israel's defense, and wrote an op-ed criticizing Obama for throwing Israel under the bus; and criticizing Obama's other anti-Israel statements, including Obama's attacks on Jewish settlements.<sup>393</sup> Walsh also spearheaded a letter, signed by 34 Congresspersons, to US House leadership calling for all aid to Egypt to be suspended until Egypt's then new Muslim Brotherhood President, Mohamed Morsi "*publicly reaffirm Egypt's treaties, promote peace with Israel, and continue to recognize Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state.*"<sup>394</sup>

Rep. Walsh's ardent support for Israel led J Street PAC to launch a vicious Orwellian campaign against Walsh. J Street issued a "red alert" to J-Street supporters to oust Walsh from Congress in November 2012, and created and broadcasted ads against Walsh.<sup>395</sup> Absurdly and deceptively, J-Street accused Congressman Walsh (and others who criticized Obama for calling for Israel's retreat to indefensible borders) of "*calculated attempts to pervert what it means to be pro-Israel.*"<sup>396</sup> J Street also falsely proclaimed: "*The policies endorsed by Representative Walsh are not pro-Israel.*"<sup>397</sup>

Rep. Walsh responded:

*"For a group like J Street who only claims to be pro-Israel to go after me for being pro-Israel makes no sense . . . They hide under the cover of 'pro-peace, pro-Israel,' but they're pro-Palestinian . . . No one from the middle to the right takes them seriously. They're almost a joke. They're extremely toxic and so loudly in your face to anyone who takes even a little bit of a pro-Israel stance."*<sup>398</sup>

Tragically, Congressman Walsh was defeated in 2012 by Tammy Duckworth (D). J Street boasted of this "victory" – although Duckworth also had a party registration advantage.<sup>399</sup>

- **Pro-Israel Congressman Allen West (R-FL):** Allen West is a war hero and, like Joe Walsh, was a first-term Congressman in 2010 who was one of Israel's chief defenders and supporters in Congress. Rep. West was also the first African-American Republican Congressman from Florida since Reconstruction. Rep. West correctly called J-Street a "*Jewish Pro-Palestinian organization*"

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393 "President Obama is Not Israel's Friend," by Rep. Joe Wash, *Daily Caller*, May 25, 2011, at <http://dailycaller.com/2011/05/25/president-obama-is-not-israels-friend/>

394 "J Street Goes On Offensive, Targets 2 US Candidates," by Hilary Leila Kreiger, *Jerusalem Post*, July 13, 2012, at <http://www.jpost.com/International/J-Street-goes-on-offensive-targets-2-US-candidates>

395 "J Street Ads Target US Congressmen's Support of Judea, Samaria," by Rachel Hirshfeld, *Israel Nat'l News*, July 15, 2012, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/157851> (with copy of the deceptive J Street ad against Walsh, falsely charging Walsh's opposition to creating a Palestinian Arab state as not being "pro-Israel")

396 "Representative Joe Walsh has Crossed the Line," J Street press release, May 7, 2012, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/representative-joe-walsh-has-crossed-the-line\\_1/](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/representative-joe-walsh-has-crossed-the-line_1/)

397 *Id.*

398 "The Anti-Israel Lobby: 'Pro-Israel, Pro-Peace' J Street Backs Congressmen Who Do Not Support Israel," by Adam Kredo, *Washington Free Beacon*, May 23, 2012, <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/the-anti-israel-lobby/>

399 "J Street Boasting of Defeating Israel's Friends," *supra*, by Lori Lowenthal Marcus, *Jewish Press*, Nov. 12, 2012, at <http://www.jewishpress.com/news/breaking-news/j-street-boasting-of-defeating-israels-friends-but-its-relevance-is-questionable/2012/11/12/>

### XIII. ...RAISES MILLIONS TO ELECT HOSTILE-TO-ISRAEL US CONGRESSPERSONS...

and criticized J-Street's "just trust Iran" positions.<sup>400</sup> In January 2011, Congressman West joined staunch pro-Israel House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairwoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-Fla) to condemn Obama's permission to the PLO mission in Washington D.C. to fly the PLO flag. Rep. West noted that raising the PLO flag in Washington D.C. was "*an attempt to legitimize an organization with a known history of terrorist actions.*"<sup>401</sup> Rep. West was also a co-sponsor of a resolution supporting Israel's rights with respect to existing Jewish communities in Judea/ Samaria.<sup>402</sup> Rep. West also wrote to then-President Obama seeking the release of Jewish prisoner Jonathan Pollard from his unprecedented lengthy sentence for passing information to an ally.<sup>403</sup>

J-Street PAC also targeted West. As with Congressman Walsh, J-Street PAC expended tens of thousands of dollars to defeat Congressman West, and targeted Rep. West with Orwellian ads falsely accusing Cong. West's strong pro-Israel positions of *not* being pro-Israel.<sup>404</sup> Unfortunately, Cong. West lost his seat in a very close election – another J Street "victory" that harmed the pro-Israel cause.

- **Rep. Lee Zeldin (R-NY):** One of J Street's top targets is incumbent Congressman Zeldin. Rep. Zeldin is a staunch pro-Israel advocate, strong opponent of the Iran deal, and has been the only Jewish Republican in Congress for much of his tenure (until 2017). Rep. Zeldin and pro-Israel Democratic Congresswoman Grace Meng co-sponsored a bi-partisan proposal to give Israel the massive ordnance penetrators (MOPs) needed to destroy Iran's nuclear facilities.<sup>405</sup>

Open Secrets lists J Street PAC as the *biggest* contributor to Rep. Zeldin's 2016 opponent, Anna Throne-Holst. J Street PAC's contributions to Rep. Zeldin's opponent were *four times* the amount contributed to her by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.<sup>406</sup> J Street's criticism of Zeldin included comments such as:

*"Zeldin has proven himself to be one of the most extreme opponents of diplomacy and pro-Israel, pro-peace policies. He has criticized the Obama administration for speaking out against settlement expansion, and demanded that a State Department spokesman be fired for pointing out that both Palestinian and Israeli civilians have carried out acts of violence and terror. . . . He has been an outspoken leader of efforts to oppose*

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400 "Rep. Allen West: J Street is Pro-Palestinian Jewish Organization," by Rachel Hirshfeld, *Israel Nat'l News*, Mar. 28, 2012, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/154247#.Uo9yvFVdU3c>

401 "US Rep: If Taiwan Can't Fly Flag, Why Can PLO?: Allen West Joins Ileana Ros-Lehtinen in Condemning the PLO Flag Flying in Washington," by Gil Ronen, *Israel Nat'l News*, Jan. 25, 2011, at <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/141934>

402 "J Street Ads Target US Congressmen's Support of Judea, Samaria," by Rachel Hirshfeld, *Israel Nat'l News*, July 15, 2012, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/157851>

403 "'If Lockerbie Bomber Was Freed, Why Not Pollard?': Congressman Allen West Writes To Obama Asking How Can Israeli Agent Be Kept In Jail When His Crimes Weren't As Serious As Those Of Al-Megrahi," by Gil Stern Stern Hoffman, *Jerusalem Post*, June 5, 2011, at <http://www.jpost.com/Diplomacy-and-Politics/If-Lockerbie-bomber-was-freed-why-not-Pollard>

404 "J Street Ads Target US Congressmen's Support of Judea, Samaria," by Rachel Hirshfeld, *supra*; and "J Street Goes On Offensive, Targets 2 US Candidates," by Hilary Leila Kreiger, *supra*.

405 "It's Time To Give Israel The Means To Take Out Iranian Nukes," by Grace Meng & Lee Zeldin, *New York Post*, May 17, 2015, at <http://nypost.com/2015/05/17/its-time-to-give-israel-the-means-to-take-out-iranian-nukes/>

406 "Open Secrets: Anna Throne-Holst Top Contributors, 2016," at <https://www.opensecrets.org/races/contributors?cycle=2016&id=NY01&spec=N>

### XIII. ...RAISES MILLIONS TO ELECT HOSTILE-TO-ISRAEL US CONGRESSPERSONS...

*the Iran nuclear deal, and to undermine it since its implementation. In August, he was slammed by J Street for outrageous comments in relation to negotiations over returning frozen Iranian assets, . . .”*<sup>407</sup>

**Rep. Cong. Mike Bost (R-IL):** Rep. Bost strongly opposed the Iran deal, accurately explaining that the deal: “*paves the way for Iran to advance its nuclear capabilities*” and that by “*legitimizing Iran’s nuclear program, allowing for self-inspections, and lifting arms and missile embargoes, this agreement fails to ramp up accountability on a regime that proclaims ‘death to America’ and promises to ‘wipe Israel off the map.’ We must do better for the sake and safety of our children and grandchildren.*”<sup>408</sup> Rep. Mike Bost also voted to suspend the president’s authority to lift sanctions against Iran<sup>409</sup> and for a resolution finding that President Obama failed to comply with the “Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act,” which required the Administration to share the full agreement with Congress resolution.<sup>410</sup>

In 2016, J Street unsuccessfully attempted to defeat and replace Rep. Bost with a challenger, Charles Baricevic, whom J Street described as a supporter of “diplomacy” with Iran (J Street’s euphemism for supporting the disastrous Iran deal) and “*a two-state solution based on 1967 borders with land swaps*” (J Street’s euphemism for Israel’s retreat to indefensible borders to make way for a terrorist Palestinian Arab Hamas Iran-satellite state).

• **Rep. Charlie Bass (R-NH):** Rep. Bass possessed stellar pro-Israel credentials. Rep. Bass served in Congress from 1995-2007, and returned to Congress in 2011. Rep. Bass co-sponsored the bi-partisan United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012,<sup>411</sup> which the House overwhelmingly passed (with 411 yeas; 9 present, 2 nays). Not surprisingly, the small handful of “no” or “present” votes came from lawmakers endorsed by and/or publicly affiliated with J-Street, including John Dingell (who voted “no”) and Reps. Donna Edwards (D-MD), Lynn Woolsey (D-CA), Barbara Lee (D-CA), Pete Stark (D-CA), Andre Carson (D-IN), Betty McCollum (D-Minn.), Keith Ellison (D-Minn.), Walter Jones (R-NC), and Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) (who voted “present.”).<sup>412</sup> By contrast to Rep. Bass’s strong pro-Israel record, Rep. Bass’ challenger, Ann McLane Kuster, had virtually no public record regarding Israel, and no pro-Israel credentials. J Street PAC touted Kuster as “*a progressive hero*” and “*a community activist.*” Rep. Bass ended up losing the 2012 election. Thus, another great pro-Israel Congressman was lost, with the assistance of J-Street PAC’s anti-Israel targeting. J Street PAC continues to support Kuster,<sup>413</sup>

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407 “*J Street PAC Campaign Spotlight: House Challengers In New York,*” Sept. 27, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/campaign-spotlight-house-challengers-new-york/#.WXROPMaZPzI>

408 “*Rep. Bost Votes ‘No’ On President’s Iran Nuclear Agreement,*” Sept. 11, 2015, at <https://bost.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-bost-votes-no-president-s-iran-nuclear-agreement>

409 H.R. 3460, Congress.gov, at [https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3460/actions?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22%5C%22hres411%5C%22%22%5D%7D&resultIndex=1](https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3460/actions?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22%5C%22hr3460%5C%22%22%5D%7D)

410 H. Res. 411, Congress.gov, at <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-resolution/411/actions?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22%5C%22hres411%5C%22%22%5D%7D&resultIndex=1>

411 H.R. 4133 (112th): “*United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012,*” at <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/112/hr4133/text>

412 “*J Street Caucus Bails on Israel,*” by Adam Kredo, *Washington Free Beacon*, May 12, 2012, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/j-street-caucus-bails-on-israel/>

413 J Street PAC 2018 Annie Kuster endorsement, at <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/candidate/annie-kuster/>

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who has adopted J Street's positions, including supporting the Iran deal, and voting against a January 2017 bi-partisan House resolution criticizing anti-Israel UNSC Resolution 2334.<sup>414</sup>

- Rep. Frank Guinta (R-NH): Rep. Guinta (who served in Congress in 2011-2012 and 2015-2016) also possesses stellar pro-Israel credentials – and was repeatedly targeted for defeat by J Street PAC. Guinta took a strong stance against Iran's pursuit of nuclear arms, and expressed strong support for Israel.<sup>415</sup> Conversely, the Arab American Institute's 2012 "Scorecard" rated Guinta as "*anti-Palestinian, anti-Arab*" based on Guinta's votes for the Jerusalem Embassy and Recognition Act (H.R. 1006); withholding US contributions to the U.N. until the UN retracts its false accusations of Israeli war crimes (H.R. 1501); a resolution opposing any unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state (H. Res. 268); and a bill prohibiting any US government document from referring to "Palestine" (H.R. 2457).<sup>416</sup>

J Street PAC repeatedly endorsed and fundraised for Rep. Guinta's opponent, Carol Shea-Porter – and lauded Shea-Porter as a J Street "champion" after Shea-Porter praised J Street and promoted creating a Palestinian state during an election debate.<sup>417</sup> With J Street's help, Shea-Porter defeated pro-Israel Rep. Guinta in the 2012 election, and again in the 2016 election. (Guinta had temporarily regained his seat by defeating J Street's candidate in the 2014 election.)

- **Rep. Judy Biggert (R-IL):** Rep. Biggert co-sponsored the America Stands with Israel Act,<sup>418</sup> signed the 2009 Hoyer-Cantor bipartisan letter supporting Israel.<sup>419</sup> and was regular defender of the U.S.-Israel alliance throughout her service in Congress (1999-Jan. 2013). She too was targeted by J-Street and defeated in the 2012 election.<sup>420</sup>

- **Rep. Dr. Nan Hayworth (R-NY):** Ophthalmologist Dr. Hayworth was a strong pro-Israel Congresswoman, who was elected in 2010. The Arab-American Institute gave her a negative (-3) rating (meaning that she is pro-Israel).<sup>421</sup> She was an additional sponsor of H.R. 2829, the United Nations Transparency, Accountability, and Reform Act of 2011, sponsored by Cong. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, which called for withholding funding for UN anti-Semitic, anti-Israel Durban process meetings and investigations, and provided that contributions could only be made to UNWRA when a certification is in effect that UNWRA facilities are not being used for terrorist operations and that members of foreign terrorist organizations are not being employed by UNWRA, etc.

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414 H. Res. 11 vote, at <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/votes/115-2017/h11>

415 "The Anti-Israel Lobby: 'Pro-Israel, Pro-Peace' J Street Backs Congressmen Who Do Not Support Israel," by Adam Kredo, Washington Free Beacon, May 23, 2012, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/the-anti-israel-lobby/>

416 Frank Guinta, *On the Issues*, at [http://www.ontheissues.org/House/Frank\\_Guinta\\_Foreign\\_Policy.htm](http://www.ontheissues.org/House/Frank_Guinta_Foreign_Policy.htm)

417 "Attacks On The Iran Deal Can't Slow Down Carol Shea-Porter In NH," by Kalyani Grad-Kaimal, J Street blog, Nov. 3, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/carol-shea-porter-embed/#.WXQbNMaZMmI>

418 Official summary, H R 5501, at <http://www.thepoliticalguide.com/Legislation/house/111/H%20R%205501/>

419 Signatories to Hoyer-Cantor Letter Reaffirming the U.S.-Israel Alliance, at [http://api.ning.com/files/SERpaLSGtw-H8JMT7plUg\\*m1X9Yo3FykI-gCHj7UontBtyUEizFAwI5uDWzWXiCBaXMRMDl322nFsJYVEnoYyaRChsd7RcXG/Signatories\\_to\\_HoyerCantor\\_Letter.pdf](http://api.ning.com/files/SERpaLSGtw-H8JMT7plUg*m1X9Yo3FykI-gCHj7UontBtyUEizFAwI5uDWzWXiCBaXMRMDl322nFsJYVEnoYyaRChsd7RcXG/Signatories_to_HoyerCantor_Letter.pdf)

420 "The Anti-Israel Lobby: 'Pro-Israel, Pro-Peace' J Street Backs Congressmen Who Do Not Support Israel," by Adam Kredo, Washington Free Beacon, May 23, 2012, *supra*.

421 "Nan Hayworth, *On the Issues*," at [http://www.ontheissues.org/NY/Nan\\_Hayworth\\_Foreign\\_Policy.htm](http://www.ontheissues.org/NY/Nan_Hayworth_Foreign_Policy.htm)

#### XIV. J STREET PROMOTES RETREAT TO INDEFENSIBLE 1949 ARMISTICE LINES...

J Street “successfully” targeted Nan Hayworth for defeat in 2012, and again supported her opponent when Rep. Hayworth unsuccessfully attempted to regain her seat in 2014. J Street PAC has been one of her opponent’s top funders.<sup>422</sup>

- **Rep. Bobby Schilling (R-IL):** Journalist Lori Lowenthal Marcus’ analysis of J Street PAC’s anti-Israel endorsees noted that J Street PAC successfully supported a candidate who “has nothing whatsoever to say about foreign policy” over first-term pro-Israel Congressman Bobby Shilling in 2012 – and that “*in losing Schilling, Israel has lost a great friend in Congress, with a zero rating by the Arab American Institute.*”<sup>423</sup>

- **Rep. Mike Coffman (R-CO):** J Street also (unsuccessfully) targeted Mike Coffman for defeat. Coffman is a strong opponent of the Iran deal and ransom payments to Iran, who immediately said, on the day the Iran deal was announced:

*“The economic sanctions should be strengthened and only relaxed when Iran stops engaging in state-sponsored terrorism,”*

and

*“From my experience in the region [as a Marine Corps combat veteran], watching Iran fund terrorist attacks against my fellow Marines, I have learned that Iran cannot be trusted. I will stand with our ally Israel in opposing this agreement when it comes before Congress.”<sup>424</sup>*

- **Numerous Other Iran Deal Opponents:** J Street targeted for defeat numerous other Congresspersons who supported real pro-Israel policies and opposed the Iran deal.

#### XIV. J STREET PROMOTES U.S. PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO ADOPT J STREET’S AGENDA: ISRAEL’S RETREAT TO THE INDEFENSIBLE 1949 ARMISTICE LINES, DIVIDE JERUSALEM, AND A PALESTINIAN ARAB “RIGHT OF RETURN” TO DESTROY ISRAEL

J Street promotes U.S. officials pressuring Israel to accede to J Street’s agenda of an Israeli retreat to the indefensible 1949 Armistice lines – which J Street sometimes refers to as “stopping settlements” and “stopping expansion” – and other dangerous concessions. For instance, J Street President Ben-Ami stated:

*“The United States clearly has a lot of influence on Israel because of the nature of the relationship and if you’re really serious about stopping the settlements and about what American policy is--American policy says no more settlements, no more expansion and take down those outposts--if we’re serious about it, then **we need to start to act serious. And it’s time to act like the big brother or the parent and to say ‘enough is enough and we’re going to take the car keys if you don’t stop***

422 “Open Secrets: Sean Patrick Maloney Top Contributors,” at <https://www.opensecrets.org/politicians/contrib.php?cycle=Career&cid=N00034277&type=I>

423 “J Street Boasting of Defeating Israel’s Friends,” by Lori Lowenthal Marcus, *Jewish Press*, Nov. 12, 2012, *supra*.

424 “Coffman Statement on Iran Deal,” Jul 14, 2015, at <https://coffman.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/coffman-statement-on-iran-deal>

#### XIV. J STREET PROMOTES RETREAT TO INDEFENSIBLE 1949 ARMISTICE LINES...

**driving drunk.**’ We’re not talking about simply business as usual. **There’s got to be some sort of intervention here** where the U.S. says to Israel the time has come to finally do something. . . .

[W]hen the U.S. president **closes the door with the Israeli prime minister, the U.S. president has a lot more chips to play** than any other person who closes that door. And within Israel, the Israeli prime minister may have a tough time because of their domestic politics fulfilling their commitments. It’s going to be a lot easier if they say to their coalition partners and to the rest of the government, ‘I have to do this because the president of the United States is telling me to do it.’ And it’s time for the president to know that there’s a group of people here who recognize that that is not only in Israel’s best interests, it’s in the U.S.’s best interests. **We’ve got to step up** and start to make this a more serious, meaningful policy.”<sup>425</sup>

On yet another occasion, Ben-Ami argued: “*This is a moment when I think American politicians need to help Israel help itself . . .*”<sup>426</sup>

These statements illustrate J Street’s condescending attitude that Israel is not a sovereign state whose policies must be determined by her democratically-elected officials and electorate living on the front lines, who have ensuring the Jewish people’s safety at heart. According to J Street, Israel is a reckless, maverick teenager who needs to be forced to adopt J Street’s dangerous policies.

And indeed, J Street’s policies would be catastrophic for Israel. J Street asserts that “**land for peace remains the best – and only – formula for achieving Israeli security, and preserving Israel’s Jewish character and democratic values.**”<sup>427</sup> Never mind that every prior Israeli concession to the Palestinian Arabs resulted in more terror and rocket attacks on innocent Israelis.

In sum, J Street seeks to compel the Israeli government and electorate to act contrary to Israel’s own vital interests.

*Tower Magazine*’s assistant editor Aiden Pink observed:

*“The problem is what J Street represents: **The idea that American Jews have the right and the responsibility to ‘fix’ Israel when it is perceived to have erred – to impose their ideas in contradiction to Israeli self-determination. This idea weakens Israel, weakens the American Jewish community, and – most problematically – contains at its heart an implicit repudiation of Zionism itself . . . to game the American political system so as to pressure Israel into***

425 “D.C.’s New Jewish Lobby Presses Israel,” Newsweek, May 26, 2008, at <http://www.newsweek.com/dcs-new-jewish-lobby-presses-israel-90393?from=rss>

426 “Delahunt’s Journey to Mideast Upended,” by Farah Stockman, *Boston Globe*, Feb. 27, 2010 at [http://archive.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2010/02/27/delahunts\\_journey\\_to\\_mideast\\_upended/](http://archive.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2010/02/27/delahunts_journey_to_mideast_upended/)

427 “Turning “No” into “Yes” on a Two-State Solution,” by Lara Friedman & Isaac Luria, jstreet.org., July 9, 2010, at <http://jstreet.org/turning-no-into-yes-on-a-two-state-solution/>

## XV. J STREET FALSELY CLAIMS PA LEADERS ARE “PEACE PARTNERS”

*making a specific choice that the Israeli citizenry, in the form of its duly elected government, does not wish to make, is to deny Israelis the right to shape their state as they best see fit. It is arrogant and anti-democratic. . . it negates the belief in Israel’s right to self-determination—which is the whole point of the Zionist enterprise. It is, in other words, a form of anti-Zionism. And it is exactly what J Street does.”<sup>428</sup>*

Simply put, J Street works to enlist American Jews to push the American government to pressure Israel to adopt dangerous concessions. And according to J Street’s Orwellian logic, such American pressure somehow actually strengthens Israeli security.

Further, J Street’s methods of pressuring Israel include redefining the term “pro-Israel.” J Street says that its purpose is to “*change what it means to be pro-Israel from the traditional definition of having to support everything the government [of Israel] does.*”<sup>429</sup> J Street’s description of the traditional pro-Israel definition is a straw man; no-one has asserted that one must automatically or completely support *everything* the Israeli government does. However, J Street’s actions are a far cry from simply not supporting everything that the Israeli government does. J Street calls anti-Israel positions “pro-Israel.” J Street does not seek to *enlarge* the pro-Israel tent; but rather, to *substitute* a new, hostile, condescending “pro-Israel-ism,” peopled with Israel’s opponents rather than her supporters.

## XV. J STREET FALSELY CLAIMS THAT PA LEADERS DEDICATED TO ANTI-ISRAEL TERROR ARE “PEACE PARTNERS”

Palestinian Authority (PA) officials such as Mahmoud Abbas and Salaam Fayyad have a long, continuing history of inciting terror and murderous intifadas against Israelis in PA official media, mosques, schools and textbooks<sup>430</sup>; and rejecting generous offers for a Palestinian state. The PA/PLO insists on replacing all of Israel with “Palestine.” Official PA maps, emblems, stamps, stationary and schoolbooks all show “Palestine” replacing all of Israel.<sup>431</sup> The PA systematically demonizes Jews and Israelis as evil, in a manner similar to the Nazis’ anti-Semitic propaganda.<sup>432</sup> The PA honors terrorists, and includes designated terrorist organizations (including Hamas, PFLP and Palestinian Islamic Jihad) in the PA government; and **pays terrorists and their families lifetime pensions to murder Jews.**<sup>433</sup> *The PA/PLO incited intifadas in*

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428 “The Anti-Zionism of J Street,” by Aiden Pink, *The Tower*, June 2014, at <http://www.thetower.org/article/anti-zionism-of-j-street/>

429 “Cracks In The Pro-Israel Wall,” by Adam Dickter, *Jewish Week*, May 5, 2011, at [http://www.thejewishweek.com/special\\_sections/israel\\_now/cracks\\_pro\\_israel\\_wall](http://www.thejewishweek.com/special_sections/israel_now/cracks_pro_israel_wall)

430 See, e.g., “Fatah Calls For Violence And ‘Rage’ Following Terror Attack: Fatah Rebroadcasts Video In Which Abbas Calls For Violence To Prevent Jews From Ascending Temple Mount Following Deadly Terror Attack,” by Gary Willig, *Israel Nat'l News*, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/232545>; “New Study Shows Abbas’ P.A. Still Inciting Hatred & Murder Of Jews,” ZOA, Mar. 2, 2016, at <http://zoa.org/2016/03/10316214-new-study-shows-abbas-p-a-still-inciting-hatred-murder-of-jews/>

431 “PA Depicts a World Without Israel: ‘Palestine’ Replaces Israel,” Palestinian Media Watch compendium of numerous articles, at <http://www.palwatch.org/main.aspx?fi=466&page=14>

432 See, e.g., “Demonization of Jews/Israelis,” Palestinian Media Watch, at <https://www.palwatch.org/main.aspx?fi=762&page=17>

433 See, “Palestinian Authority Rejects Trump’s ‘Mad’ Request To End Terrorists’ Payments,” *Jerusalem Post*, May 4, 2017, at <http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Senior-PA-official-Palestinians-reject-Trumps-request-to-stop-payments-to-prisoners-489777>; and “ZOA: At Trump Press Conference, Abbas

## XV. J STREET FALSELY CLAIMS PA LEADERS ARE “PEACE PARTNERS”

**which over 14,000 innocent Jews were murdered and maimed.**<sup>434</sup>

Yet, incredibly, despite all this, J Street still falsely claims that these PA leaders are “peace partners” and want to live side by side with Israel in peace.

For instance, J Street’s founding VP of New Media and Communications Isaac Luria (whom Ben-Ami called “*the voice and spirit of our online advocacy since even before our [J Street’s] launch in 2008*”<sup>435</sup>) falsely asserted that the PA leadership is a “peace partner,” saying:

*“Yes, there is a partner. The current Palestinian Authority leadership — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Palestinian Prime Minister Salaam Fayyad [sic] — are actually the most moderate and pro-peace Palestinian leaders the Palestinian Authority has ever had. . . . And under their leadership, the Palestinian Authority has made enormous strides in improving security in the West Bank, building Palestinian government institutions in the past few years, and cracking down on hateful speech and incitement.”*<sup>436</sup>

J Street also brings top PA/PLO officials to J Street’s conferences – where these officials pretend to want peace, and hurl false accusations at Israel. For instance, J Street’s 2015 annual conference featured Arafat-loyalist, PLO official, propagandist and chief negotiator Saeb Erekat. Erekat had infamously fabricated the false claim that Israel perpetrated a massacre at Jenin – when in fact no massacre occurred.<sup>437</sup> Erekat also repeatedly falsely accuses Israel of perpetrating terrorism and ethnic cleansing, and absurdly compares Israel to ISIS, saying, for instance: “*Whoever wants to defeat ISIS and ISIS’ terror must start by drying up the swamp of the Israeli occupation, as it is the worst type of terror.*”<sup>438</sup> Erekat also claims that the genocidal Hamas and PFLP are not terrorists.<sup>439</sup>

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*Lies about Incitement, Makes Pro Terror Demands: PA Rejects Pres. Trump’s Request that PA Stop Paying Terrorists to Murder Jews,* May 4, 2017, at <http://zoa.org/2017/05/10361678-zoa-at-trump-press-conference-abbas-lies-about-incitement-makes-pro-terror-demands/#ixzz4n5ueMeBj>

434 See “Terrorism Against Israel: Comprehensive Listing of Fatalities (Sept. 1993 - Present),” Jewish Virtual Library, at <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/comprehensive-listing-of-terrorism-victims-in-israel>; “Vital Statistics: Total Casualties, Arab-Israeli Conflict,” Jewish Virtual Library, at <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/total-casualties-arab-israeli-conflict>; and “Wave of Terror 2015-2017,” Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at <http://mfa.gov.il/MFA/ForeignPolicy/Terrorism/Palestinian/Pages/Wave-of-terror-October-2015.aspx>

435 “Changes at J Street,” Apr. 6, 2011, J Street website, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/changes-at-j-street\\_1/#.WQaVvVKZPzI](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/changes-at-j-street_1/#.WQaVvVKZPzI)

436 “Turning “No” into “Yes” on a Two-State Solution,” by Lara Friedman & Isaac Luria, jstreet.org., July 9, 2010, at <http://jstreet.org/turning-no-into-yes-on-a-two-state-solution/>

437 “What Really Happened in Jenin?,” Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, May 2, 2002, at <http://www.jcpa.org/art/brief1-22.htm>

438 “PA Chief Negotiator Erekat: No Difference Between ISIS Terrorism And ‘Israeli Occupation Terrorism,’” Palestinian Media Watch, source: Ma’an, independent Palestinian news agency, Mar. 5, 2017, at [http://www.palwatch.org/main.aspx?fi=1089&doc\\_id=21437](http://www.palwatch.org/main.aspx?fi=1089&doc_id=21437). See also PMW articles quoting other Erekat statements, at <http://www.palwatch.org/main.aspx?fi=1089>

439 “P.A.’s Erekat Tells U.N. Genocidal Hamas & PFLP Are Not ‘Terrorists,’” ZOA, July 6, 2017, at <http://zoa.org/2017/07/10368576-p-a-s-erekat-tells-u-n-genocidal-hamas-pflp-are-not-terrorists-u-s-should-withdraw-from-tainted-u-n-bodies/>

## XV. J STREET FALSELY CLAIMS PA LEADERS ARE “PEACE PARTNERS”

Author Alan Skorski noted:

*“Nothing says ‘pro-Israel’ and ‘pro-peace’ more than inviting a speaker who has stood with the grandfather of modern day terrorism, Yasser Arafat, and who has accused Israel of war crimes and compared it to ISIS. . . . Saeb Erekat[s] invitation was so offensive that Hillel International President Eric Fingerhut rescinded his [Fingerhut]’s acceptance to participate in the event.”<sup>440</sup>*

(J Street responded with a “march on Hillel” protesting Fingerhut, and protesting Hillel’s policy of not hosting speakers that demonize Israel.<sup>441</sup> The J-Street activists also papered Fingerhut’s office with crude notes.)

Erekat was also the chief negotiator for PA teams that rejected over-generous Israeli offers for Palestinian statehood. Erekat even rejected former U.S. Secretary of State Kerry’s requests to extend peace negotiations.<sup>442</sup>

During his J Street speech, Erekat tried to portray the realities of the PA/PLO leadership’s sponsorship and incitement of terror as merely a figment of Israel’s imagination, saying:

*“Even if Mother Teresa is the president, Israel will claim we’re terrorists.”<sup>443</sup>*

Erekat also told his J Street audience that *“Palestine will be a country of freedom, democracy, human rights, women’s rights”*<sup>444</sup> – a claim that is laughable, in light of the fact that the Palestinian Authority is a corrupt kleptocracy that hasn’t held an election in over eleven years and persistently violates human rights. For instance, in the PA, being gay is punishable by death. Moreover, a state of “Palestine” would likely promptly be taken over by Hamas and Iran, who have horrendous human rights records.

Erekat also demanded an end to Israeli “occupation,” and asserted that the “only solution” was the “67 lines” – a “solution” that would be suicidal for Israel, and would cut Jews off from the Jewish people’s holiest sites and land.

And while Erekat professed to want peace at J Street, Erekat did *not* address or offer to end the PA’s indoctrination of children and the entire Palestinian Arab public to hate Jews, and the PA’s payments to terrorists to murder Jews – the real causes of lack of peace. Nor did Erekat address the PA’s rejection of repeated overly generous Israeli offers.

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440 “*Israel Betrayed*,” by Alan Skorski, Create Space, 2016, p. 72, citing “*Hillel President Shuns J Street Conference Due to Attendance of Saeb Erekat*,” by Sam Sokol, *Jerusalem Post*, Mar. 10, 2015, at <http://www.jpost.com/Diaspora/Hillel-president-shuns-J-Street-conference-due-to-attendance-of-Saeb-Erekat-393464>

441 See “*J Street U’s ‘March on Hillel’: J Street U Students Have Repeatedly Lambasted The Donors Who Care That Their Money Is Spent On Genuinely Pro-Israel Events*,” by Daniel Mael, Mar. 26, 2015, at <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=395269>

442 “*Erekat Rejects Proposal to Extend Peace Talks*,” *Israel Nat'l News*, Feb. 28, 2014 at <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/177949>; and “*Abbas Admits For the First Time That He Turned Down Peace Offer in 2008*,” *The Tower*, Nov. 17, 2015, at <http://www.thetower.org/2580-breaking-abbas-admits-for-the-first-time-that-he-turned-down-peace-offer-in-2008/>

443 “*Chief Palestinian Negotiator Saeb Erekat Speaks at J Street*” – video, Mar. 26, 2015, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HnBLOJmq56k>

444 *Id.*

## XVI. J STREET SUPPORTS ANTI-ISRAEL APPOINTMENTS (E.G.: KEITH ELLISON)

In sum, it is downright Orwellian that J Street proclaims that PA/PLO leaders are “peace partners” and gives platforms to leading PA/PLO propagandists - while the same PA/PLO leaders continue to incite hatred and violence against Jews, unabated – and continue to pay terrorists to murder Jews.

### XVI. J STREET SUPPORTS ANTI-ISRAEL APPOINTMENTS (e.g.: Keith Ellison)

J Street enthusiastically backed radical Islam apologist and Israel-basher Keith Ellison for Democratic National Committee (DNC) Chairperson – despite the fact that Congressman Ellison’s anti-Israel, anti-Semitic record was so concerning that American Jewish organizations across the spectrum opposed Ellison’s 2016-2017 DNC chairman candidacy.

For instance, even the increasingly leftwing Anti-Defamation League, which initially supported Ellison’s candidacy, subsequently reversed itself, and declared Mr. Ellison’s record to be “deeply disturbing and disqualifying”<sup>445</sup> after a tape came to light revealing Ellison’s antisemitic comments at a 2010 fundraiser. Ellison was taped saying that: “*United States foreign policy in the Middle East is governed by what is good or bad through a country of seven million people [Israel]*”; “*A region of 350 million all turns on a country of 7 million*”; and “*We can’t allow another country [Israel] to treat us like we’re their ATM.*”<sup>446</sup>

Ellison associated with the black supremacist, anti-Semitic Nation of Islam for nine years, and defended the Nation of Islam’s notorious anti-Semitic leader, Louis Farrakhan, and other black, anti-Semitic figures.<sup>447</sup> Ellison also co-sponsored anti-Semitic speeches by Kwame Ture entitled, “Zionism, Imperialism, White Supremacy or Both.”

Ellison also accused moderate Muslim reformer, Dr. M. Zudhi Jasser, founder and president of the American Islamic Forum for Democracy, of consorting with turncoats

“*who would seek to ingratiate themselves with powerful people in the white community and would there turn them on the rest of us and give license to attack us all. Now is somebody going to snatch my 13-year-old daughter’s hijab off, call her a horrible name, spit on her because of something that you said, Dr. Jasser, I worry about that.*”<sup>448</sup>

Ellison’s Congressional record is one of the worst. In 2014, Ellison was one of only 8 Congresspersons who voted against a bi-partisan bill to provide \$225 million to Israel’s “Iron dome” missile defense system. (395 representatives voted for the bill.)<sup>449</sup>

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445 “In 2010 Speech, Keith Ellison Said US Policy is ‘Governed’ by Israeli Interests,” Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Dec. 1, 2016, at <http://www.jta.org/2016/12/01/news-opinion/politics/in-6-year-old-speech-ellison-says-u-s-policy-is-governed-by-israeli-interests>

446 *Id.*; and “IPT Exclusive: In Private Fundraiser, Ellison Blasted Israeli Influence Over U.S. Policy,” by Steve Emerson, Investigative Project on Terrorism, Nov. 29, 2016, at <http://www.investigativeproject.org/5708/ipt-exclusive-in-private-fundraiser-ellison#>

447 “Keith Ellison Supported the BDS Movement and Admired Louis Farrakhan. So Why Are Jewish Democrats Supporting Him for Chairman of the DNC?,” by Jeff Ballabon, *The Tablet*, Nov. 21, 2016, at <http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-news-and-politics/218385/keith-ellison-bds-farrakhan-dnc>

448 “Rep. Keith Ellison, the Islamists’ Man on Capitol Hill,” Investigative Project on Terrorism, Nov. 23, 2009, at <http://www.investigativeproject.org/1533/rep-keith-ellison-the-islamists-man-on-capitol>

449 See “ZOA: Don’t Appoint Israel-Basher Cong. Keith Ellison Chair of the Democratic National Committee,” Nov. 18, 2016, at <http://zoa.org/2016/11/10342840-zoa-dont-appoint-israel-basher-cong->

## XVI. J STREET SUPPORTS ANTI-ISRAEL APPOINTMENTS (E.G.: KEITH ELLISON)

In 2010, Ellison spearheaded and convinced 53 other Democratic Congresspersons to sign his infamous “Gaza 54” letter to President Obama (written by J Street<sup>450</sup>), which falsely accused Israel of humiliating and wreaking “collective punishment” on Gaza residents, and demanded that President Obama should pressure Israel to lift the Gaza weapons blockade. Ellison’s demand would have enabled Hamas to obtain more weapons to kill and terrorize innocent Israeli civilians.<sup>451</sup> The anti-Israel smears in Ellison’s “Gaza 54” letter are still being used today to promote anti-Israel, anti-Semitic boycotts, divestment and sanctions, on the website of the leading BDS group in the U.S. BDS and virulently anti-Israel Muslim groups publicly asked their members to thank Congressman Ellison for the Gaza 54 letter.<sup>452</sup>

Ellison also co-authored and spearheaded a 2015 letter demanding that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s speech to Congress regarding the Iran deal must be delayed until after the sanctions deadline – when the visit would have been useless.<sup>453</sup>

Ellison also met with a top Hamas fundraiser and Muslim Brotherhood leader, Mohammed al-Hanooti, an unindicted co-conspirator in the Holy Land Foundation trial, at a 2009 campaign fundraiser for Virginia House of Delegates candidate Esam Omeish. Ellison also led a Congressional effort to endorse parts of the perniciously-biased UN Goldstone Report; and campaigned in 2012 to successfully help anti-Israel challenger Bill Pascrell unseat Congressman Steve Rothman (D–NJ) – who was a strong supporter of Israel.” Leading Democratic funder Haim Saban publicly announced: “*Keith Ellison would be a disaster for the relationship between the Jewish community and the Democratic Party.*”<sup>454</sup>

Yet despite Ellison’s manifestly terrible record on Israel and blatant anti-Semitism, J Street leapt to Ellison’s defense and championed his candidacy for the DNC Chair. J Street falsely claimed that “*Rep. Ellison is and has long been a friend of Israel, a champion of pro-Israel, pro-peace policies and an admirable elected official whose thoughtful and considered leadership has*

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[keith-ellison-chair-of-the-dnc/](#); and “Video: Keith Ellison explains his vote against Iron Dome,” by Jazz Shaw, Aug. 3, 2014, at <http://hotair.com/archives/2014/08/03/video-keith-ellison-explains-his-vote-against-iron-dome/>

450 “Representative Joe Sestak ‘Regrets’ Signing J Street’s ‘Gaza 54’ Letter,” by Mike Vilensky, *New York Mag.*, Sept. 5, 2010, at [http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2010/09/israel\\_sestak.html](http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2010/09/israel_sestak.html)

451 “ZOA, Don’t Appoint Israel Basher,” *supra*; and “Hamas’ 54 Democratic Congressmen,” by Daniel Greenfield, Jan. 26, 2010, at <http://sultanknish.blogspot.com/2010/01/hamas-54-democratic-congressmen.html>

452 “Thank 54 Members of Congress Who Signed Letter Seeking Lift of Gaza Blockade,” Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC), Jan. 27, 2010, at <https://www.mpac.org/issues/foreign-policy/thank-54-members-of-congress-who-signed-letter-seeking-lift-of-gaza-blockade.php>

453 See “ZOA: Don’t Appoint Israel-Basher,” *supra* (citing “Rep. Keith Ellison: Postpone Netanyahu’s Speech to Congress,” by Robert Naiman, Jan. 30, 2015, at <http://www.truth-out.org/opinion/item/28828-rep-keith-ellison-postpone-netanyahu-s-speech-to-congress> ; Ellison’s letter, entitled “Urge Speaker Boehner to Postpone Netanyahu Invitation until After the Israeli Election and Iran Sanctions Deadline,” Peace Now website, at <https://peacenow.org/WP/wp-content/uploads/Letter-to-Boehner-Re-Bibi-Invite.pdf> ; and “Delay Netanyahu’s Visit, Say 23 House Democrats,” by Edna Dumain, Herald Ledger, Feb. 19, 2015, at <http://www.kentucky.com/news/politics-government/article44555184.html> ).

454 “Saban Says Keith Ellison’s DNC Win Would Bring ‘Disaster’ to Relationship Between Jews and Dems,” by Ron Kampeas, *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, Dec. 3, 2016, at <http://www.jta.org/2016/12/03/news-opinion/politics/saban-says-keith-ellisons-dnc-win-would-bring-disaster-to-relationship-between-jews-and-dems>

## XVII. J STREET OPPOSES PRO-ISRAEL APPOINTMENTS (E.G.: DAVID FRIEDMAN)

*shown deep respect for Jewish values and the Jewish people.”*<sup>455</sup> In still another release, J Street claimed that “*Representative Ellison is a true friend to the Jewish people.*”<sup>456</sup>

J Street also repeatedly denounced any attempt to expose or challenge Congressman Ellison’s disturbing record on Israel as “*spurious charges*” and “*poisonous discourse,*”<sup>457</sup> and as a “*transparents smear campaign driven by those whose true objections may be to the Congressman’s religion, strong support for the two-state solution and/or concern for Palestinian rights.*”<sup>458</sup> J Street thus smeared as bigots the American Jews across the political spectrum who exercised their right and duty as caring Jews and American citizens to express concern about Ellison’s antisemitic and anti-Israel record.

## XVII. J STREET OPPOSES PRO-ISRAEL APPOINTMENTS (e.g.: David Friedman)

J Street ran a vicious “Stop Friedman” campaign to try to block the confirmation of President Trump’s pro-Israel, eminently qualified nominee for Ambassador to Israel, David Friedman – one of America’s leading attorneys, who speaks fluent Hebrew and has made a lifetime study of Israel and the Middle East.<sup>459</sup>

J Street defamed Friedman as someone who “*consistently aligned himself with some of the most irresponsible charges and conspiracy theories of the far-right, Islamophobic fringe in this country,*” and as someone who lacks “*any diplomatic or policy credentials.*”<sup>460</sup>

J Street’s elaborate “Stop Friedman” web page<sup>461</sup> called Friedman “*unfit*” and included extensive propaganda opposing Friedman’s confirmation, including partisan press releases; letters from various groups (which J Street may very well have organized) including five former ambassadors to Israel (all of whom were pro-Iran deal and had long anti-Israel records<sup>462</sup>); editorials; and statements from J Street’s far leftwing, hostile-to-Israel allies. J Street also ran repeated “urgent”

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455 “Continuing Attacks on Congressman Ellison Seek to Silence Legitimate Positions on Israel,” J Street press release, Dec. 2, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/continuing-attacks-congressman-ellison-seek-silence-legitimate-positions-israel/#.WEg6nXeZNGw>

456 “Hateful Attacks Against Representative Keith Ellison Are Unacceptable,” J Street press release, Nov. 16, 2016, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/hateful-attacks-representative-keith-ellison-unacceptable/#.WRewvLMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/hateful-attacks-representative-keith-ellison-unacceptable/#.WRewvLMy_s)

457 *Id.*

458 “Continuing Attacks on Congressman Ellison,” J Street release, *supra*.

459 See, e.g., “ZOA Urges Senate to Confirm David Friedman as Ambassador to Israel,” Feb. 15, 2017, at <http://zoa.org/2017/02/10353005-zoa-urges-senate-to-confirm-david-friedman-as-ambassador-to-israel/>

460 “J Street Vehemently Opposes Nomination of David Friedman as US Ambassador To Israel,” J Street Press Release, Dec. 16, 2016, at [http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-vehemently-opposes-nomination-david-friedman-us-ambassador-israel/#.WReT8VLMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/press-releases/j-street-vehemently-opposes-nomination-david-friedman-us-ambassador-israel/#.WReT8VLMy_s)

461 [http://jstreet.org/get-involved/stop-friedman/#.WRfLmVLMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/get-involved/stop-friedman/#.WRfLmVLMy_s)

462 ZOA documented that the five former ambassadors had previously joined together to promote the Iran deal, and had extensive anti-Israel records. See “Five Fmr. U.S. Amb. to Israel Who Criticized Nominee Friedman Are Hostile to Israel Are Biased – Not Credible,” Feb. 17, 2017, at <http://zoa.org/2017/02/10353245-pro-iran-deal-hostile-to-israel-fmr-ambassadors-criticizing-nominee-friedman-are-biased-not-credible/>

## XVIII. J STREET ADVOCATES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL POLITICAL PARTY PLATFORMS

email, petition and telephone drives against Friedman,<sup>463</sup> and urged US citizens to increase pressure against Friedman as his confirmation hearing and vote approached.<sup>464</sup>

J Street also attempted to use Friedman's nomination to fundraise,<sup>465</sup> and attacked Friedman at J Street's February 2017 annual conference, one month prior to Friedman's confirmation vote. In his opening remarks to the 2017 J Street national conference, Ben-Ami cleverly engaged in his own fear-mongering by casting Friedman as part of an "unfolding darkness" in the Trump era, that "goes against Jewish values"; assailed "*the most hawkish voices*" in the U.S.; and asserted that "*demagogues and tyrants*" were "*weaponizing fear.*" Ben-Ami also asserted:

"Democratic values are under attack, core Jewish beliefs are under assault. . . . The two-state solution [a euphemism for creating a terrorist Palestinian-Arab state] is under a sustained assault. One state [a euphemism for an Israel with secure borders, preferred by the Israeli public, 10 to 1] is the problem we are here to fix. We have close advisors around the president, for instance, his nominee to be ambassador as David Friedman, who see settlement expansion as a goal, not an obstacle to peace. . . . All goes against values as to who we are as a Jewish people. . . . Are you ready to fight? Are you ready to resist? Are you ready to win?"<sup>466</sup>

Following Friedman's confirmation, J Street continued its attacks on Friedman, saying, for instance: "*Friedman's right-wing views are dangerous and totally out of step with our community's values and decades of US foreign policy.*"<sup>467</sup>

And previously, during the final days of the 2016 presidential campaign, J Street created and publicized a video entitled "*Uncovering Trump's Connections to the Settlement Movement,*" which tried to criticize Trump for his "connections" to then attorney David Friedman and other prominent pro-Israel, pro-Judea-and-Samaria American and Israeli individuals. Amusingly, the video backfired, and ended up bolstering support for then-candidate Trump.<sup>468</sup>

## XVIII. J STREET ADVOCATES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL POLITICAL PARTY PLATFORMS

### (1) J Street Pushed for an Anti-Israel 2016 Democratic Party Platform:

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463 E.g., "Stop Friedman!" J Street phone campaign, at [http://jstreet.org/get-involved/stop-friedman/#.WRe1BVLMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/get-involved/stop-friedman/#.WRe1BVLMy_s)

464 "J Street Fervently Campaigns Against Trump's Pick for Ambassador to Israel," by Tamara Zieve, *Jerusalem Post*, Feb. 13, 2017, at <http://www.jpost.com/American-Politics/J-Street-fervently-campaigns-against-Trumps-pick-for-ambassador-to-Israel-481406>

465 "Radical J Street Tries to Raise Money off David Friedman Nomination," by Joel Pollak, Dec. 16, 2016, at <http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2016/12/16/david-friedman-j-street-tries-raise-money/>

466 "Jeremy Ben-Ami Opens J Street's 2017 National Conference" video, Feb. 25, 2017, at [http://jstreet.org/2017-conference-highlights/#.WRe4RVLMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/2017-conference-highlights/#.WRe4RVLMy_s)

467 "Word On The Street: Reason To Take Heart," by Jeremy Ben-Ami, Mar. 26, 2017, at [http://jstreet.org/word-street-reason-take-heart/#.WRfREVLMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/word-street-reason-take-heart/#.WRfREVLMy_s)

468 "J-Street 'Anti-Trump' Video Backfires: A J-Street Video Meant To Portray Trump Negatively For His Support Of Israeli 'Settlements' Has Gone Viral," by Yoni Kempinski, *Israel Nat'l News*, Nov. 2, 2016, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/219715>

## XVIII. J STREET ADVOCATES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL POLITICAL PARTY PLATFORMS

During the 2016 presidential campaign, J Street pushed for an anti-Israel Democratic Party Platform.<sup>469</sup> In the *Huffington Post*, J Street's Ben Ami complained that: "*the current [2012] Democratic platform mentions neither settlement expansion nor the rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people.*"<sup>470</sup> Ben-Ami called for rejecting supposedly "outdated notions of what it means to be pro-Israel," and demanded that the Democratic Platform Committee rewrite the platform to include "opposition to [Israeli] settlements," opposition to "occupation over the Green Line in the territory Israel has occupied since the 1967 War," and affirmation of a Palestinian "right to dignity and self-determination" in their own state.<sup>471</sup>

In other words, Ben-Ami wanted the Democratic platform to support ejecting Jews from their homeland – even from the old city of Jerusalem – in favor of a Palestinian-Arab terrorist state.

The 2016 Democratic Platform Committee included three of Senator Bernie Sanders' representatives who were (and are) leading rabid opponents of Israel. All three have strong ties to J Street. They were: (i) Muslim leading anti-Israel Congressman Keith Ellison (a featured recipient of J Street PAC contributions,<sup>472</sup> discussed in this report's Section XVI); (ii) Professor Cornell West; and (iii) Arab-American Institute head James Zogby, who has accused Israel of committing a "Holocaust" against the Palestinians, called Israelis "Nazis," and called Cuban-American Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen an "Israel-firster" - an anti-Semitic trope implying dual loyalty.<sup>473</sup> Zogby also praised the Intifada as a "good story," and was a leading architect of propaganda themes used to pry progressive Jews away from supporting Israel, including portraying Israel as an anti-Democratic occupier and oppressor of innocent Palestinians<sup>474</sup> - the same themes later employed by J Street. J Street, Ellison and Zogby were also Senator Sanders' Middle East advisors.<sup>475</sup>

Zogby's anti-Israel Arab-American Institute (AAI) and J Street work together. In October

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469 The 2012 Democratic Party Platform stated: "... *the Democratic Party seek[s] peace between Israelis and Palestinians. A just and lasting Israeli-Palestinian accord, producing two states for two peoples, would contribute to regional stability and help sustain Israel's identity as a Jewish and democratic state. At the same time, the President has made clear that there will be no lasting peace unless Israel's security concerns are met. President Obama will continue to press Arab states to reach out to Israel. . . . And even as the President and the Democratic Party continue to encourage all parties to be resolute in the pursuit of peace, we will insist that any Palestinian partner must recognize Israel's right to exist, reject violence, and adhere to existing agreements.*" 2012 Dem. Party Platform, at [http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/papers\\_pdf/101962.pdf](http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/papers_pdf/101962.pdf)

470 "There's Nothing Controversial About a DNC Platform That Supports Israeli Security and Palestinian Rights," by Jeremy Ben-Ami, *Huffington Post*, June 1, 2016, at [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jeremy-benami/the-platform-fight-over-is\\_b\\_10225632.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jeremy-benami/the-platform-fight-over-is_b_10225632.html)

471 *Id.*

472 J Street PAC Keith Ellison candidate profile: <https://donate.jstreetpac.org/candidate/keith-ellison/>

473 "Meet Bernie Sanders' Israel Hating Advisers: Jewish Democrat Taking Advice From Israel Critics," by Adam Kredo, *Washington Free Beacon*, Feb. 8, 2016, at <http://freebeacon.com/national-security/meet-bernie-sanders-israel-hating-advisers/>

474 "How James Zogby Seduced Liberal America," by Charles Jacobs, *The Forward*, July 6, 2016, at <http://forward.com/scribe/344423/how-james-zogby-seduced-liberal-america/>

475 *Id.*; See also "Bernie Sanders Cites J Street, Arab American Institute as Mideast Advisers," JNS (Jewish News Service), Feb. 8, 2016, at <http://www.jns.org/news-briefs/2016/2/8/bernie-sanders-cites-j-street-arab-american-institute-as-mideast-policy-advisers#.WVUrnFKZOMI=>

## XVIII. J STREET ADVOCATES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL POLITICAL PARTY PLATFORMS

2009, AAI and J Street convened a large joint meeting of both groups' activists.<sup>476</sup> At the 2016 Democratic convention, Zogby's AAI and J Street also co-hosted a joint forum to promote placing U.S. pressure on Israel to create a Palestinian state.<sup>477</sup>

During the Democratic Party platform committee deliberations, Sanders' anti-Israel representatives led an effort to insert J Street-style demands into the 2016 Democratic Party Platform, including that the platform should call for an end to "Israeli occupation" and "illegal" settlements. After some wrangling, the resulting 2016 Democratic Party platform<sup>478</sup> moved in J Street's direction. The platform specifically called for a Palestinian state, and **deleted** the provision in the 2012 Democratic platform that had stated: "*We will insist that any Palestinian partner must recognize Israel's right to exist, reject violence, and adhere to existing agreements.*"<sup>479</sup>

### (2) J Street Demands That Future Democratic Platforms Must Do More to Condemn Israel:

Following the adoption of the 2016 Democratic platforms, J Street praised the Democratic platform's new pro-Palestinian provisions, and applauded the anti-Israel members of the Democratic platform committee's efforts to go even further. J Street also insisted that future Democratic platforms "must" have even more anti-Israel "progress," saying:

*"The Democratic platform, for the first time, included language recognizing the legitimate rights and national aspirations of the Palestinian people. . . it made clear that Palestinians too deserve "independence, sovereignty and dignity. . . ."*

*Of course there must be and will be further movement in the party's position in the future. . . . to oppose unlimited expansion of Israeli settlements and . . . call out the ongoing occupation. In fact, over 40 percent of the platform committee supported an amendment that would have done just that, signaling the direction in which the party is moving on these issues. . . . [T]he progress in the Democratic Party is an encouraging sign. . . ."*<sup>480</sup>

### (3) J Street's Platform Advocacy Betrays Pro-Israel Democratic Party Champions:

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476 "J Street Again," Arab-American Institute website, Nov. 2, 2009, at <http://www.aaiusa.org/j-street-again>

477 "Arab American Democrats in Charlotte," Arab-American Institute website, Sept. 3, 2012, at <http://www.aaiusa.org/arab-american-democrats-in-charlotte>

478 The 2016 Democratic Party Platform stated: ". . . We will continue to work toward a two-state solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict negotiated directly by the parties that guarantees Israel's future as a secure and democratic Jewish state with recognized borders and provides the Palestinians with independence, sovereignty, and dignity. While Jerusalem is a matter for final status negotiations, it should remain the capital of Israel, an undivided city accessible to people of all faiths. Israelis deserve security, recognition, and a normal life free from terror and incitement. Palestinians should be free to govern themselves in their own viable state, in peace and dignity." 2016 Dem. Party Platform, at [http://s3.amazonaws.com/uploads.democrats.org/Downloads/2016\\_DNC\\_Platform.pdf](http://s3.amazonaws.com/uploads.democrats.org/Downloads/2016_DNC_Platform.pdf)

479 See and compare the 2016 and 2012 Democratic platform language, quoted in the respective previous and 9th previous footnotes.

480 "Word on the Street: A Tale of Two Platforms," by Jeremy Ben Ami, July 17, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/word-on-the-street-a-tale-of-two-platforms-1/>

## XVIII. J STREET ADVOCATES FOR ANTI-ISRAEL POLITICAL PARTY PLATFORMS

J Street's advocacy for Democratic Party platforms that delegitimize Israel, and J Street's condemnation of a Republican platform that stands with Israel, once again demonstrates that J Street sides with Israel's enemies.

A real "pro-Israel" organization would promote a pro-Israel Democratic Party platform in the noble tradition of pro-Israel Democratic champions such as President Lyndon Johnson – who said that an Israeli withdrawal to the 1949-1967 situation "*is not a prescription for peace but for renewed hostilities*"<sup>481</sup>; and New York Senator and UN Ambassador Daniel Patrick Moynihan – who blasted the UN General Assembly's infamous "*Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination*" resolution as a "*lie scarcely exceeded in all the annals of untruth and outrage,*" "*outrageous,*" "*obscene,*" "*an infamous act,*" "*an abomination,*" "*an unspeakable thing,*" and a "*great evil loosed upon the world.*"<sup>482</sup> A real pro-Israel organization would promote a platform that pro-Israel Democrats serving in Congress today would be proud of.

### (4) J Street Condemned the 2016 Pro-Israel Republican Party Platform:

At the same time that J Street praised the Democratic platform's adoption of anti-Israel measures, J Street and Ben Ami angrily condemned the pro-Israel 2016 Republican National Platform as "*extreme*," "*irresponsible*," and as the work of the "*far right*" (reminiscent of Walt & Mearsheimer's scurrilous "*Israel Lobby*" canards). J Street bitterly complained that the Republican platform did not call for a Palestinian state, and that the Republican platform refused to label Israel an "*occupier*" of her tiny own land – and thus, in J Street's view, supported a megalomaniac "*Greater Israel.*"<sup>483</sup>

The pro-Israel, *real* lasting "pro-peace" 2016 Republican platform appropriately states:

*"We reject the false notion that Israel is an occupier . . . The United States seeks to assist in the establishment of comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, to be negotiated among those living in the region. We oppose any measures intended to impose an agreement or to dictate borders or other terms, and we call for the immediate termination of all U.S. funding of any entity that attempts to do so. Our party is proud to stand with Israel now and always."*<sup>484</sup>

Yet J Street's Ben Ami wrote:

*"The Republican Party platform are a sobering reminder that irresponsible and extreme ideas are gaining traction on the American political right.. . . The 2016 Republican platform . . . withdraws support for the two-state solution, deletes all reference to Palestinians and makes a point of emphatically rejecting the notion that Israel is an occupying power in the West Bank. These positions move the GOP far outside the American consensus . . . These changes didn't come from nowhere – they appear to be driven by the concerted lobbying efforts of far-right activists . . . These*

481 "The Green Line," Jewish Virtual Library, at <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-1967-border-the-quot-green-line-quot>

482 "Greatest Speech Ever Delivered at U.N.: Moynihan on Zionism is Racism, 1975" – video, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4rg1Lzgvwd4>

483 "Word on the Street: A Tale of Two Platforms," by Jeremy Ben Ami, *supra*.

484 2016 Republican Party Platform, at <https://gop.com/the-2016-republican-party-platform/>

## XIX. ... CONDEMNS MAINSTREAM PRO-ISRAEL JEWISH & CHRISTIAN GROUPS AS EXTREMISTS

*hardliners . . . want their party to equate support for Israel with support for Greater Israel — and they want to treat Palestinians as if they don't exist.”<sup>485</sup>*

### **XIX. J STREET CONDEMNS MAINSTREAM PRO-ISRAEL JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN GROUPS AND LEADERS AS “FAR RIGHT” EXTREMISTS, AS NOT “TRUE FRIENDS” OF ISRAEL, AND AS HOLDING U.S.-ISRAEL POLICY “HOSTAGE”**

#### **(1) J Street’s Introductory Video Attacked Jewish and Christian Pro-Israel Groups and Officials:**

In 2008, J Street introduced itself to the world with a video<sup>486</sup> calling pro-Israel Christian and Jewish groups and officials “*far right*” “extremists” who “*block the path to peace.*” J Street hurled these false accusations at leaders of pro-Israel groups: CUFI (Christians United for Israel); the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA); the Emergency Committee for Israel (Bill Kristol); Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN Chairman Minister Pat Robertson, who states that Jews shouldn’t give up Jerusalem). J Street leveled the same attack at pro-Israel officials including former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. John Bolton (who obtained rescission of the anti-Israel UN “Zionism is Racism” resolution); former Vice President Cheney; and former House Speaker Newt Gingrich (who condemned Russia and the Obama administration for their anti-Israel UN votes), among others.

#### **(2) J Street Further Demonizes Pro-Israel and Jewish Groups Such as AIPAC and ZOA:**

In addition to demonizing ZOA in its introductory video, J Street attacks AIPAC, ZOA and other Jewish groups for defending Israel. For instance, in a NY Times Magazine article, J Street’s Ben-Ami mocked pro-Israel groups’ defense of Israel from present-day attacks as a mere reaction to “*emotional . . . ancestral impulses,*” and falsely claimed that AIPAC and ZOA, etc., “*stifle dissent.*”<sup>487</sup> Rabbi Shmuley Boteach commented about Ben-Ami’s accusations:

*“Get it. [According to Ben-Ami,] if you support Israel’s right to defend itself against missiles raining down on its kindergartens and nursing homes it’s not because you believe in a country’s legitimate right to defend itself against attack but because you’re [sic] reptilian Jewish brain has still not gotten over your great-grandmother being disemboweled by Chemielnitzki. Talk about delegitimizing the other side. And all this from a man who started J Street because right-wing Jews [supposedly] stifle debate! . . .*

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485 “Word on the Street: A Tale of Two Platforms,” by Jeremy Ben Ami, *supra*.

486 “A New Pro-Peace, Pro-Israel Political Voice (J Street),” Youtube video, April 12, 2008, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W8TN5Rs\\_5sk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W8TN5Rs_5sk)

487 See “J Street’s Shameful Attacks on AIPAC,” by Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, *Huffington Post*, Nov. 21, 2009, at [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rabbi-shmuley-boteach/j-streets-shameful-attack\\_b\\_285644.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rabbi-shmuley-boteach/j-streets-shameful-attack_b_285644.html)

*I am not one to get easily offended, but reading Ben-Ami's words, in the New York Times of all places, borders on the anti-Semitic. His caricature of leaders of major Jewish organizations — heroes like Malcolm Hoenlein, Howard Kohr, and Morton Klein — as mistrustful cranks who seek to hijack American foreign policy is deeply troubling, as is his contention that Jews who believe that a tough military posture, after all the terror Israel has experienced in response to two decades of land-for-peace-deals, are paranoid brutes stuck in the past.”<sup>488</sup>*

In a video entitled “AIPAC vs. J Street” produced by Russian-state-owned news, the late Danny Schechter, apparently on behalf of J Street, called AIPAC a “belligerent hostile lobby,” “dangerous,” and a “bullying” and “intimidation” tool, and called the democratically-elected Israeli government “not representative” and “dominated by a narrow elite,” that “is trying to silence any debate.”<sup>489</sup>

### **(3) J Street Condemns Christian Zionists, and Tries to Drive a Wedge Between Christian Zionists and Jews:**

Christian Zionists are great friends to Israel and the Jewish people, and sincerely believe the Torah’s prescript: “*I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse, and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.*” (Genesis 12:1-3)<sup>490</sup> Christian Zionist groups such as Proclaiming Justice to the Nations (PJTN) and CUFI help lobby for pro-Israel legislation and help combat anti-Israel BDS.<sup>491</sup> Christian Zionists correctly understand that Israel belongs to the Jewish people, that peace depends on Israel keeping and defending her land, and not giving concessions to Arab terrorists, and that peace will come only when Arabs stop their inexcusable terrorist war against Israel.<sup>492</sup> For instance, CUFI’s “The Israel Pledge,” prominently featured on CUFI’s website homepage, says:

*“We believe that the Jewish people have a right to live in their ancient land of Israel, and that the modern State of Israel is the fulfillment of this historic right. We maintain that there is no excuse for acts of terrorism against Israel and that Israel has the same right as every other nation to defend her citizens from such violent attacks. We pledge to stand with our brothers and sisters in Israel and to speak out on their behalf whenever*

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488 *Id.*

489 “AIPAC vs. J Street,” RT (Russia Today) YouTube video of RT’s Liz Wahl interviewing J Street’s Danny Schechter, May 27, 2012, at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wAqvE\\_mxBJs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wAqvE_mxBJs) (Note: RT is an arm of Russia’s state-owned news agency RIA-NOVOSTI.) Schechter wrote the virulently anti-Israel article “*Israel Gives Jews a Bad Name*” (Aug. 8, 2014, <http://www.globalresearch.ca/israel-gives-jews-a-bad-name/5395273>), which condemns Israel and the IDF, states that Israel is based “on occupied lands all in the name of a questionable biblical mythology,” that Israel is “worse” than South Africa’s apartheid; that Israel is “engaged in a campaign of state terror”; and that Hamas’s use of human shields is a “Big Lie.”

490 See, e.g., “*Scriptures About Blessing Israel*,” Christians United for Israel (CUFI) website, at [http://www.cufi.org/site/PageServer?pagename=Scriptures\\_About\\_Blessing\\_Israel](http://www.cufi.org/site/PageServer?pagename=Scriptures_About_Blessing_Israel) , See also “*Why Support Israel*,” CUFI website, at <https://www.cufi.org.uk/israel-and-the-bible/why-support-israel/>

491 E.g., “*No to BDS: We Stand With Israel*,” PJTN website, at <https://www.pjtn.org/pjtn-anti-bds/>

492 Since been deleted

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*and wherever necessary until the attacks stop and they are finally living in peace and security with their neighbors.”<sup>493</sup>*

J Street defames Christian Zionists, and tries to drive a wedge between Jews and Christian Zionists, by outrageously and falsely claiming that Christian Zionists’ support for Israel and the Jewish people is really aimed at having Jews killed and “*goading Arabs into war.*” J Street President Ben-Ami stated:

*“Are Israel and American Jewry really so desperate that we must cozy up to people whose messianic dreams entail having us all killed or converted to Christianity? Hagee, the founder of Christians United for Israel, and his ilk believe that Israel dare not cede any territory in the quest for peace, claiming that the Bible promised all of the holy land to the Jews. In other words, Christian Zionists look at the trade-offs that Israel must make to achieve peace -- and hope to thwart them. Then again, peace is not what these folks have in mind; they hope that Israel will seek to permanently expand its borders, thereby goading the Arabs into a war that will become the catalyst for Armageddon and the second coming of Christ. Do your ambitions for Israel extend beyond turning it into the fuel for the fire of the ‘End of Days’? Then Hagee and company are not -- repeat, not -- your friends.”<sup>494</sup>*

### **(4) J Street Promotes & Expands on Walt & Mearsheimer Canards, by Saying Pro-Israel Jewish and Christian Groups Hold American Policy “Hostage”:**

J Street promotes the false premise, promulgated in the anti-Israel, anti-Semitic, distortion-filled Walt and Mearsheimer book called *The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy*, that pro-Israel groups hold American policy “hostage” by working for pro-Israel policies that – in Walt and Mearsheimer and J Street’s distorted view – harm American interests. Moreover, J Street goes even further than Walt and Mearsheimer. Whereas, Walt and Mearsheimer “only” smeared pro-Israel Jewish groups, J Street smears both pro-Israel Jewish groups and Christian Zionists, as holding American policy “hostage.” J Street’s Ben Ami stated:

*“One thing they [Walt and Mearsheimer] certainly get right is that there is a problem here . . . , which is that there is an array of forces that have combined to hold American policy hostage. . . . It’s not purely a group of people who are American Jews who are interested in Israel. It’s a broader array of the neo-cons and their view of the world and the Christian Zionists and their view of eternity together with some relatively conservative Jewish leaders.”*

### **(5) J Street Falsely Accuses Israel’s Supporters of Not Being “True Friends” of Israel:**

J-Street President Ben-Ami also stigmatizes supporters of Israel who do not endorse J Street’s positions as being counterfeit friends of the Jewish State, and enablers of Israel’s self-destruction. Ben-Ami promoted pressuring Israel to adopt J Street’s agenda, and analogized Israel to a

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493 CUFI website home page, at <http://www.cufi.org/site/PageServer>.

494 “5 Myths on Who’s Really Pro-Israel,” by Jeremy Ben-Ami, *Washington Post*, May 11, 2008, at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/05/08/AR2008050801521.html>

## XX. J STREET OPPOSES REQUIRING PALESTINIAN STATE TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AS JEWISH

wayward teenager, with this infamous, insulting analogy that attempts to undermine Israel's sovereign right and ability to make decisions affecting her own citizens' lives: "*Would a true friend not only let you drive home drunk but offer you their Porsche and a shot of tequila for the road?*"<sup>495</sup>

### XX. J STREET OPPOSES REQUIRING A PALESTINIAN STATE TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AS A JEWISH STATE

In contrast to the widely-held view in Israel that Palestinians need to accept Israel as a Jewish state for a final peace settlement, J Street asserts that no such recognition is necessary, and misleadingly asserts that purported PA recognition of Israel's "right to exist" is sufficient for peace. J Street's Vice President for Communications and New Media Isaac Luria wrote:

*[Peace is possible without the Palestinians recognizing Israel as a Jewish State.] Yes it is. Israel's Jewish character is a matter of self-identification and it does not matter whether the Palestinians – or anyone else for that matter – recognize it as such. What does matter is that the Palestinians recognize Israel's right to exist, something President Abbas has done . . .*

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J Street's formula enables the PA to continue its policy of refusing to truly recognize Israel, in any real and meaningful manner. PA President Abbas declared that "recognition" of Israel's "existence" is limited to dealing with Israel on "functional" issues where there is no other choice for the time being, such as obtaining tax payments.<sup>497</sup> There is **no** real PA "recognition" of Israel: The PA's maps, official emblem, official stationary, textbooks, etc. all continue to show "Palestine" replacing all of Israel.<sup>498</sup>

Moreover, Abbas and other PA officials have repeatedly insisted that **no** Palestinian organization, **no** other political party (including Fatah and the PFLP – which are the main parties comprising the PLO and PA government), and **no** forces should recognize Israel's existence. For instance, Abbas stated: "*Hamas is not required to recognize Israel . . . It is not required of Hamas, or of Fatah, or of the Popular Front to recognize Israel. . .*"<sup>499</sup> Similarly, Muhammad Dahlan, a senior leader of the PA's major political party Fatah, stated:

*I want to say for the thousandth time, in my own name and in the name of all of my fellow members of the Fatah movement: We do not demand that the Hamas movement recognize Israel. On the contrary, we demand of*

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495 *Id.*

496 "Turning 'No' into 'Yes' on a Two-State Solution," by Lara Friedman & Isaac Luria, J Street website, July 9, 2010, at <http://jstreet.org/turning-no-into-yes-on-a-two-state-solution/>

497 "Fatah: We Do Not Recognize Israel," by Itamar Marcus and Barbara Crook, *FrontPage Mag.*, Mar. 18, 2009 (quoting interview with Mahmoud Abbas broadcast on Al-Arabiya and Palestinian TV on Oct. 3, 2006), at <http://archive.frontpagemag.com/readArticle.aspx?ARTID=34394>

498 "Palestinian Authority Non-Recognition of Israel," by Nan Jacques Zilberdik and Itamar Marcus, Palestinian Media Watch, Nov. 8, 2011, at <http://palwatch.org/STORAGE/PA%20non-recognition%20of%20Israel,%20for%20Foreign%20Affairs%20Committee,%20DK.pdf>

499 "Fatah: We Do Not Recognize Israel," *supra*.

## XXI. DECEPTIVE POLLS & MISREPRESENTED POLLING DATA

***the Hamas movement not to recognize Israel, because the Fatah movement does not recognize Israel even today.***<sup>500</sup>

### **XXI. J STREET CONDUCTS DECEPTIVE POLLS AND MISREPRESENTS POLLING DATA TO CREATE THE FALSE IMPRESSION THAT AMERICAN JEWS SUPPORT J STREET'S AGENDA**

J Street also “lies with polls.” J Street cites polls inaccurately and conducts its own misleading “push polls” and hypothetical polls to bolster its false claims that Israelis and American Jews agree with J Street’s agenda, including J Street’s demands for greater Israeli concessions. For instance:

#### **(1) J Street’s VP Conducts J Street Polls, Destroying Their Credibility:**

J Street pays its own vice president, Jim Gerstein, and Gerstein’s polling company, Agne Strategic Communications, to do misleading self-serving “polls” to try to demonstrate support for American pressure on Israel to make concessions. J Street’s IRS filings showed that it paid Gerstein and Agne \$107,000 in 2010. Lenny David (the former Deputy Chief of Mission at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, and current Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs publications director) noted regarding J Street’s payments to its vice president: “*The ‘business transactions involving interested persons,’ to use the IRS phrase, is a questionable corporate practice by a supposedly not-for-profit organization. It also totally destroys the credibility of J Street’s self-serving polls.*”<sup>501</sup>

#### **(2) J Street Misrepresented Settlement Construction Freeze Polling:**

In June 2009, J Street’s campaign director, Isaac Luria, misleadingly cited a Dahaf Institute poll to falsely claim that “*Israelis want the president to stand up to the settlers.*” Luria said, “*A poll recently showed that 52% of Israelis want a freeze on settlement construction and 56% want Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu to agree to President Obama’s call for an end to settlement construction.*”<sup>502</sup> In fact, J Street misrepresented the poll’s findings. The Dahaf Institute poll<sup>503</sup> actually showed that Israelis: favored continued natural growth of Jewish settlement communities by 54% to 42%; stated that President Obama’s policies were bad for Israel by a margin of 53% to 26%; and “**opposed** the American demand for a halt to construction in Judea

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500 “Fatah: We Do Not Recognize Israel,” *supra* (quoting “Interview with Muhammad Dahlan,” PA TV Mar. 16, 2009).

501 “J Street’s a Crooked Road,” by Lenny Ben-David, *Jerusalem Post*, Sept. 27, 2010, at <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=189445>. Gerstein’s polls include: “*J Street, Nat'l Survey of American Jews, Feb. 28 – Mar. 8, 2009,*” at <http://jstreet.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/March-2009-Survey-Data.pdf>; “*J Street, Nat'l Survey of Am. Jews, Mar. 17-19, 2010,*” at <http://marchpoll.s3.amazonaws.com/J%20Street%20Survey%20March%202010%20Final%20Results.pdf> and “*J Street, National Survey of American Jews, July 7-12, 2011,*” at [https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/J\\_Street\\_July2011SurveyData.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/J_Street_July2011SurveyData.pdf)

502 Luria’s e-mail making these misleading claims appears to have been removed from J Street’s website. Luria’s email was quoted at the time in: “*Is J Street Pro Israel or Pro Palestinian?*,” by Morton Klein, ZOA website, at <http://zoa.org/2009/09/102639-is-j-street-pro-israel-or-pro-palestinian/>

503 “*Roundup of Israeli Polls Published the Week Obama Spoke in Cairo Show Israelis See Obama as Pro-Palestinian and Reject Freeze on ‘Natural Growth,*” Independent Media Review Analysis (IMRA), June 5, 2009, at <http://www.imra.org.il/story.php3?id=43823>

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and Samaria” by 55.6% to 29.5% (almost a 2 to 1 margin).

Most egregiously, J Street buried the salient fact that the 56% who purportedly stated that Prime Minister Netanyahu should agree to President Obama’s demands of a construction freeze were answering **a hypothetical question in which the only two alternatives posed were either agreeing with Obama’s demands or suffering U.S. imposition of sanctions against Israel.** In other words, *56% would agree to a freeze only if Israel had a gun to her head and no other choice.* Further, the Dahaf poll’s respondents *included* Israeli Arabs, who were more likely to favor J Street’s positions.

Other contemporaneous polls of Israeli opinion also showed J Street’s claim to be baseless. A June 2009 *Jerusalem Post*/Smith Research Institute poll showed that Israelis, by a decisive 69% to 27% margin, opposed freezing construction within large Jewish communities in the Judea/Samaria.<sup>504</sup> A further Smith Institute poll in August 2009 also found that an all-time low of a mere 4% of Israelis favored President Obama’s policies.

### **(3) J Street Ignores the Polling Data Showing That J Street’s Constantly-Touted “Solution” Will Not Bring Peace:**

J Street blithely ignores the evidence the American Jewish public – even Jewish Democrats who presumably voted for Obama – do **not** favor J Street’s constantly-touted refrain that creating a Palestinian state is the panacea and “solution” for achieving peace.

A July 2009 Global Marketing Services poll of American Jews who are Democrats reported that: “*Asked to choose between the Obama view that ‘if Israel could settle its dispute with the Palestinian refugees and give them a nation of their own, that the Arabs would live in peace with Israel’ and the Israeli government view that ‘the Arabs will never live in peace with Israel and that giving them a nation of their own will just make them stronger,’ Jewish Democrats sided with the Israeli view by 52 percent to 20 percent.*” (almost a 3 to 1 margin).<sup>505</sup>

### **(4) J Street Conducted Phony Iran Deal Poll & Misrepresented the Poll’s Results:**

In 2015, J Street (via its Vice President’s polling firm) conducted and touted a phony poll, which J Street then used to falsely claim that the majority of Jews supported the Iran deal. J Street’s shamefully misleading poll asked about a *hypothetical* Iran deal that would only give Iran “modest relief from sanctions,” and that would only reduce sanctions gradually as Iran met compliance benchmarks, in exchange for enrichment restrictions to “*far below*” what is necessary for a nuclear bomb, and “*intrusive*” full time inspectors at Iran’s nuclear facilities “*to make sure Iran is not developing nuclear weapons.*”<sup>506</sup>

J Street’s loaded hypothetical poll question was thus a far cry from the actual Iran deal, which: gave hundreds of billions of dollars of sanctions relief and economic windfalls to Iran near the outset of the deal (*not “gradually”*); allowed enrichment in excess of the amounts needed for

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504 “*Jerusalem Post*”/Smith Poll: Only 6% of Israelis See US Gov’t as Pro-Israel,” by Gil Stern Hoffman, *Jerusalem Post*, June 19, 2009, at <http://www.jpost.com/Israel/Jerusalem-PostSmith-Poll-Only-6-percent-of-Israelis-see-US-govt-as-pro-Israel>

505 “Where Bam Breaks with Jewish Dems,” New York Post, Aug. 7, 2009, at <http://nypost.com/2009/08/07/where-bam-breaks-with-jewish-dems/>

506 “*J Street National Survey, May 31-June 3, 2015*,” Gerstein, Bocian, Agne, Questions 33-35, at <https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/j-street-iran-poll-topline-results.pdf>

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civilian use; and delays and places numerous roadblocks in the way of obtaining inspections of Iran's undeclared nuclear activities. In addition, under the Iran deal, no Americans are allowed to inspect Iranian facilities, and inspectors must first be approved by Iran officials before they can even enter Iran.<sup>507</sup>

In other words, J Street's poll was a classic case of "How to Lie with Statistics."

Outrageously, J Street used the results of its *hypothetical* favorable deal scenario poll to: falsely claim that 59% of American Jews supported the actual catastrophic Iran deal; to falsely claim that American Jews "overwhelmingly" support the deal and "have Obama's back" on the deal; to falsely assert that American Jews supported the Iran deal even more than the general population did<sup>508</sup>; and to falsely claim that the majority of Jews supported the Iran deal.<sup>509</sup>

The legitimate polls of the *actual* Iran deal after its terms were publicized showed that American Jews and the general American public both *overwhelmingly opposed* the Iran deal. The McKeon and Associates poll conducted on July 29-30, 2015 found that American Jews opposed the deal by more than a 2 to 1 margin (45% to 22%). Opposition to the deal crossed all party lines: out of those having an opinion, the majority of Jewish Republicans, Libertarians and Democrats all opposed the deal. And Jewish youth (ages 18-30) – who will be most affected, and will live (or die) by the Iran deal's outcome – opposed the deal by a 4 to 1 margin.<sup>510</sup>

Another poll of American Jews, commissioned by The Israel Project, found that 58% opposed, and only 30% favored the deal (that is, almost 2 to 1 were against the deal), after presenting respondents with both the Obama Administration's language defending the deal and opponents' arguments. A majority of those having an opinion also opposed the deal prior to receiving information from both sides.<sup>511</sup>

The respected Quinnipiac University poll showed that the general American population *opposed* the Iran deal by about a 2 to 1 margin (57% to 28%) - almost as much as American Jews did.<sup>512</sup> (Thus, J Street's claim that American Jews favored the deal more than the general public was also false.)

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507 "Majority of 340 Pro-Iran Deal Rabbis are from J St & Other Israel-Hostile Groups," ZOA website, Aug. 19, 2015, at <http://zoa.org/2015/08/10294133-majority-of-340-pro-iran-deal-rabbis-are-from-j-st-other-israel-hostile-groups/>

508 "Poll: American Jewish Support For Iran Deal Exceeds Support Among General Population," J Street press release, June 10, 2015, at <http://jstreet.org/press-releases/poll-american-jewish-support-for-iran-deal-exceeds-support-among-general-population/#.WRdRz1LMys>

509 For instance, J Street spokesperson Jessica Rosenbaum falsely claimed that "*the majority of American Jews*" supported the Iran deal. See "Growing Signs Schumer Will Oppose Iran Deal," by Paul Goldman & Mark J. Rozell, Politico, Aug. 2, 2015, at <http://www.politico.com/story/2015/08/schumer-nuclear-iran-deal-new-york-democrat-120912>

510 "Iran Deal: Jews Now Oppose 2-to-1; Youth 4-to-1," by Joel B. Pollak, Breitbart, Aug. 7, 2015, at <http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/08/07/iran-deal-jews-now-oppose-2-to-1-youth-4-to-1/>

511 "Why the Iran Deal's Public Support is Plummeting," by John Podhoretz, *New York Post*, July 28, 2015, at <http://nypost.com/2015/07/28/why-the-iran-deals-public-support-is-plummeting/>

512 "American Voters Oppose Iran Deal 2-1, Quinnipiac University National Poll Finds," Quinnipiac Univ. Poll press release, Aug. 3, 2015, at <https://www.qu.edu/news-and-events/quinnipiac-university-poll/national/release-detail?ReleaseID=2265>

## **XX. J STREET SUBVERTS JEWISH TRADITIONS AND VALUES**

J Street also ignored the polling that supported the fact that diplomacy is unlikely to stop Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, and that American Jews strongly favor American and Israeli military action to stop Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. The 2010 American Jewish Committee (AJC) poll found that 72% of American Jews believed there was “little” or “no” chance that a combination of diplomacy and sanctions could stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons, while only 4% believe that there is a “good chance” that these approaches could work, and 23% said there was “some” chance. The same poll found that if diplomacy and sanctions failed, that American Jews overwhelming favored Israeli military action to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, by almost a 3 to 1 margin (70% to 26%), and American military action to stop Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons by almost a 2 to 1 margin (59% to 35%).<sup>513</sup> Yet, contrary to the sentiments of the American Jewish public, J Street opposes a credible military option.

Incredibly, at J Street’s February 2017 annual conference, J Street’s Ben-Ami once again lied that “*the majority support the Iran nuclear accord.*”<sup>514</sup>

### **(5) J Street Misrepresented Gallup Poll About Moving The U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem:**

Donald Trump’s election raised a realistic possibility that the incoming administration would move America’s embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, in compliance with longstanding U.S. law and Trump’s campaign promises. J Street’s Ben Ami promptly attempted to derail the embassy move, by misleadingly and falsely claiming that: “*A Gallup poll conducted this year showed that just 24% of American Jews would support the move.*”<sup>515</sup> In fact, the *majority* of the Gallup poll respondents who had any opinion supported the US embassy move to Jerusalem. (56% had no opinion; 24% supported the embassy move to Jerusalem, and only 20% opposed the move.) Moreover, the Gallup poll was not a poll of American Jews, as J Street falsely claimed. The Gallup poll was of *all* Americans, of which Jews are only 2 or 3%.<sup>516</sup>

In fact, Americans overwhelmingly support Jerusalem as the undivided capital of Israel. In a 2014 McLaughlin & Associates poll, to the question, “*Do you believe that Jerusalem should remain the undivided capital of Israel?*” Americans supported Jerusalem remaining the undivided capital of Israel by more than an overwhelming 4 to 1 ratio (55% to 13%).<sup>517</sup>

## **XXII. J STREET SUBVERTS JEWISH TRADITIONS AND VALUES**

One of J Street’s particularly insidious techniques involves turning Jewish teachings, traditions, values and holidays upside down. J Street falsely depicts Jewish traditions and values; ignores Israel’s humane actions; and falsely portrays Israel as an oppressor. J Street then uses these

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513 AJC 2010 Survey of American Jewish Opinion, at [http://www.ajc.org/site/c.ijITI2PHKoG/b.6328679/k.151A/AJC\\_Fall\\_2010\\_Survey.htm](http://www.ajc.org/site/c.ijITI2PHKoG/b.6328679/k.151A/AJC_Fall_2010_Survey.htm)

514 “*Jeremy Ben-Ami Opens J Street’s 2017 National Conference*” - video, Feb. 25, 2017, at [http://jstreet.org/2017-conference-highlights/#.WRe4RVLMy\\_s](http://jstreet.org/2017-conference-highlights/#.WRe4RVLMy_s)

515 “*Moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem is Still a Bad Idea,*” by Jeremy Ben-Ami, J Street website, Dec. 13, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/moving-us-embassy-jerusalem-still-bad-idea/#.WNLCxhiZNGx>

516 “*Jerusalem, Jews, and the Presidential Candidates,*” Gallup, Mar. 24, 2016, at <http://www.gallup.com/opinion/polling-matters/190283/jerusalem-jews-presidential-candidates.aspx>

517 McLaughlin & Associates: “*ZOA Release Of New Poll: Americans Show Overwhelming Support For Israeli Positions—Oppose Obama’s Positions,*” Jan. 28, 2014, at <http://mclaughlinonline.com/2014/01/28/new-poll-americans-show-overwhelming-support-for-israeli-positions-oppose-obamas-positions/>

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false depictions to support J Street’s positions threatening Israel’s existence. This technique is especially effective on young Jews who are ignorant about real Jewish ethical teachings, the meaning of Jewish holidays, and past and present Middle East events.

### **(1) J Street Ignores the Real Jewish Value of Self-Defense; and Falsely Claims Appeasement is a “Jewish Value”:**

Jews love peace, and pray for peace daily. However, enemies trying to kill Jews are inimical to peace. Thus, real Jewish ethical teachings prioritize life and safety. Judaism teaches that there is a right and duty of self-defense – to preserve and protect one’s own life and the lives of one’s family and nation from enemies bent on murder. The Talmud states, in Sanhedrin 72a: “*If someone is coming to kill you, rise against him and kill him first.*”

Thus, when Hamas fires rockets at Israeli civilians, or Palestinian Arab terrorists stab and ram trucks into innocent Jews, there is an ethical duty to stop them – including by killing the terrorists if necessary. Judaism recognizes that failing to exercise this right of self-defense causes more deaths: “*Those who are kind to the cruel, in the end will be cruel to the kind.*”<sup>518</sup>

Jewish charitable obligations to the poor and oppressed (such as impoverished widows) involve providing food, money and jobs; there is no obligation to give one’s enemies weapons and a state that would endanger the Jewish people.

By contrast to actual Jewish teachings, J Street’s distorted supposed “Jewish values” are “social justice” and “pursuing peace” at all costs – both of which are euphemisms for falsely maligning Israel as an “oppressor” and appeasing terror regimes, at the cost of Jewish lives and the safety of the Jewish nation.

For instance, J Street President Ben-Ami described his supposed “values” as the foregoing, at the beginning of the “*Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC)-J Street Peacemaking Forum*” at Georgetown University. At this forum, Ben-Ami agreed with and failed to contradict MPAC’s executive director Salam Al-Marayati, who, among other things, has called for Israel’s destruction.<sup>519</sup> Ben-Ami stated:

*“Judaism to me is Jewish values of social justice, how we treat another people that are oppressed, putting into action the values we were raised to believe in, what it means to be Jewish.”*<sup>520</sup>

J Street’s “Rabbinic Cabinet” likewise distorts Judaism. For example, the J Street Rabbinic Cabinet invites “Rabbinic colleagues” to support J Street’s goal of creating a Palestinian (terror) state, using a distorted letter that omits controlling Jewish self-defense teachings. The letter

518 “*He Who is Compassionate to the Cruel Will Ultimately Become Cruel to the Compassionate: Contemporary Lessons from an Ancient Midrash,*” by Eliav Shochetman (citing Kohelet Raba 7:16), at <http://www.acpr.org.il/english-nativ/o6-issue/shochetman-6.htm>. See also “*Those Who Are Kind To The Cruel, In The End Will Be Cruel To The Kind,*” by Gerald A. Honigman, Oct. 18, 2011, Virtual Jerusalem, at <http://www.virtualjerusalem.com/blogs.php?Itemid=5064>

519 See Al-Marayati’s and MPAC’s litany of horrible statements in this report’s Section XII(4), regarding J Street U’s phony excuses for bringing anti-Israel speakers to campuses and conferences.

520 Salam al-Marayati twitter page, May 6, 2010, at <https://twitter.com/SalamAlmarayati/status/13497451209>; and “*From Washington to Jerusalem: How Can Jewish and Muslim Americans Bring Peace to the Middle East?*,” MPAC National, at <https://vimeo.com/11512564>

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begins with a selective partial out-of-context Talmudic/Torah quote – and omits the rest of the quote, which commands going to war against those who reject a Jewish peace offer. The letter even falsely portrays creating a Palestinian terror state as the “only” solution and a “mitzvah” (commandment)! The pertinent portions of the J Street Rabbinic Cabinet invitation letter read:

*“SEEK PEACE and PURSUE IT (Psalm 34:15)*

*‘Great is Peace,’ as the Midrash (*Leviticus Rabbah 9*) teaches, ‘Since even in a time of war, one should begin with peace... ‘ Even when peace is most difficult, when hostility is greatest, one is commanded to pursue peace.’ . . .*

*In our pursuit of peace, the sage Hillel’s entreaty ‘If not now, when?’ weighs heavily upon us. . . .*

*Peace between the Israelis and Palestinians can only be achieved by negotiations ending with two states. J Street is educating the American public and elected officials about the urgency of a sustained and successful peace process and is supporting legislators and candidates who support both Israel’s security and the creation of a viable Palestinian State. Judaism teaches that peace making is one our most important mitzvoth.”<sup>521</sup>*

The above-quoted J Street Rabbinic Cabinet letter falsifies Judaism teachings. Specifically:

**First, there is no Jewish obligation or commandment (mitzvah) to offer a state to an enemy who is trying to kill you or others.** There is no Jewish commandment to create a Palestinian Arab Hamas Iranian satellite terror state that will terrorize, launch rockets at and attempt to eradicate Israel. Creating such a state is surely not the “only solution” – as the J Street Rabbinic Cabinet letter claims. Instead, as noted above, Judaism commands immediate, effective self-defense: *“If someone is coming to kill you, rise against him and kill him first.”* (Sanhedrin 72a)

**Second,** the full Torah passage (which is in Deuteronomy/Devarim 20:10-20) is very different from the J Street Rabbinical Cabinet’s out-of-context selection. The Torah passage indicates that a peace offer to an enemy does not involve giving an enemy a “state.” **The Torah passage calls for only offering an opportunity to live peaceably. Moreover, if the initial peace offer is rejected, the passage commands that Jews must crush the enemy and end its terrorism once and for all.** There is no Jewish “mitzvah” or obligation to engage in lengthy “peace processes” or repeated attempts to appease and provide weapons and land to an enemy such as Hamas or the PA. There is no Jewish obligation to make more and more concessions to Palestinian Arab leaders who repeatedly rejected peace offers (including in 1937, 1947, 2000 and 2008) and instead went to war, launched thousands of rockets into Israel, and murdered and maimed thousands of Jews in intifadas.

The full pertinent Torah passage reads:

*“When you approach a city to wage war against it, you shall propose peace to it. And it will be, if it responds to you with peace, and it opens up to you, then it will be, [that] all the people found therein shall become*

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<sup>521</sup> J Street Rabbinic Cabinet Invitation to Rabbinic colleagues, J Street 2010 Annual Report, at [http://annualreport.s3.amazonaws.com/2010%20JStreet\\_AR\\_FINAL%20Small.pdf](http://annualreport.s3.amazonaws.com/2010%20JStreet_AR_FINAL%20Small.pdf)

*tributary to you, and they shall serve you. But if it does not make peace with you, and it wages war against you, you shall besiege it, and the Lord, your God, will deliver it into your hands, and you shall strike all its males with the edge of the sword. However, the women, the children, and the livestock, and all that is in the city, all its spoils you shall take for yourself, and you shall eat the spoils of your enemies, which the Lord, your God, has given you. Thus you shall do to all the cities that are very far from you, which are not of the cities of these nations. However, of these peoples' cities, which the Lord, your God, gives you as an inheritance, you shall not allow any soul to live. Rather, you shall utterly destroy them: The Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, the Hivvites, and the Jebusites, as the Lord, your God, has commanded you. So that they should not teach you to act according to all their abominations that they have done for their gods, whereby you would sin against the Lord, your God. When you besiege a city for many days to wage war against it to capture it, you shall not destroy its trees . . . for you may eat from them, . . . However, a tree you know is not a food tree, you may destroy and cut down, and you shall build bulwarks against the city that makes war with you, until its submission.*<sup>522</sup>

Third, the J Street Rabbinical Cabinet letter twists Hillel's famous "if not now" statement – which concerns personal improvement and study - into another specious argument for creating an enemy state.

## (2) J Street Subverts the Holocaust:

An utterly vile modern-day blood libel subverts the enormous tragedy of the Holocaust, by portraying the Holocaust's Jewish victims as the "new Nazis." J Street speakers have used such analogies. For instance, J Street conference speaker Helena Cobban compared Israel's security fence to fences surrounding Nazi concentration camps.<sup>523</sup> J Street's analogy is outrageous: Israel had to erect the security fence to stop Palestinian Arab terrorists from murdering and maiming thousands of Jews, while the Nazi fences were erected to imprison and murder Jews.

J Street also issued a public statement that it "stood unequivocally behind" Washington D.C. Theater J's decision to feature a reading of Caryl Churchill's play, "Seven Jewish Children (A Play For Gaza)."<sup>524</sup> The pro-Israel group COPMA (Citizens Opposed to Propaganda Masquerading as Art) explained that this play is "a widely condemned, anti-Jewish blood libel that described Israelis as Nazis, glorying in killing non-Jewish children."<sup>525</sup> Even Theater J described the play

522 Devarim - Deuteronomy - Chapter 20:10-20, at [http://www.chabad.org/library/bible\\_cdo/aid/9984/jewish/Chapter-20.htm](http://www.chabad.org/library/bible_cdo/aid/9984/jewish/Chapter-20.htm)

523 "Another J Street Speaker Engages in "Use and Abuse of Holocaust Imagery," by Michael Goldfarb, *Weekly Standard*, Oct. 22, 2009, at <http://www.weeklystandard.com/another-j-street-speaker-engages-in-use-and-abuse-of-holocaust-imagery/article/271127>

524 "J Street Letter of Support on Discussing 7JC," by Amy Spitalnick, and accompanying Theater J note, Theater J blog, Mar. 26, 2009, at <https://theaterjblogs.wordpress.com/2009/03/26/j-street-letter-of-support-on-discussing-7jc/>

525 "Washington's Jewish Federation Must Stop Subsidizing Anti-Israel Propaganda," COPMA website, at <http://www.copma.net/suppression-of-federation-criticism/>

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as conveying a “sense of tragic historical irony that Jews once under siege [by the Nazis] were now laying siege [to Gaza].”<sup>526</sup> And yet J Street defended and “stood unequivocally behind” the program featuring this defamatory play.

### (3) J Street Subverts the Traditions and Meanings of Jewish Holidays:

**Passover:** Passover celebrates the Jewish people’s freedom from slavery in Egypt, and return to Israel. Matzah eaten at Passover seders symbolizes the poor, broken unleavened bread that Jews ate while escaping from Egypt. Jews sing during Passover seders: “*Next year in Jerusalem*” and “*Rebuild the [Jewish] Temple in Jerusalem speedily in our days.*”

But J Street reverses the meaning of Passover into a demand to give away sacred parts of Jerusalem and Israel to an enemy that seeks to destroy the Jewish State. J Street’s Passover Haggadah supplement turns the matzah into a symbol for “*separating from*” and “*breaking from a piece of [Israel]*,” and “*break[ing] free . . . from the bondage of occupation.*”<sup>527</sup> The J Street Haggadah supplement also tells readers to urge Congress to support the U.S. “role” of pressuring Israel for a “two state solution.” J Street thus twists Passover into an occasion for promoting creating a Hamas-Palestinian-Iran satellite state and expelling Jews from the very same land that the real Passover holiday celebrates Jews returning to and rebuilding.

**Hanukkah:** J Street likewise turns the meaning of Hanukkah upside down. Hanukkah celebrates the Jewish Maccabees’ successful battles to free Israel from the Selucids (Syrian-Greeks) and overcome internal traitors (“Hellenists”) who adopted the Greek’s ways, followed by the Maccabees’ rededication of the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. The word Hanukkah means “rededication.” The Selucids had murdered thousands of Jews; tried to impose Greek culture and beliefs on the Jewish people; banned Jewish practices; burned Torahs; and turned the holy Jewish Temple into a place for idol worship.<sup>528</sup>

The Maccabees’ base was in and around Bet El in Judea,<sup>529</sup> Likewise, the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem rededicated by the Maccabees was over the “green line.” Thus, the Maccabees were based in, fought for, and rededicated the very same areas that J Street pressures Israel to turn over to Arab terrorists.

J Street’s Hanukkah messages contradict everything that Hanukkah stands for. J Street President Ben-Ami’s 2010 “Hanukkah message” promoted J Street’s “mission” of curtailing “settlements” and *imposing* a two-state solution - which would mean expelling Jews from, and giving Arab terrorists the land that the Maccabees were based in, fought for, and rededicated. Ben-Ami urged J Street activists to push then-President Obama to exert “*even bolder . . . to exert even stronger . . . uh p . . . leadership*” to achieve J Street’s “mission.”<sup>530</sup> (Ben-Ami seemed to start to say “pressure” - a Freudian slip.)

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526 Theater J note, Theater J blog, Mar. 26, 2009, at <https://theaterjblogs.wordpress.com/2009/03/26/j-street-letter-of-support-on-discussing-7jc/>

527 J Street Haggadah Supplement 2014 / 5774, at [https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/J\\_Street\\_Passover\\_2014\\_web-REV.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.jstreet.org/images/J_Street_Passover_2014_web-REV.pdf)

528 “The Story of Chanukah,” Chabad, at [http://www.chabad.org/holidays/chanukah/article\\_cdo/aid/102978/jewish/The-Story-of-Chanukah.htm](http://www.chabad.org/holidays/chanukah/article_cdo/aid/102978/jewish/The-Story-of-Chanukah.htm)

529 “Beit-El Tourism: Connecting Heaven and Earth,” at [http://www.bet-el.info/tour\\_english.asp](http://www.bet-el.info/tour_english.asp)

530 “Happy Hanukkah from J Street President Jeremy Ben-Ami” – video, Dec. 3, 2010, at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K\\_dKIfVC7aA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_dKIfVC7aA)

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In December 2016, J Street U sent Israeli Ambassador Ron Dermer a snide “Hanukkah message” and basket that included an “anti-settlement” book and map of Israel that chopped off Israel at the “green line.”<sup>531</sup> Thus J Street’s “Hanukkah basket” also demanded Israel’s retreat from the areas that the Maccabees lived in and fought for!

**Yom Kippur:** Yom Kippur – the holy day when Jews fast, seek forgiveness and pray for life in the coming year – is yet another occasion for J Street to promote its agenda endangering Jewish lives.

For instance, J Street rabbis’ “Yom Kippur” sermons were emailed and posted by J Street’s Rabbinic Relations Director, Rabbi Jonathan Geffen, with a message lauding the sermons as “courageous” and an “inspiring example” of promoting “justice for Palestinians.” These “inspiring examples” included Virginia Reform Rabbi Amy Schwartzman’s Yom Kippur sermon bemoaning supposed “suffocation felt in Gaza,” and advocating for “an end to settlements, the Israeli army pulling out of the West Bank, and a newly empowered Palestinian Authority that helps put a lid on Hamas violence.”<sup>532</sup> (In fact, the PA’s major party, Fatah brags of killing more Jews than Hamas has!<sup>533</sup>)

J Street’s Rabbi Geffen also quoted J Street Rabbi Noa Kushner’s Yom Kippur sermon accusing Jews of not caring about Gazans, saying: “we hear about the deaths of innocents and we jump to our arguments rather than stop and weep . . . I am worried about our collective neshama (soul). . . I worry we are building an Iron Dome around our hearts.”<sup>534</sup> These J Street “rabbis” ignored Israel’s extraordinary efforts to protect Gazan civilians.<sup>535</sup> (Noa Kushner also founded “The Kitchen” – a “Jewish spiritual” group that tells members to “share your privilege” by donating to the Council on American Islamic Relations<sup>536</sup> - an unindicted co-conspirator implicated in funneling money to Hamas.<sup>537</sup>)

Rabbi Geffen’s Yom Kippur message also accused Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu of giving a “mean-spirited and negative response” to Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas’s September 2014 UN speech.<sup>538</sup> In his UN speech, Abbas had falsely accused Israel of “absolute war crimes,” “genocidal crimes” and “historic injustice inflicted on the Palestinian people in Al-Nakba of 1948.” Abbas also threatened “we will not forgive” and insisted upon a Palestinian

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531 “J Street U’s Hanukkah Message For Ambassador Ron Dermer,” by J Street U President Brooke Davies, Dec. 14, 2016, at <http://jstreet.org/j-street-us-hanukkah-message-ambassador-ron-dermer/#.WV-CJMaZNYg>

532 “Word on the Street: Inspiring Words from Around Our Community,” Yom Kippur letter from J Street’s Director of Rabbinic Relations, Rabbi Jonathan Geffen (“Geffen letter”), Sept. 2014, at <http://act.jstreet.org/mailings/view/3364?akid=3364.126842.eYpyh>

533 “Fatah Brags It Killed 11,000 Israelis: Official Fatah Facebook Page Boasts About Leading Palestinians in Terror,” by Itamar Marcus, Palestinian Media Watch, Aug. 3, 2016, at [http://www.palwatch.org/main.aspx?fi=157&doc\\_id=18557](http://www.palwatch.org/main.aspx?fi=157&doc_id=18557)

534 Geffen letter, *supra*.

535 “Israel’s Protection and Hamas’ Exploitation of Civilians in Operation Protective Edge,” July 24, 2014, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at <http://mfa.gov.il/MFA/ForeignPolicy/Issues/Pages/Israel-protection-and-Hamas-exploitation-of-civilians-in-Operation-Protective-Edge-July-2014.aspx>

536 The Kitchen, Justice League website page, at <http://www.thekitchensf.org/justice-league/>

537 “DOJ: CAIR’s Unindicted Co-Conspirator Status Legit,” IPT News, Mar. 12, 2010, at <https://www.investigativeproject.org/1854/doj-cairs-unindicted-co-conspirator-status-legit>

538 Geffen letter, *supra*.

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Arab “*legitimate right to resist this colonial, racist Israeli occupation*” - meaning a “right” to continue terrorist attacks on Israelis.<sup>539</sup> But according to J Street’s rabbis, Israel’s Prime Minister should have welcomed Abbas’ hostile UN speech inciting violence against innocent Israeli civilians.

In sum, J Street’s “Judaism” and false “Jewish values” – like the rest of its ideology – are anti-Jewish and anti-Israel.

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<sup>539</sup> “Full Text of Mahmoud Abbas’s Speech to the UN,” Times of Israel, Sept. 26, 2014, at <http://www.timesofisrael.com/full-text-of-abbas-speech-to-un/>

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