

Dear Senator,

We urge all Senators to oppose President Biden's nomination of Jack Lew to become the next Ambassador to Israel.

While the atrocities recently committed in Israel highlight the urgency to fill this post, it's important that the U.S. have an ambassador who can strengthen, and not degrade, ties with America's most important ally in the Middle East. That post must be filled by someone who will not embolden America's enemies, namely Iran and their proxy terrorist groups, Hamas and Hezbollah. That man is not Jack Lew.

Lew's resume is filled with notable red flags that disqualify him for the role of ambassador. Chief among them is that Lew was a key player in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), more commonly known as the Iran nuclear deal. At a [2015 conference](#) hosted by the *Jerusalem Post*, Lew promised the Jewish community that the Obama administration's goal with the JCPOA was to "guarantee that Iran never obtains a nuclear weapon." But in reality Iran is [closer to obtaining nuclear weapons](#) after the deal than before.

It'll take more than tough words to deter the world's largest state sponsor of terror to stop pursuing their goal of obtaining nuclear arms. The administration argued that the restrictions imposed by the [JCPOA](#) would sufficiently prevent Iran's nuclear development program. But in exchange for complying with those restrictions, Iran received \$150 billion of sanctions relief, as if the Iranian regime would not use those funds for nefarious means. The deal included sunset provisions on those restrictions, allowing Iran to return to normal operations within five years (which happens to be October of this year). Despite arguments that the JCPOA would provide greater accountability, it prevented inspectors from accessing military facilities where nuclear weaponization was likely to take place, made it almost impossible for inspectors to visit undeclared sites, and gave Iran long advance time before inspections.

The Israeli government opposed the deal at the time and continues to do so, yet the Biden Administration has been shamefully trying to revive it. It is no wonder why they are now pushing for one of the JCPOA's key defenders to be the Ambassador to Israel.

Lew also advised President Obama not to veto UN Security Council Resolution 2334. The resolution was a radically anti-Israel statement that claimed all of East Jerusalem, which contains the Temple Mount, the Western Wall, Jerusalem's Jewish Quarter, Judea/Samaria, and the Mount of Olives Jewish cemetery as occupied territory. It condemned any Israeli settlements there and in other Palestinian controlled areas, saying that those communities have "no legal validity and [constitute] a flagrant violation of international law." At his confirmation hearing, Lew argued that the administration chose not to veto the measure because otherwise, the UN would have passed a worse resolution. This weak response is in line with Lew's career of giving lip-service to Israel while refusing to act against its enemies.

Lew also argued that UNSC 2334 was in line with American policy, but Congress overwhelmingly passed the bipartisan H. Res. 11, condemning the resolution. It is concerning

that his views are so out of step with the American people’s representatives from both sides of the aisle.

Lew’s tenure as Treasury Secretary oversaw several egregious missteps regarding Middle East policy, such as the Obama administration’s transfer of \$1.7 billion in cash to the Iranian regime in 2017 and the release of [\\$221 million](#) to the Palestinian Authority, a group known to incentivize [terrorist](#) activities through its “pay to slay” program. At his confirmation hearing, Lew refused to say that sending those funds to Gaza was a mistake, even in light of the recent attack on Israel. All this while Lew continues to ludicrously claim that “no administration ha[d] done more for Israel’s security than [the Obama administration].”

Lew also refused to denounce the recent \$6 billion given to Iran just before the attack on Israel. When pressed at his hearing, he said that terrorism is “not very expensive,” that Iran will fund organizations like Hamas whether they receive American aid or not. Most people would see this as a reason not to send the regime billions of dollars, but not Jack Lew. He is unfit to serve our nation as the next Israel Ambassador.

In a time of such turbulence, America needs an ambassador who will stand by its ally Israel, someone capable of pursuing a Middle Eastern policy that leads to peace. Instead, Jack Lew has time and again given into to the demands of an America and Israel-hating regime. We urge all Senators to vigorously oppose his nomination.

Sincerely,

Penny Nance,  
CEO and President  
Concerned Women for America

Quena Gonzalez  
Senior Director for Government Affairs  
Family Research Council

Rabbi Yoel Schonfeld  
President  
Coalition for Jewish Values

Paul Teller  
Executive Director  
Advancing American Freedom

Morton Klein  
National Director  
Zionist Org. of America

Tom McClusky  
Director of Government Affairs  
CatholicVote

Ryan Walker  
Executive Vice President  
Heritage Action

Elaine Donnelly  
President  
Center for Military Readiness  
(*Title for ID only*)

Jon Schweppe  
Policy Director  
American Principles Project

Kristen A. Ullman  
President  
Eagle Forum