



Judea and Samaria

The ZOA strongly supports the legal, political, historic, and religious rights of Jews to live anywhere in the land of Israel, and especially in Judea (“Yehuda” in Hebrew) and Samaria (“Shomron” in Hebrew), the territory that was illegally occupied by Jordan from 1948-1967. International Law strongly supports the claim of Israel to the territory between the ‘green line’ which marked the cease-fire locations of 1949 and the Jordan River. There is a movement in several states and in proposed legislation to adopt the historically accurate terminology for this region that is the heartland of the land of Israel.

ACTION FOR BOTH HOUSE & SENATE:

Educate the lawmakers about the rights of Jews to live in Judea and Samaria. International law is strongly on the side of Israel.

ACTION FOR HOUSE:

- **Urge your Representative to support H.R. 902, RECOGNIZING Judea and Samaria Act, introduced by Rep. Claudia Tenney (R-NY)**
 - This legislation prohibits the use of federal funds in any document which would call Judea and Samaria by the historically and biblically mis-labeled “West Bank.”
 - Retiring the Egregious Confusion Over the Genuine Name of Israel’s Zone of Influence by Necessitating Government-use of Judea and Samaria Act

ACTION FOR SENATE:

- **Urge your Senator to support S.384 RECOGNIZING Judea and Samaria Act, introduced by Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR)**
 - This legislation prohibits the use of federal funds in any document which would call Judea and Samaria by the historically and biblically mis-labeled label “West Bank.”
 - Retiring the Egregious Confusion Over the Genuine Name of Israel’s Zone of Influence by Necessitating Government-use of Judea and Samaria Act

TALKING POINTS

- Jews are the indigenous people of the land of Israel, including Judea, Samaria, and, of course, Jerusalem.
- The Jewish people are called “Jews” because we are from Judea; the term “Jew” is a contraction of the geographic name “Judea.” The name originates from the Hebrew name “Yehudah,” a son of the Jewish patriarch Jacob/Israel. Yehudah’s progeny formed the biblical Israelite tribe of Judah and later the associated Kingdom of Judah.
- In order to dejudaize the region, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan renamed Judea and Samaria “the west bank” following their 1948 conquest and 1949 occupation of this territory; so named because it is the western bank of the River Jordan.
- When Israel captured the so-called “west bank” in a defensive war in 1967, Jordan had been illegally occupying it since 1948. The United Nations never recognized Jordan’s sovereignty over Judea and Samaria, and neither did the Arab League.
- King Hussein of Jordan abandoned all claims to the territory in July 1988.
- The PLO covenant of 1964 makes no claims to Judea and Samaria.
- Israel has developed only 3% of Judea and Samaria for Jewish communities. The Palestinian Authority administers about 40% of the territory; The remaining half of the land is essentially uninhabited.
- The failed Oslo Accords do not prohibit Israeli communities in Judea and Samaria. Final status of the territory is to be agreed to by the parties, which has still not occurred.
- Neither the failed Oslo Accords, nor any subsequent agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Arabs, has ever waived, negated or nullified any part of Israel’s prior legal claims or rights.
- The notion that ‘settlements’ are an obstacle to peace is not consistent with the history of the peace negotiations.
- The Palestinian Authority, in a racist law reminiscent of South African apartheid, has made it a capital offense to sell any land to a Jew. They further insist that, after negotiations with Israel are complete, there will be no Jews in the new Palestinian State.
- State bills have been enacted in TN and AR and are being considered in FL that would require all state documents to refer to the region as Judea and Samaria.
- Judea and Samaria are where the patriarchs in the bible lived and where all the events following the Exodus from Egypt took place. Judea and Samaria are the historic heartland of the Jewish People.