

Trump Administration Palestinian-Israeli Plan: Leaks

The following constitutes the available information on the secret U.S. plan to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. None of them have been verified and some of them have been denied.

1 – Feb. 28, 2018: Leaks from “knowledgeable Arab diplomatic sources” quoted in *Asharq al-Awsat* and reported by [Khaled Abu Toameh](#) in the *Times of Israel*:

- U.S. **recognition of a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital,**
- Place the **Old City of Jerusalem under “international protection.”**
- Palestinians give up their demand for a **“right of return.”**
- Large **Jewish towns on the West Bank** to remain in place, small settlements to be “relocated.”
- Expand the PA’s security and administrative authorities in **areas A and B** of the West Bank.
- **\$40 billion** to be given to the Palestinian Authority to help establish a Palestinian state and its government institutions.
- An international **conference** to be held in one of the Arab capitals, most likely Cairo, with Israelis in attendance.

2 – Mar. 2, 2018: Palestinian Authority negotiator Saeb Erekat has released a very different Trump plan, one far more favorable to Israel, again reported by [Khaled Abu Toameh](#):

- Recognition of **Jerusalem as Israel’s capital** and moving the US embassy to the city. (This, according to Erekat, would mean accepting the annexation of East Jerusalem to Israel.)
- The Trump administration would “invent” a **capital for a Palestinian** state in the suburbs of Jerusalem (outside the current municipal boundaries of the city).
- The Trump administration would announce within a period of two-three months its recognition of the annexation of **settlement blocs**. Trump, according to the report, is proposing the annexation of 10 percent of the West Bank, while Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wants to annex 15%.
- The Trump administration would then announce a **joint security** concept for Israel and the Palestinian state as peace partners. The concept would include the establishment of a demilitarized Palestinian state with a strong police force; bilateral, regional and international security collaboration with the participation of Jordan, Egypt and the US, while leaving the door open for other countries to join in; the presence of Israeli forces along the Jordan River and “central hills” in the West Bank to protect the two states; and giving Israel overriding security responsibility for emergency cases.
- An Israeli withdrawal and gradual **redeployment** outside Areas A (currently under full Palestinian control) and B (currently under joint control) of the West Bank, while handing over control of new territories from Area C (currently under Israeli control) to Palestinians, based on the performance of the PA (no timetable set), after which a Palestinian state would be announced within these borders.
- The world would **recognize** Israel as the homeland of the Jewish people.
- The world would **recognize** the Palestinian state as the homeland of the Palestinian people.
- Israel would guarantee freedom of worship to all religious sites by maintaining the status quo.
- Parts of the Ashdod and Haifa **ports** and Ben Gurion Airport would be allocated for Palestinian use, while security responsibility would remain in the hands of Israel.
- Palestinians would have presence at international **border crossings**, while overriding security responsibility will remain in Israel’s hands.
- Territorial waters, airspace and electromagnetic waves will remain under **Israeli control**, without

prejudicing the needs of the Palestinian state.

- A safe **passageway** would be opened between the West Bank and Gaza Strip under Israeli sovereignty.
- A just solution would be found for the issue of the **refugees** in the context of the future Palestinian state.

3 – Mar. 9, 2018: More from [Khaled Abu Toameh](#), this time reporting on an article in the Egyptian newspaper *Al-Shorouk*:

The Americans, according to the report, have notified some Arab capitals that Trump’s decision to move the **US embassy** from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem was “part of an American effort to persuade Israel, especially the hardliners, to agree to possible concessions to the Palestinians.”

4 – Mar. 25, 2018: Writing in *Al-Monitor*, [Uri Savir](#) has another Trump plan leak to offer, from “a senior US diplomat in Tel Aviv”. He characterizes it as a “two-state solution ... that Netanyahu could accept” and “much closer to Israel’s positions than to the Palestinian positions.”

- Palestinian East **Jerusalem** neighborhoods will be part of the Palestinian state, but not the Old City, except for religious jurisdiction on the mosques together with Jordan.
- It would be proposed that the Palestinians adopt East Jerusalem neighborhood **Abu Dis** as their capital.
- The Palestinian state will have **limited sovereignty** on limited territory (about half of the West Bank and all of the Gaza Strip), with Israel responsible for security for much of the West Bank and the border passages.
- The **Jordan Valley** will be under Israeli jurisdiction with an Israeli military presence.
- **Gaza** will be part of the Palestinian state provided that Hamas is disarmed.
- There will be no **right of return** to sovereign Israel for Palestinian refugees. A compensation mechanism for refugees will be established by the international community.
- The US plan demands that Israel be **recognized** as the homeland of the Jewish people and Palestine, with limited sovereignty, as the homeland for Palestinians.
- The White House plans to offer the Palestinians a very significant **economic assistance** package. This package would engage the United States, the European Union and Saudi Arabia.
- Regional **anti-terror cooperation** as well as regional normalization with Israel will take place, according to the 2002 Arab Peace Initiative.
- On the basis of this plan, the parties will negotiate a detailed agreement, to be reached by 2021.

5 – May 4, 2018: The office of Israel’s Minister of Defense [Avigdor Liberman](#) after his visit to Washington:

The Trump administration will ask Israel to withdraw from four Arab neighborhoods in east Jerusalem, which will likely become the capital of a future Palestinian state. ... The transfer of control over the **neighborhoods** – Jebel Mukabar, Isawiya, Shuafat and Abu Dis – was presented to Liberman as just one piece of the larger peace plan the administration has been working on over the last year. Israel, the officials indicated, would be expected to accept the plan once it is presented despite the potentially painful concessions. ... US officials categorically denied the report

6 – Oct. 15, 2018: [Khaled Abu Toameh](#) reports:

According to a [statement](#) issued by Fatah in Ramallah, the (unseen) “deal of the century” requires Palestinians to “give up Jerusalem and the right of return and the right for compensation for Palestinian

refugees.” Trump’s plan, according to Fatah’s imagination, also envisages separating the West Bank from the Gaza Strip “to prevent the establishment of an independent and sovereign state, on the pre-1967 armistice lines, with Jerusalem as its capital.”

7 – Dec. 24, 2018: [Ben Caspit](#) leaks alleged Trump plan details at *Al-Monitor* It

includes a clear partition of Jerusalem into **three sections**, and "it is not about a Palestinian capital in Abu-Dis (a Palestinian village in the Jerusalem governance area) but in significant sections of East Jerusalem." According to the source, there will be two capitals in Jerusalem: the Israeli capital in West Jerusalem including control over the Western Wall and Jewish neighborhoods in the city's eastern sections, and the capital of Palestine in the eastern section. In addition will be a third region, within the Holy Basin, to be under **international control**.

8 – Jan. 2, 2019: Citing Palestinian officials, [Al-Hayat](#) reports that Avigdor Liberman told details of Trump’s plan to Palestinians before he resigned as Israel’s defense minister in November.

- The establishment of a sovereign **Palestinian state** headquartered in Gaza, with Arab residents of the West Bank citizens of this state.
- West Bank Palestinians do not control land but enjoy **self-rule** in all of Area A, parts of Areas B and C. (To recall, the Oslo Accords, designated Area A as governed entirely by Palestinians, Area B under Palestinian civil and Israeli military administration, and Area C under Israeli military and civil control.)
- Economic incentives for the Palestinians, including large donations to build infrastructure in Gaza, including an **airport and a sea port**.
- Israel maintains control of West Bank **borders and crossings**, as well as over security and water.
- Israel keeps the **Jordan Valley**.
- Israel controls “a large part” of **eastern Jerusalem** (whatever that means).
- Israeli **communities in the West Bank** remain; but it’s not clear if this means some or all of them.

9 – Jan. 16, 2019: From Israel’s [Hadashot 13](#) television news, reports on the basis of an anonymous U.S. source that Trump’s plan

- “includes the establishment of a **Palestinian state** in about 90 percent of Judea and Samaria, with at least part of eastern Jerusalem as its capital.”
- demands “that isolated **settlements** outside the blocs not be expanded and outposts considered illegal by Israeli law be evacuated.”
- gives the Palestinian state “more than twice the total area of **Areas A and B** under the control of the Palestinian Authority today.”
- divides “**Jerusalem** from a sovereign perspective into two capitals - Israel’s in the west of the city and parts of eastern Jerusalem, and the Palestinian one in the Arab neighborhoods of eastern Jerusalem.”
- leaves “the **Temple Mount**, the Western Wall and the Mount of Olives ... under Israeli sovereignty, but with full administrative partnership with the Palestinians.”

10 – Feb. 11, 2019 update: [Jackson Richman](#) of JNS reports from “an informed source hearing from top Trump administration officials” that the deal

will include U.S. recognition of Palestine with contingencies, according to the source, who was not provided the specifics behind the conditions. The capital of the Palestinian state will consist of remote parts of eastern Jerusalem, said the source. ... Additionally, the peace plan includes official U.S. recognition of large Israeli towns in Judea and Samaria, according to the source, who did not know which ones.