

April 16, 2019

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you for your friendship towards the Jewish community in the United States and around the world, especially in Israel. Your unprecedented affinity for the Jewish People is all the more commendable, given the inexcusable and deplorable false accusations of Antisemitism which have dogged your presidency since its earliest days. We encourage the continuation of a warm relationship with the Jewish community built upon mutual respect.

We were distressed to read an open letter publicized by several American Jewish organizations, many of whom “boycotted” some of your previous overtures to the Jewish community, encouraging you to pressure Israel to compromise her rights as an independent democracy. One of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s pledges, made while campaigning for his recent re-election, was to extend Israeli sovereignty over Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria. Throughout your presidency, you have done everything possible to keep your own campaign promises — with the move of the US Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, pledged by every President since Bill Clinton, being a prime example.

For decades, Israel has attempted to nurture coexistence with Arab communities which desire to live outside Israeli governance, while retaining control over its borders and national security in that very hostile part of the world. Both Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama recognized that Israeli sovereignty would extend to Jewish towns in Judea and Samaria in any final peace agreement.

It is unfair and unreasonable to hold these Jewish communities hostage to the continuing intransigence of the Palestinian Authority. And it is outrageous to suggest setting policy to kowtow to the Antisemitic, terrorist-financed effort to boycott the world’s only Jewish state.

We note with dismay that the letter from left-wing groups makes no mention of the unbroken 3300-year heritage of the unique religious and historical connection between Jews and the Land of Israel, including Judea and Samaria, from which Jews were only removed via massacres and ethnic cleansing. It also makes no mention of the unceasing hostility Jews have faced since establishing contemporary self-governance in their homeland.

Left-wing groups have a long and well-documented history of pressuring Israel into making terrible decisions which have cost countless Jewish and Arab lives. If these letter-writers truly wish to influence the government of modern Israel, this is easily accomplished... by moving

there and casting a ballot in its next election. But were they to do so, they would soon recognize that Israel's security needs look very different "up close and personal."

We gratefully acknowledge your ongoing support for Israel's self-determination and its right to defend and protect itself, and look forward to the continued strengthening of America's special relationship with Israel in the days and years ahead.

הנותן תשועה למלכים וממשלה לנסיכים, מלכותו מלכות כל עולמים, יברך ויברך כל שרי המדינה.

May He who gives salvation unto kings and dominion unto princes, whose Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom, grant His blessings unto you and your administration.

Most respectfully,

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Coalition for Jewish Values

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Shani Hikind, Director
American Friends of Ateret Cohanim

Judy Kadish, Executive Director
Americans for a Safe Israel

Carol Greenwald, Founder
Coalition of Pro-Israel Activists

Rabbi Jonah Gewirtz, Co-Chairman
Coordinating Council for the Jewish Homeland

Sarah Stern, President
Endowment for Middle East Truth

Elizabeth Pipko, Founder
Exodus Movement

Moshe Phillips, National Director, U.S. Division
Herut North America

Richard Allen, Director
JCC Watch

Jeff Ballabon, Founder
JExodus

Rabbi Aryeh Spero, Director
National Conference on Jewish Affairs

Duvy Honig, Executive Director
Orthodox Jewish Chamber of Commerce

Laurie Cardozo-Moore, President
Proclaiming Justice to the Nations

Rabbi Mendy Mirocznik, Executive Director
Rabbinical Alliance of America

Matt Brooks, Executive Director
Republican Jewish Coalition

Charlie Kirk, Executive Director
Turning Point USA

Dr. Joseph Frager, Founder
Young Israel - Chovevei Tzion

Rabbi Yitz Tandler, Executive Director
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Morton Klein, President
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