



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## MEMBER/OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for travel taken in connection with a Member or officer's official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual *Financial Disclosure Statement*. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, by email at [gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov](mailto:gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov), within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Name of Traveler: Rep. Jim McGovern

2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** None

b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): N/A

3. a. Dates: Departure: 2/17/23 Return: 2/24/23

b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** None

4. Departure City: DC Destination: Israel Return City: DC

5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: J Street Education Fund

6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary):  
I participated in several high-level meetings and briefings, as well as meeting with local residents, to more fully understand the nuances of the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Full itinerary attached ("FINAL MOC J Street CODEL Itinerary").

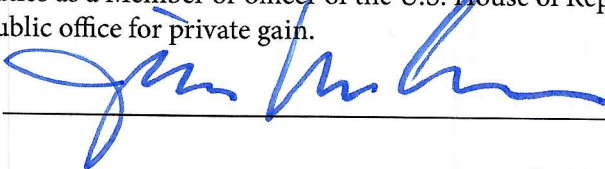
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:

- a.  a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
- b.  the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
- c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the Member or officer; **and**
- d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.

8. a.  I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda.  
**Signify statement is true by checking the box.**

b. If not, explain:

**I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.** I have determined that all of the expenses on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

Member / Officer Signature: 

Date: 03/09/2023



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original  Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within ten days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Travel Destination(s): \_\_\_\_\_
3. Date of Departure: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Return: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*Note:* You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

5. Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler				
Accompanying Family Member				

6.  All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box.

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

- I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.**

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.





U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: James P. McGovern
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:  
J Street Education Fund
3. City and State OR Foreign Country of Travel: Israel and the West Bank
4. a. Date of Departure: Friday, February 17 Date of Return: Friday, February 24  
b. Yes  No  Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  
If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Yes  No  Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**  
(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) Yes  No  Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:
6. a. Yes  No  Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?  
b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:
7. Yes  No  *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.  
  
*NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.*
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties.  
**Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**  
Congressman McGovern last visited Israel in the early 2000s and this trip will provide him an opportunity to participate in a number of meetings and site visits to gain an updated and more nuanced understanding of the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This trip will help inform his work on relevant matters that may come before Congress.
9. Yes  No  **Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

### ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member  Date 01/13/2023



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee website ([ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.**

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:
2.  I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*
3. **Check only one.** I represent that:
  - a.  The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip: **OR**
  - b.  The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds: **OR**
  - c.  The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.  
If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors:
4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary):
5. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of return: \_\_\_\_\_
7. a. City of departure: \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Destination(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
c. City of return: \_\_\_\_\_
8. **Check only one.** I represent that:
  - a.  The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: **OR**
  - b.  The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: **OR**
  - c.  The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
9. **Check only one of the following:**
  - a.  I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
  - b.  I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
  - c.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
  - d.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:





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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

10.  Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*
11. **Check only one of the following:**
- a.  I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box; OR*
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For **each** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip **and** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_ )
- b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_ )
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
14.  I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*
15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a.  The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
- b.  The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation.  
If "b" is checked:
- 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided):
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_
- Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_
- Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_
17.  I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*



# U.S. House of Representatives COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

### 18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee			
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee		
For each Accompanying Family Member		

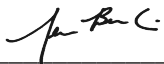
**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

### 19. Check only one:

- a.  I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b.  *Not Applicable*. Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

### 20. I certify by my signature that

- a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
- b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and
- c. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

## INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the agenda, invitation list, any attachments, and any *Additional Trip Sponsor Forms* directly to the Travelers.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

**Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.**

**For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:**

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

[ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov](mailto:ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov) | 202-225-7103  
More information and forms available at [ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)

Michael Guest, Mississippi  
*Chairman*  
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania  
*Ranking Member*

Dave Joyce, Ohio  
John H. Rutherford, Florida  
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York  
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas  
Mark DeSaulnier, California  
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina  
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

**U.S. House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

Kelle A. Strickland  
*Counsel to the Chairman*

David Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

February 14, 2023

The Honorable James P. McGovern  
U.S. House of Representatives  
370 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Israel,<sup>1</sup> scheduled for February 17 to 24, 2023, sponsored by J Street Education Fund.

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than the reporting threshold from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. That reporting threshold is currently \$415 but is set to adjust in 2023. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$415] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

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<sup>1</sup> Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or ohsstaff@mail.house.gov. House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Guest". The first letter "M" is large and loops around the first few letters of the name.

Michael Guest  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Wild". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "S" being particularly large and stylized.

Susan Wild  
Ranking Member

MG/SW:rp





## The Len Hill Education Program

*Dedicated to providing American policymakers and opinion leaders with balanced information that lays the groundwork for pursuing Israeli- Palestinian peace through diplomacy*

**February 18-23, 2023**

**MISSION GOALS:** *The aim of the mission is to explore the current state of affairs and facts on the ground in the region, while gaining increased understanding of the challenges and the opportunities in both Israeli and Palestinian politics today. The delegation will be particularly focused on the role of U.S. policy and the options for American assistance in moving toward peaceful resolution of long-running conflicts in the region.*

**DISCLAIMER:** *One of the objectives of this trip is to provide participants with a window into the broad spectrum of opinions related to the conflict and its resolution in order to foster a deeper understanding of the complexities of the issues at hand. Therefore, we will meet with individuals and groups engaged in various activities or political agendas. In some cases, the policies of the J Street Education Fund diverge from the beliefs of speakers; however, we recognize the importance of trying to understand one another's viewpoint.*

ITINERARY
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### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18: WELCOME

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4:00 – 7:30 PM Members of Congress Arrive

**\*\*\*DRESS CODE: BUSINESS CASUAL**

7:00 PM Meet in the hotel lobby (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) to depart for dinner

7:30 – 9:00 PM Welcome Dinner and Introduction to the Current Political Moment in Israel  
*Participants will have the opportunity to introduce themselves, and journalist Tal Shalev will provide an overview of the current political moment in Israel.*

**Speaker:** Tal Shalev, Walla News

**Location:** Kalamata, 10 Kikar Kdumim, Tel Aviv-Yafo

8:30 – 9:30 PM Light Dinner for Late Arriving Members of Congress

*A light dinner will be served at the hotel for Members of Congress who are arriving later in the evening.*

**Location:** David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

***Hotel:*** *David Intercontinental Hotel | 12 Kaufman Street, Tel Aviv| +972-3-795-1111*

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**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19: ISRAEL: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE**

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**\*\*\*DRESS CODE: CASUAL**

6:30 – 8:15 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

**8:15 – 10:00 AM Seminar: Israeli-Palestinian Conflict 101**

*This session will serve as an orientation, with the goal of framing the week ahead in light of the history, geography and political dynamics in the region.*

**Speaker:** Jeremy Ben-Ami, President, J Street

**Location:** Gallery Room, David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

10:00 – 10:20 AM Drive to Peres Center for Peace and Innovation

**10:30 – 11:45 AM Tour of the Peres Center for Peace and Innovation**

*The Israeli Innovation Center is the first and largest visitor's center of its kind. It presents the incredible story of Israel, the Innovation Nation, showcases the diverse fields and people behind Israeli innovation, and welcomes visitors from Israel and around the world with the aim of promoting a better future of prosperity and peace.*

**Location:** Peres Center for Peace and Innovation

11:45 – 12:00 PM Short break

**12:00 – 1:00 PM Presentation: Shimon Peres's Legacy of Peace**

*We will hear about Shimon Peres's legacy of peace from our own Nadav Tamir, who served as adviser to President Shimon Peres.*

**Speaker:** Nadav Tamir, Executive Director, J Street Israel

**Location:** Peres Center for Peace and Innovation

1:00 - 1:30 PM Drive to Lunch

1:30 - 3:00 PM

**Lunch Session: Israeli Politics and Public Opinion 101**

*An introduction to the Israeli political system, including structure, political parties, and political trends.*

**Speaker:** Dr. Dahlia Scheindlin, Political Analyst

**Location:** Ruth Daniel Residence Hotel, 1 Derekh Ben-Zvi, Tel Aviv

3:30 – 4:30 PM IDF Strategic Briefing

*This IDF briefing will acquaint us with the major security threats Israel currently faces in the region.*

**Speaker:** Brig. Gen. Dr. Oren Setter, IDF Strategic Division

**Location:** Ruth Daniel Residence Hotel, 1 Derekh Ben-Zvi, Tel Aviv

5:00 – 6:00 PM Optional Walking Tour: Vision of Zionism

*The modern State of Israel was born in 1948, based on an idea of reclaiming Jewish history and the Jewish people's right to self-determination. On this walking tour, we explore sites related to the Israeli founding fathers' vision, including anecdotes about Jeremy Ben-Ami's ancestors, who were among the founders of Tel Aviv.*

**Guide:** Jeremy Ben-Ami, President, J Street

**Location:** Neve Tzedek and Rothschild Blvd, Tel Aviv

6:00 – 7:00 PM Executive Time

7:00 PM

**Meet in the hotel lobby (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) to depart for dinner**

7:30 – 9:00 PM Dinner Briefing: The Palestinian National Movement and Politics

*We will learn about the development of the Palestinian National Movement, including the institutions and political parties that exist today.*

**Speaker:** Prof. Bashir Bashir, Senior Research Fellow, Van Leer Jerusalem Institute and Associate Professor, Open University of Israel

**Location:** Blue Rooster, 10 Nissim Aloni St., Tel Aviv

***Hotel: David Intercontinental Hotel / 12 Kaufman Street, Tel Aviv/ +972-3-795-1111***

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**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20: GAZA BORDER**

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*\*Logistical note: We will be checking out of the hotel today. Before we meet, please (1) bring your luggage to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to be loaded to the bus; (2) settle any additional items charged to your room at the front desk and (3) bring your passports with you.*

**\*\*\*DRESS CODE: BUSINESS CASUAL**

6:30 – 8:00 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

7:30 – 8:00 AM Drop off luggage in hotel lobby (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

8:00 AM Meet in lobby to load luggage on to the bus and depart

8:15 – 9:45 AM Bus Briefing en route to Kfar Aza: Israel-Gaza Relations

*Overview of Israeli policy on Gaza and major events that have influenced Israel-Hamas relations.*

**Speaker:** Jeremy Ben-Ami, President, J Street

9:45 - 10:15 AM

**Visit to Iron Dome Site**

*Participants will have the opportunity to view and learn about the Iron Dome missile-defense system.*

**Location:** Ibim

10:15 – 10:30 AM

Drive to Kibbutz Kfar Aza

10:30 – 12:00 PM

**Kibbutz Kfar Aza Visit**

*We will tour Kibbutz Kfar Aza and discuss life for Israelis in the Gaza perimeter and the effects of continuous escalations and rocket fire from Gaza on Israeli residents of the area.*

**Speaker:** Chen Kotler, Kibbutz Kfar Aza Resident

**Location:** Kibbutz Kfar Aza

12:00 – 1:30 PM

**Lunch Session: Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza**

*In this briefing, we will learn about life in Gaza and the variety of humanitarian issues Gazans face, such as restrictions on freedom of movement and access to healthcare.*

**Speakers:**

Tania Hary, Executive Director, Gisha – Legal Center for Freedom of Movement

Mohammed Azaiza, Field Coordinator, Gisha – Legal Center for Freedom of Movement

Heather Sonner, Special Assistant to the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process

1:30 – 3:30 PM Drive to Jerusalem

3:30 – 4:00 PM Arrival at the Knesset + Security Check

**4:00 – 5:30 PM Political Meetings with Members of Knesset**

*We will meet with Members of Knesset from various political parties in order to hear their perspectives on current events as well as their domestic and foreign policy priorities.*

**4:00 – 4:30 PM Meeting with Head of the Opposition and Chair of the Yesh Atid Party MK Yair Lapid**

**4:30 – 5:00 PM Meeting with Chair of Israeli Labor Party MK Merav Michaeli**

**5:00 – 5:30 PM Meeting with Chair of the Ra'am Party (United Arab List) MK Mansour Abbas**

5:30 – 6:00 PM Drive to hotel

6:00 – 7:00 PM Check-in to the hotel

**7:20 PM Meet in lobby to walk to the cocktail reception**

**7:30 – 9:00 PM Cocktail Reception with Israeli Politicians, Business, and Civil Society Leaders**

*At the reception, we will be joined by Israeli politicians as well as business and civil society leaders to hear their perspectives on the current moment in Israel, peace, and diplomacy.*

**Location:** Persona, 12 Hebron Rd, Jerusalem

***Hotel:*** *Orient Jerusalem Hotel / 3 Emek Refa'im St., Jerusalem / +972-2-569-9090*

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**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21: JERUSALEM**

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***\*\*\*DRESS CODE: BUSINESS***

**8:20 AM Meet in lobby to depart for breakfast program**

**8:30 – 11:00 AM East Jerusalem Geopolitical tour**

*On this tour, we will visit areas of contention in East Jerusalem and evaluate the latest developments in Jerusalem and their impact on a potential solution for the core issue of Jerusalem.*

**Guide:** Adv. Daniel Seidemann, Founder, Terrestrial Jerusalem

11:00 – 11:45 AM Arrival at the President's Residence + security

11:45 – 12:30 PM **Meeting with Israeli President Isaac Herzog**

12:30 – 1:00 PM Drive to lunch

1:00 – 3:00 PM **Lunch Briefing: Peace Now and the US Embassy**

*First, analysis from Peace Now Executive Director on recent announcements related to settlement construction, then, a briefing from a US Embassy political counselor about US policy.*

**Speakers:**

Lior Amihai, Executive Director, Peace Now

Lourdes Lamela, Political Counselor, Office of Palestinian Affairs

3:00 – 4:00 PM Drive to Cassia Hotel and short break

4:00 - 5:00 PM **Meeting with the US Ambassador to Israel Thomas Nides**

*Hear about US policy in the region - the current approach and priorities of the Biden Administration, specifically as it relates to policies and actions that advance a resolution to the conflict.*

**Location:** Cassia Hotel, King David St 32, Jerusalem

5:00 – 7:00 PM Executive time

7:00 PM **Meet in hotel lobby to depart for dinner**

7:30 – 9:00 PM **Dinner Discussion: Life as a Palestinian in East Jerusalem**

*We will be joined by several Palestinian residents of Jerusalem who are active in public or private sector in East Jerusalem. We will hear about the challenges they are faced with as Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem.*

**Speakers:**

Ahmad Muna, Educational Bookshop

Rula Salameh, Just Vision

Tha'er Jalloud, UNRWA

Suma Qawasmi, Kids4Peace

Rana Qutteineh, JEST – Home of Entrepreneurs



**Location:** Ambassador Hotel, 5 Nablus Rd., Jerusalem

***Hotel:*** ***Orient Jerusalem Hotel / 3 Emek Refa'im St., Jerusalem / +972-2-569-9090***

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22: WEST BANK – FACTS ON THE GROUND

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**\*\*\*DRESS CODE: CASUAL – MODEST DRESS**

6:30 – 8:00 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

**8:00 – 9:00 AM Breakfast Briefing: Introduction to Settlements**

*In the briefing, we will lay the necessary groundwork to understand the current state and political agenda of the Israeli settlement enterprise. We will learn about its history and evolution, as well as the long-term vision and strategy of the Israeli settlement movement.*

**Speaker:** Yehuda Shaul

**Location:** Smadar Hall located in the main dining hall at the Orient Hotel

9:15 – 10:15 AM Drive to Hebron

**10:15 – 12:00 PM Walking Tour of Hebron**

*On this walking tour of Hebron, we will visit the H2 area, see checkpoints in the city and see the Jewish settlement of Hebron.*

**Guide:** Avner Gvaryahu

12:00 – 1:00 PM Drive to the South Hebron Hills

**1:00 – 2:30 PM Lunch at Palestinian Village Susya**

*Learn about the situation of Palestinians living in the South Hebron Hills in Area C of the West Bank, in communities under pending demolition orders. We will be joined by a Palestinian resident and activist to hear firsthand about life in the region.*

**Speaker:** Nasser Nawaja, Palestinian human rights activist and Susya resident

2:30 – 4:30 PM Drive to Jerusalem

4:30 – 5:00 PM Arrival at the Prime Minister's Office

**5:00 – 6:30 PM Members of Congress Meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu**

**7:00 PM Meet in lobby to depart to dinner**

**7:30 – 9:00 PM Dinner Discussion: US Role Moving Forward**

*Members of Congress will have the opportunity to reflect on their experiences thus far. We will then hear from security and policy experts who will share their perspectives on the impacts of the current and proposed government policies, while also addressing the important role of the US moving forward.*

**Speaker:** Brig. Gen. (res.) Udi Dekel, Institute for National Security Studies

**Location:** Touro, Sh.A. Nakhon St 2, Jerusalem

**Hotel:** *Orient Jerusalem Hotel / 3 Emek Refa'im St., Jerusalem / +972-2-569-9090*

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**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23: ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES**

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*\*Logistical note: Some of us will be checking out of the hotel today. Before we meet, please (1) bring your luggage to the lobby and leave it in the luggage room; (2) settle any additional items charged to your room at the front desk and (3) bring your passports.*

**\*\*\*DRESS CODE: CASUAL – MODEST DRESS**

6:30 – 8:00 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

8:00 AM Meet in the lobby to depart for the Old City

8:15 – 11:15 AM **Optional: Tour of the Old City of Jerusalem**

*We will visit the three major holy sites in the Old City: the Western Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and the Temple Mount / Al Aqsa Mosque compound. We will learn about the religious, historic, and political significance of these holy sites.*

**Guide:** Shalom Kleiman

11:15 – 11:30 AM Drive to lunch

11:30 – 1:00 PM **Lunch Discussion: Palestinian Political Perspective**

*We will discuss the current state of affairs in Palestine and the Palestinian Authority and PLO's political interests and priorities with regard to the US-Palestine relationship, as well as the diplomatic resolution of the conflict.*

**Speaker:** Bashar Azzeh, Co-Director of the Innovative Conflict Transformation project, Geneva Center for Security and Peace; Senior Advisor at the Middle East Project, Herbert Kelman Institute

1:00 – 1:45 PM Drive to Alon Shvut



1:45 – 2:45 PM

**Meeting with Israeli Resident of Gush Etzion**

*An opportunity to hear directly from Israeli settlers living in the West Bank. We will learn what motivates them to establish their homes in the West Bank and what their hopes are for the future.*

**Speaker:** Ruthie Lieberman, Political Consultant

**Location:** Alon Shvut

3:00 – 3:45 PM Drive to Jerusalem

3:45 – 6:00 PM Freshen up before dinner + Check-out

**6:00 – 8:00 PM Farewell Dinner**

*Each participant will have the opportunity to share their takeaways from their experiences over the past week and discuss how this will impact their work in the United States. We will review potential opportunities for action that support a diplomatic and peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.*

**Location:** Orient Hotel

**In addition to the above Traveler Form, please note the following attachments:**

- I. PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM
- II. PARTICIPANT LIST
- III. ADDITIONAL EXPENSES
- IV. ORIGINAL INVITATION
- V. DELEGATION ITINERARY

## **ATTACHMENT II: PARTICIPANT LIST**

As Members of Congress, the following trip participants are asked to vote on legislation related to the issues that will be addressed on this trip surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, US foreign aid, and other policies related to Middle East issues.

Rep. Jim McGovern

Rep. Mike Thompson

Rep. Alma Adams

Rep. Jimmy Gomez

Rep. Colin Allred

Rep. Sharice Davids

Rep. Veronica Escobar

Rep. Mike Levin

Rep. Katie Porter

Rep. Kim Schrier

Rep. Lori Trahan

Rep. Susan Wild

Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez

Rep. Troy Carter

### **ATTACHMENT III. ADDITIONAL PER-PERSON EXPENSES**

\$150 Logistics Coordinator fee  
\$30 Tour Guide  
\$150 Tour bus for duration of trip  
\$100 Meeting room rentals  
\$150 Speaker honoraria  
\$60 Printing  
\$60 Security  
\$65 Photographer  
\$5 COVID testing



US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative **Mc**,

We are pleased to invite you to join a delegation of Members of Congress for an educational trip to Israel and the West Bank sponsored by the J Street Education Fund (JSEF). The trip, which will be on the ground in Israel for five days, will depart on Friday, February 1st and return on Friday, August 24th.

Through this trip, JSEF hopes to provide an opportunity for Members of Congress to achieve a more nuanced understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The trip will enhance your knowledge of the region and the dynamics behind one of the most vexing foreign policy challenges facing the United States. In addition, it will explore the essential role of active, engaged and sustained US diplomatic leadership in bringing about a two-state solution. The program will also include:

- Meetings with senior Israeli and Palestinian Authority government officials, as well as leading non-governmental voices;
- Visits to the West Bank and Gaza periphery
- A visit to historic sites including Jerusalem's Old City;
- A briefing on Israel's security and the Iron Dome missile defense system.

This delegation enables Members of Congress to have a one-of-a-kind experience that gives a unique perspective on what is at stake in the region and how American leadership can help bring about peace. Participants in past JSEF delegations are more than happy to speak with you in greater detail about their experiences and the importance of attending the February 2023 delegation.

All trip related expenses will be paid for by JSEF in compliance with the House Committee on Ethics rules. At least 30 days prior to departure, participants are responsible for submitting the "Primary Trip Sponsor Form," filled out by JSEF, as well as the "Traveler Form." If you have any questions about the rules, please contact the House Committee on Ethics. Prior to the trip, JSEF will conduct a briefing to provide background information and logistics for Members in preparation for their visit.

I hope that you will be able to join us on this important, thought-provoking and educational trip. If you have any questions, please contact Cooper Boyar at (917) 312-1869, or at [cooperboyar@jstreet.org](mailto:cooperboyar@jstreet.org), at any time to discuss the details of the sponsored trip and our organization.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Ben-Ami President  
J Street Education Fund

*The J Street Education Fund (JSEF) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that does not hire or retain registered lobbyists. JSEF is a member of the J Street family of pro-Israel, pro-peace organizations.*





The Len Hill Education Program

Dedicated to providing American policymakers and opinion leaders with balanced information that lays the groundwork for pursuing Israeli-Palestinian peace through diplomacy

**February 18-23, 2023**

ITINERARY

*Flights will depart from IAD, Newark, SFO in the evening of February 17*

**Saturday, February 18**

Mid-afternoon	Flights land in Tel Aviv. Drive to the hotel and check-in
7:30 - 9:00 PM	Welcome Dinner with Israeli Journalist <i>We will kick off the trip with a welcome dinner where participants will introduce themselves and we will provide an overview of the trip, and then we hear about the current political moment in Israel.</i>  Speaker: TBC
9:00 - 10:00 PM	Dinner available at hotel for Members arriving from SFO

*Hotel: David Intercontinental | Kaufmann St 12, Tel Aviv-Yafo, +972-03-795-1111*

**Sunday, February 19**

8:30 - 9:30 AM	J Street Conflict 101 <i>This session will serve as an orientation, with the goal of framing the week ahead in light of the history, geography and political dynamics in the region.</i>  Speaker: Jeremy Ben-Ami, J Street
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- 9:30 - 10:00 AM Drive to Peres Center for Peace and Innovation
- 10:00 - 11:30 AM Guided Tour of Peres Center for Peace and Innovation  
*A docent from the Peres Center will present the story of Israel, the Innovation Nation, and showcase the diverse fields and people behind Israeli innovation.*
- 11:30 - 12:30 PM Presentation on Peres's Peace Legacy  
*In this presentation, we will discuss President Peres's progressive Zionist vision, and the connection between peace and innovation in today's world.*
- Speaker: Nadav Tamir, J Street Israel's new Executive Director and a senior advisor in the Peres Center
- 12:30 - 1:00 PM Drive to Lunch
- 1:00 - 2:20 PM Lunch Session: Israeli Politics and Public Opinion 101  
*An introduction to the Israeli political system, including structure, political parties, and political trends.*
- Speaker: Dahlia Scheindlin, Political Analyst
- 2:30 - 4:00 PM Vision of Zionism - Walking Tour of Tel Aviv  
*The modern State of Israel was born in 1948, based on an idea of reclaiming Jewish history and the Jewish people's right to self-determination. At this tour, we explore the Israeli founding fathers' vision and reflect upon where we are today.*
- Guide:  
Jeremy Ben-Ami
- 4:00 - 6:00 PM Executive time
- 6:00 - 7:00 PM IDF Strategic Briefing  
*The security briefing by the IDF will acquaint us with the major security threats Israel faces on multiple fronts.*
- 7:00 - 7:30 PM Drive to Dinner
- 7:30 - 9:00 PM Dinner Briefing: The Palestinian National Movement and Politics  
*We will learn about the development of the Palestinian National Movement, including the institutions and political parties that exist today.*

*Hotel: David Intercontinental | Kaufmann St 12, Tel Aviv-Yafo, +972-03-795-1111*

**Monday, February 20**

- 8:30 - 9:45 AM Drive to Ibim - Briefing on the bus - Intro to Gaza  
*A brief history on the Gaza strip and Israel's conflict with Hamas.*
- Speaker: Jeremy Ben-Ami
- 9:45 - 10:15 AM Iron Dome site visit  
*Participants will have the opportunity to view and learn about the Iron Dome missile-defense system.*
- 10:15 - 10:30 AM Drive to Kfar Aza
- 10:30 - 12:15 PM Kfar Aza Kibbutz visit  
*We will be led on a tour by local residents in Kfar Aza to discuss Kibbutz life in the Gaza perimeter and the effects of the continuous escalations and rocket fire from Gaza.*
- Speaker: Chen Kotler, resident of Kfar Aza
- 12:15 - 12:30 PM Transition to lunch session
- 12:30 - 2:00 PM Lunch Session: Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza  
*In this briefing, we will learn about life in Gaza, and the variety of humanitarian issues Gazans face, such as restrictions on freedom of movement and access to healthcare.*
- Speakers TBC
- 2:00 - 3:30 PM Drive to Jerusalem
- 3:30 - 4:00 PM Arrival at the Knesset + security
- 4:00 - 5:30 PM Political Meetings with Members of Knesset (TBC)  
*We will meet with Members of Knesset from across the political spectrum. We will have the opportunity to hear the MKs' perspectives on current events as well as domestic and foreign policy priorities.*
- 5:30 - 7:00 PM Drive to hotel and check-in
- 7:00 - 7:30 PM Drive to Dinner

7:30 – 9:00 PM Cocktail Reception with Israeli Politicians, Business, and Civil Society Leaders  
*At the reception, we will be joined by Israeli officials as well as leaders in the business community and civil society to hear their perspectives on peace and diplomacy.*

*Hotel: Orient Hotel | Emek Refa'im St 3, Jerusalem +972 2-569-9090*

**Tuesday, February 21**

8:30 - 9:00 AM Drive to Binyamin Industrial Zone

9:00 - 10:00 AM Meeting with Binyamin Regional Council Representatives  
*An opportunity to hear directly from Israeli settlers living in the West Bank. We will learn what drives them, why they have chosen to make their homes where they have and what their hopes are for the future.*

Speaker:  
Miri Maoz Ovadia, Binyamin Regional Council

10:00 - 11:00 AM Drive to Ramallah - Seminar on the Bus: Palestinian Politics 101  
*In the final portion of the 101 briefing, to help us prepare for our Palestinian political meetings, we will learn about the post-Oslo system of governance in the West Bank and the current state of Palestinian politics.*

11:00 - 12:30 PM Palestinian Political Meeting (TBC)  
*We will discuss the current state of affairs in Palestine and the Palestinian Authority and PLO's political interests and priorities with regard to the US-Palestine relationship, as well as the diplomatic resolution of the conflict.*

12:30 - 1:00 PM Drive to Lunch

1:00 - 2:30 PM Lunch Session: UNRWA site visit  
*We will tour a refugee camp and learn more about UNRWA's work in Ramallah and the surrounding areas.*

Location TBC

2:30 - 4:00 PM Drive to Jerusalem

4:00 - 5:00 PM Palestinian Civil Society Voices  
*In this discussion, we will hear about the recent political turmoil in Palestine; the conflict between the Palestinian Authority and Hamas, the Palestinian*

*public's attitudes towards their leadership, and how this impacts the political and diplomatic agenda.*

- 5:00 - 5:30 PM Drive to the hotel
- 5:30 - 7:00 PM Executive time
- 7:00 - 7:30 PM Depart for dinner
- 7:30 - 9:00 PM Dinner Discussion: De Facto Annexation – A Threat to Israel's Security  
*This session will examine current government policies in the West Bank and their impact on the future of Israel as a secure and democratic homeland for Jewish people from a security perspective*

*Hotel: Orient Hotel | Emek Refa'im St 3, Jerusalem +972 2-569-9090*

### **Wednesday, February 22**

- 8:00 - 9:00 AM Breakfast Briefing: Introduction to Settlements  
*This briefing will include a short presentation on the history of the settler movement, including the role of the Israeli government in settlement building then and today.*
- Speaker:  
Yehuda Shaul
- 9:00 - 9:15 AM Transition
- 9:15 - 10:15 AM Settlement Tour of Gush Etzion  
*On the ground visit to settlements; understanding, settlement blocs, illegal outposts, and ideological settlements, the legal and international ramifications of settlement expansion, as well as potential territorial and security solutions.*
- Guide:  
Yehuda Shaul
- 10:30 - 11:30 AM Drive to South Hebron Hills
- 11:30 – 12:00 PM Masafer Yatta Overlook  
*Learn about the situation of Palestinians living in the South Hebron Hills in Area C of the West Bank, including communities living under demolition orders.*

12:00 - 12:15 PM	Drive to Susya
12:15 - 1:30 PM	Lunch + Discussion in Susya <i>Over lunch, the group will see the village and hear from Nasser, the spokesman of Susya. Nasser will discuss the difficulties the residents of the unrecognized villages are facing, with an emphasis on the history of home demolitions and ongoing water crisis.</i>
1:30 - 2:15 PM	Drive to Hebron
2:15 - 4:00 PM	Walking tour of Hebron <i>On this walking tour of Hebron, we will visit the H2 area, see checkpoints in the city and see the Jewish settlement of Hebron.</i>
	Guide: Avner Gvaryahu
4:00 - 5:30 PM	Drive to Jerusalem
5:30 - 7:10 PM	Executive time
7:10 - 7:30 PM	Walk to Dinner
7:30 - 8:30 PM	Dinner Session with the US Embassy <i>Hear about US policy in the region - the current approach and priorities of the Biden Administration, specifically as it relates to policies and actions that advance a resolution to the conflict.</i>
	Speaker: TBC
8:30 - 9:30 PM	Group Debrief <i>Participants will have the opportunity to share their reactions to the program thus far, ask questions, and discuss the role that the US can take moving forward.</i>

*Hotel:* Orient Hotel | Emek Refa'im St 3, Jerusalem +972 2-569-9090

### **Thursday, February 23**

7:00 - 7:30 AM	Drive to The Old City of Jerusalem
7:30 - 9:30 AM	Optional Tour of the Old City of Jerusalem <i>We will visit the major holy sites of Jerusalem, including the Al Aqsa Mosque / Temple Mount, the Western Wall, and the Church of the Holy</i>



*Sepulchre and learn about their religious, historic, and political significance. We will discuss how the situation in the Old City of Jerusalem impacts the developments on the ground in the region.*

9:30 - 9:45 AM

Transition

9:45 - 11:15 AM

East Jerusalem Geopolitical Tour

*The final status of Jerusalem is considered to be one of the key issues to be negotiated in the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Following the 1967 war, Israel annexed all of East Jerusalem, land which is beyond the Green Line and is inhabited predominantly by Palestinians. On this tour, we will visit areas of contention in East Jerusalem and evaluate the developments in Jerusalem and their impact on a potential solution for the core issue of Jerusalem.*

Guide:

Daniel Seidemann, Founder, Terrestrial Jerusalem

11:15 - 11:30 AM

Transition

11:30 - 1:15 PM

Lunch with East Jerusalem Leaders

*We will be joined by several Palestinian residents of Jerusalem who are active in public or private spheres in East Jerusalem. We will hear about the challenges in their daily lives as residents of East Jerusalem.*

1:15 - 1:45 PM

Drive to Yad V'shem

1:45 - 2:00 PM

Arrival at Yad V'shem + Headset distribution

2:00 - 3:30 PM

Tour and Ceremony at Yad Vashem

*On this tour, we will visit the museum commemorating the Holocaust and the loss of six million Jews. We will pay our respects and lay a wreath in their memory.*

3:30 - 4:00 PM

Drive to Hotel

4:00 - 5:30 PM

Executive time

5:30 - 6:00 PM

Load luggage on to the bus

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Farewell Dinner

*Each participant will have the opportunity to share their takeaways from their experiences over the past week and discuss how this will impact their work in the United States. We will review potential opportunities for action*

*that support a diplomatic and peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.*

Depart for Ben Gurion Airport according to flight departure times

**Friday, February 24**

Flights arrive in US

### **ATTACHMENT III. ADDITIONAL PER-PERSON EXPENSES**

\$127 Logistics Coordinator fee  
\$35 Tour Guide  
\$134 Tour bus for duration of trip  
\$84 Meeting room rentals  
\$79 Speaker honoraria  
\$36 Printing  
\$54 Security  
\$42 Photographer  
\$3 COVID testing