

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER

2017 MAY 25 PM 4:32


EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual Financial Disclosure Statements of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, 135 Cannon House Office Building, 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: John Dutton
2. a. Name of accompanying relative: \_\_\_\_\_ or None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates of departure and return: Departure: May 6, 2017 Return: May 14, 2017  
 b. Dates at personal expense (if any): \_\_\_\_\_ or None
4. Departure city: Wash. DC. Destination: Tel Aviv Return city: Wash. D.C.
5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation (AEIF)
6. Describe meetings and events attended: meetings with Israeli government officials, Israeli non-government organizations, Palestinian Authority, military officials, and private sector industry, including site visits.
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 Grantmaking or Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms;
  - c.  page 2 of the completed Traveler Form submitted by the employee; **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 that statement is true by checking box):   
 b. If not, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

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

SIGNATURE OF TRAVELER:  DATE: 5/25/2017

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure form were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

NAME OF SUPERVISING MEMBER: Andy Harris DATE: 5/25/2017

SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING MEMBER:  M.D.

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

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 10 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): \_\_\_\_\_

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

2. Travel Destination(s): Israel

3. Date of Departure: May 6, 2017 Date of Return: May 14, 2017

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Please see attached

(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 response to Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$6,722.75	\$1,971	\$890.90	\$3,003 breakdown attached
Accompanying Relative	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Richard Fishman Title: Executive Director

Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

I am an officer of the above-named organization (signify statement is true by checking box):

Address: 251 H Street NW

Washington, DC 20001

Telephone number: (202) 639-5233

Email Address: rfishman@aiefdn.org

*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

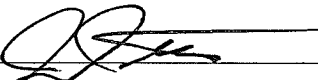
This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. *Form (and any attachments) may be faxed to the Committee at (202) 225-7392, sent or delivered to the Committee at 1015 Longworth, or e-mailed to [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).*

**YOUR COMPLETED REQUEST MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE NO LESS THAN 30 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROPOSED DEPARTURE DATE.** Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.

Name of Traveler: John Dutton

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

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

Signature: 

Name of signatory (if other than traveler): \_\_\_\_\_

For staff, name of employing Member or committee: Rep Andy Harris

Office address: 1533 Longworth House Office Building

Telephone number: 202-225-5311

Email address of contact person: john.dutton@mail.house.gov

- Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

**NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.**

**KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM.** Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee:

Committee on Ethics  
1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-7103 (phone)  
(202) 225-7392 (fax)  
Travel email: [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov)

RECEIVED  
2017 APR -6 PM 12:28  
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics  
TRAVELER FORM

Name of Traveler: John Dutton

2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

3. Travel destination(s): Israel

4. a. Date of departure May 6 Date of return: May 14

b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  Yes  No  
If yes, dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_

5. a. Will you be accompanied by a relative at the sponsor's expense?  Yes  No

b. If yes:  
(1) Name of accompanying relative: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Relationship to traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Accompanying relative is at least 18 years of age:  Yes  No

6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(d) on the Primary Trip Sponsor Form (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent and you are requesting lodging for two nights)?  Yes  No

b. If yes, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Primary Trip Sponsor Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and contributing sponsor forms:  Yes  No

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.

Chief of Staff to Congressman, advise member on policy including foreign aid administered through Committee on Appropriations - of which he is a member.

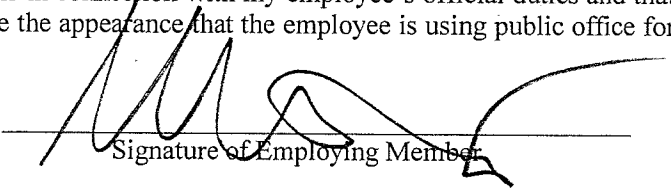
9. Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, and/or arranging the trip?  Yes  No

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.

Date: 4/6/17

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Employing Member

U.S. House of Representatives  
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 Web site (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): \_\_\_\_\_  
American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
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):  
Please see attached
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying relative of the House invitee(s)?  Yes  No
6. Date of departure: May 6, 2017 Date of return: May 14, 2017
7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C.  
b. Destination(s): Israel  
c. City of return: Washington, D.C.
8. I represent that (check one of the following):
  - 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 one of the following:
  - a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above:
  - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging:
  - 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 "d" is checked, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities the 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 one:

- 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. N/A – 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:

AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the fundamental purpose of educating policy makers and opinion leaders about the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this 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:  
n/a

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 box):

15. I represent that either (check one of the following):

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): \_\_\_\_\_  
\$121 (includes meals, snacks, and water on the bus)

2) Provide reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: \_\_\_\_\_  
The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate Congressional staff about the U.S.-Israel relationship.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel name: Mamilla City: Jerusalem Cost per night: \$276, \$326

Reason(s) for selecting: location and affordability (rate is higher during the Sabbath)

Hotel name: Sheraton City: Tel Aviv Cost per night: \$260

Reason(s) for selecting: location and affordability

Hotel name: Galei Kinneret City: Tiberias Cost per night: \$262

Reason(s) for selecting: location and affordability

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 box);

18. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total <i>Transportation</i> Expenses per Participant	Total <i>Lodging</i> Expenses per Participant	Total <i>Meal</i> Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$6,811	\$1,986	\$847.22
For each accompanying relative	n/a	n/a	n/a

	<i>Other</i> Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$2,775.69	breakdown attached
For each accompanying relative	n/a	n/a

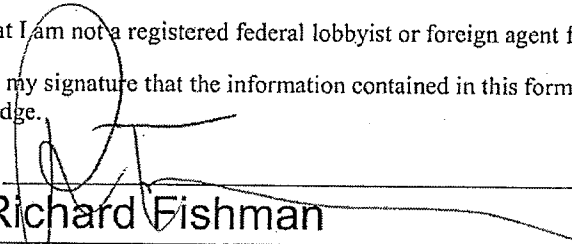
**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

19. Check one:

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below.  *or*  
 b. N/A – sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. I certify that I am not a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent for any sponsor of this trip.

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

Signature: 

Name: Richard Fishman

Title: Executive Director

Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington DC 20001

Telephone number: (202) 639-5233

Email address: rfishman@aiefdn.org

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Ethics  
 U.S. House of Representatives  
 1015 Longworth House Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20515  
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)  
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)

#### 4. Names of Travelers

Alma	Acosta	Executive Director, Congressional Hispanic Caucus	Rep.	Michelle	Lujan Grisham
Dustin	Carmack	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Ron	DeSantis
Captain Mark	Dreiling	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Don	Bacon
John	Dutton	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Andy	Harris
Gina	Foote	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Ted	Poe
Miguel	Franco	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Tony	Cárdenas
Cory	Fritz	Deputy Staff Director, House Foreign Affairs Committee	Rep.	Ed	Royce
James	Langenderfer	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Brian	Mast
Justin	Oswald	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Grace	Meng
Tara	Linnehan Oursler	Chief of Staff	Rep.	C.A. Dutch	Ruppersberger
Michael	Reed	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Sanford	Bishop



Susan W. Brooks, Indiana  
*Chairwoman*  
Theodore E. Deutch, Florida  
*Ranking Member*

Patrick Meehan, Pennsylvania  
Trey Gowdy, South Carolina  
Kenny Marchant, Texas  
Leonard Lance, New Jersey

Yvette D. Clarke, New York  
Jared Polis, Colorado  
Anthony Brown, Maryland  
Steve Cohen, Tennessee



ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

## U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

Donna Herbert  
*Director of Administration*

Sheria A. Clarke  
*Counsel to the Chairwoman*

Daniel J. Taylor  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

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

May 3, 2017

Mr. John Dutton  
Office of the Honorable Andy Harris  
1533 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Dutton:

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 May 6 to 14, 2017, sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF).

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) 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. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$390 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. 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 employees may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$390] 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 filed with the Committee, 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> We note that the U.S. Department of State (State Department) has issued a travel warning concerning travel to Israel, available at <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings/israel-travel-warning.html>. You may wish to contact the State Department regarding the safety of your proposed trip.

Mr. John Dutton  
Page 2

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



Susan W. Brooks  
Chairwoman

Sincerely,



Theodore E. Deutch  
Ranking Member

SWB/TED:wfs

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)**  
**Educational Seminar in Israel**  
**Senior Congressional Staff**  
**May 6-14, 2017, 2017**

**Final Breakdown of Other Expenses**

Security: \$1,135.88 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Speaker Fees: \$596.99 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Travel Agency Commission: \$419 per person (single occupancy)

-AIEF pays an upcharge of 21% per room per night, split between our U.S. and Israeli travel vendors

Tour Guide: \$194.75 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$159.76 per person

Hotels for contract staff (tour guide, bus driver, security guards): \$154.33 per person

Room Rentals: \$188.11 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Transportation for individualized tour of Syrian/Israel border: \$54.22

Entrance Fees: \$33.90 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Photography: \$32.91 per person

-On each trip we take a group photo with a professional photographer

Transportation for guests: \$13.83 per person

-Transportation for guest speakers

Other: \$13.28 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

Tips: \$6.16 per person

-It is customary to tip the driver and tour guide that accompany trip participants.

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)**  
**Educational Seminar in Israel**  
**Senior Congressional Staff**  
**May 6-14, 2017, 2017**

**Breakdown of Other Expenses**

Security: \$888.89 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Speaker Fees: \$500 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Travel Agency Commission: \$419 per person (single occupancy)

-AIEF pays an upcharge of 21% per room per night, split between our U.S. and Israeli travel vendors

Tour Guide: \$212.22 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Hotels for contract staff (tour guide, bus driver, security guards): \$205.56 per person

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$177.78 per person

Room Rentals: \$166.67 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Transportation for individualized tour of Syrian/Israel border: \$66.67

Other: \$61.12 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

Entrance Fees: \$55.56 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Tips: \$22.22 per person

-It is customary to tip the driver and tour guide that accompany trip participants.

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
U.S. Senior Congressional Staff  
May 6 – 14, 2017**

**Itinerary**

**Saturday, May 6, 2017**

- 5:00 PM Depart DCA (Tara Oursler departs BWI)
- 6:27 PM Arrive JFK
- 10:31 PM Depart JFK

**Sunday, May 7, 2017**

- 4:15 PM Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport  
Transfer to Jerusalem  
Check into Mamilla Hotel
- 7:00 PM Depart for dinner
- En route:*  
*Shalom Jerusalem: Introduction to the History of the City*
- 7:45 PM *Setting the Stage*  
Welcome and Orientation  
- at Touro
- 8:15 PM *State of the Nation*  
Dinner with David Horovitz  
Founding Editor, *The Times of Israel*  
- at Touro

**David Horovitz**

David Horovitz is the founding editor of Times of Israel, the leading current affairs website in Israel. Mr. Horovitz is a talented and insightful speaker and is known for providing an illuminating synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli voters.

- 10:00 PM Overnight at Mamilla Hotel

**Monday, May 8, 2017**

7:45 AM Breakfast is served  
- at the hotel

8:00 AM *Israel's Political Map*  
Breakfast with Prof. Reuven Hazan  
Department of Political Science, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**Professor Reuven Hazan**

It is critical for trip participants to have an understanding of the parliamentary system in Israel. Professor Hazan explains how the parliamentary party system works, how coalitions rise and fall, and how Israeli politics differ from American politics. Since the group will be visiting with government officials throughout the week, we believe it's important to provide this overview early in the seminar.

9:15 AM Depart

9:30 AM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem, Part I:  
The Old City and the Historic and Holy Basin*

**Jerusalem**

Throughout its 4,000 year history, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands many times. As home to the world's three great monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — Jerusalem is probably the most disputed city in history. Today, the status of Jerusalem remains the most contentious issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jerusalem has been at the heart of all recent Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, from the Oslo Accords to the Camp David Summit to the Taba negotiations, and in the most recent talks under the auspices of the U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. To understand the current political issues, it is critical to understand Jerusalem's history and the role it has played in shaping the Middle East. This seminar will include site visits to various locations in and around Jerusalem to give participants a first-hand look at the historic significance of the city, as well as its geographic layout.

**Old City of Jerusalem & the Holy Basin**

The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. During the Camp David II talks, the Palestinians and Israelis differed on the Jerusalem question, namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-

Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

12:45 PM Depart

1:15 PM *Israeli Democracy in Action*

Lunch with Members of Knesset

- The Honorable Yehuda Glick (Likud/Coalition)
- The Honorable Yehiel Bar (Zionist Union/Opposition)

- at Piccolino

2:45 PM Depart

3:15 PM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem, Part II:  
Post-1967 Neighborhoods & the Security Barrier*

### **Post-1967 Neighborhoods**

When Jerusalem was reunified in 1967, following 19 years of division, the State of Israel extended the city's boundaries to include the strategic hills surrounding Jerusalem. These hills served as launching pads between 1948 and 1967 for sniper and mortar attacks on Israeli parts of the city by the Jordanian Army. Since 1967, these hills have become vibrant neighborhoods, fully integrated into the fabric of Jerusalem. It is vital for those discussing the issue of Jerusalem to understand these neighborhoods' strategic importance and their relationship to the areas in the immediate vicinity.

### **Security Barrier**

After scores of suicide bombings and daily terrorist attacks against its civilians launched following the breakdown of the Camp David II talks, Israel began construction of a security barrier near the pre-1967 "Green Line" between Israel and the West Bank to prevent Palestinian terrorists from infiltrating into Israeli population centers. Since its construction began, the number of attacks declined by more than 90% and the number of Israelis murdered and wounded decreased by more than 70% and 85%, respectively. The barrier is approximately 455 miles long. To Israel, the security barrier serves as a necessary obstacle to protect its people. To the Palestinians and others in the world, the barrier represents a physical and symbolic divide.

This seminar will survey the security barrier at different points along its route to see first-hand the barrier's construction, the operation of crossing points in and out of Palestinian areas, and the technology that facilitates its operation. Both en route to the barrier and at the barrier itself, the group will explore the competing arguments raised by the Israelis, Palestinians and the international community.

- 4:30 PM Depart
- 5:00 PM *Israel-Palestinian Authority Relations: An Update*  
Meeting with Amb. Dr. Daniel Taub  
Director of Strategy and Planning, Yad Hanadiv  
- at Yad Hanadiv
- 6:15 PM Return to hotel
- 7:45 PM Depart
- 8:00 PM *The Israeli Mosaic*  
Dinner with:
  - Sally Oren, Goodwill Ambassador, IsraAID
  - Tziona Koenig-Yair, Immediate Past National Commissioner, Equal Employment Opportunities Commission
  - Kalman Samuels, Director, Shalva Children's Center
  - Dan Slyper, LGBTQ Caucus, Yesh Atid Party
-at La Guta

**The Israeli Mosaic**

"The Israeli Mosaic" will be a dinner discussion with Israelis representing some of the various societal sectors – all integral parts of the fabric of Israeli society and broader identity. The evening will be an opportunity to gain insight into the Israeli population as a whole, what governs the perspective and decisions of various sectors and to explore how each of the sectors represented fits into Israeli society and informs the collective national narrative.

- 9:45 PM Overnight at Mamilla Hotel  
PLEASE PREPARE FOR NEXT MORNING'S DEPARTURE

**Tuesday, May 9, 2017**

- 7:30 AM Luggage in the lobby  
Check out
- 7:45 AM Breakfast is served  
- at the hotel
- 8:00 AM *Minority Rights in Israel*  
Breakfast with Mohammad Darawshe  
Director of Planning, Equality, and Shared Society,  
Givat Haviva Educational Institute
- 9:15 AM Depart for Yad Vashem



9:45 AM      *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*  
Guided visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

### **Yad Vashem**

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state. The museum's professional docent will guide the group through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

11:45 AM      Depart for Ramallah

12:45 PM      *A View from the Palestinian Authority*  
Lunch with Dr. Saeb Erekat  
Chief Negotiator, Palestinian Authority  
- at the Mövenpick Hotel

2:00 PM      Depart

3:15 PM      *A View from the Prime Minister's Office*  
Meeting with David Keyes  
Foreign Media Advisor, Prime Minister's Office  
- at the Jerusalem Crown Plaza Hotel

4:15 PM      Depart for Tel Aviv

5:30 PM      Check into the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

- 7:30 PM      *Start-Up Nation*  
Dinner with:
- Ziv Aviram, Mobileye
  - Dror Irani, BriefCam
  - Dov Maisel, Hatzala – Israel Rescue
  - Alon Metrikin-Gold, MobileODT
- at Olive Leaf, Sheraton Hotel

### **Start-Up Nation**

Israel is a giant when it comes to innovation: a global leader in R&D spending and Venture Capital investment, and home to global R&D centers for the likes of Google, Apple and IBM. This evening's Start-Up Nation dinner will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

- 9:30 PM      Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

### **Wednesday, May 10, 2017**

- 7:00 AM      Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, Main Dining Hall
- 7:45 AM      Depart for Israel's South
- 8:30 AM      *Save a Child's Heart – Cardiac Care for Children*  
Visit to Wolfson Medical Center  
Followed by a visit to the Children's Rehabilitation Home

### **Save a Child's Heart**

Save a Child's Heart (SACH) is an Israeli-based international, non-profit organization. SACH is committed to saving lives by improving the quality of cardiac care for children from developing countries and creating centers of medical competence in these countries. SACH Israel has saved the lives of over 3,700 children from 50 countries where adequate medical care is simply unavailable. Approximately 50% of these children are from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Iraq and Morocco (countries with whom Israel has either no diplomatic relations or who are in a state of war with Israel). More than 30% are from Africa, and the remainder are from Asia, Eastern Europe and the Americas. These children are treated at the Wolfson Medical Center and housed at the Legacy Heritage Children's Home of Save a Child's Heart, both located in Holon.

- 10:30 AM      Depart

11:30 AM     *The Desalination Era*  
Visit to Granot Desalination Plant  
Briefing with Galit Sasson, Senior Process Engineer  
Mekorot Co., Central District  
CLOSED SHOES REQUIRED

### **Desalination**

Israel is the world leader in innovation designed to overcome water scarcity. Due to its own need for sustainable water, Israel supports innovative methods, technologies, and holistic water resource management. Overcoming the challenges of an arid climate and scarce natural water reserves has always been a vital necessity for the growth of Israel's population and economy since the founding of the state. This has led to continuous improvements in Israel's water sector, through innovation in technology, practice and long-term planning. Israel treats and reuses almost all of the nation's domestic waste water for irrigation in the agricultural sector. Almost half of Israel's drinking water comes from innovative desalination efforts. Dozens of countries from around the world – including the United States – come to Israel to learn its water saving methods.

12:30 PM     Depart

1:00 PM     Lunch  
- at Netachim

1:45 PM     Depart

2:00 PM     *Israel's Southern Front*  
Briefing at Overlook into the Gaza Strip.  
- at Kibbutz Nir Am

### **Israel's Southern Front**

Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines. At Kibbutz Nir Am, participants will be able to see the border between Israel and the Gaza Strip, to better comprehend the landscape of the region, as well as the unique challenges faced by this area. The visit to Kibbutz Kfar Azza and meeting with a local resident will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep, both physically and psychologically.

- 2:30 PM Depart
- 3:00 PM *Living with the Threat of Rocket Fire*  
Visit to Kibbutz Kfar Aza with Chen Abrahams, local resident
- 4:00 PM Depart
- 4:30 PM *Israel's Missile Defense System*  
Visit to the Iron Dome Battery

### **The Iron Dome**

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) typically honors our request to visit an Iron Dome battery, the joint U.S.-Israel funded rocket defense program. The military typically approves any visit to an Iron Dome location the week before the trip due to the constantly shifting security situation on the ground. A visit to an Iron Dome battery includes meeting with the soldiers and the commanding officer. For security reasons, we do not receive the names of the IDF soldiers meeting with the group.

- 5:00 PM Depart for Tel Aviv
- 6:15 PM *360° Bird's Eye View of Israel*  
Briefing at the Azrieli Center Rooftop
- 6:45 PM Depart, return to hotel
- 8:00 PM Depart for dinner
- 8:15 PM *Regional Strategic Briefing: Syria and Iraq*  
Dinner with Dr. Jonathan Spyer  
Director, Rubin Center, IDC Herzliya  
- at Lumina
- 9:30 PM *1967: Fifty Years Later*  
Dessert with the Honorable Dr. Michael Oren  
Deputy Minister for Diplomacy, Prime Minister's Office  
- at Lumina

### **1967**

2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the June 1967 Arab-Israeli war, also known as the Six-Day War. The 1967 war has set the stage for every major event in the Arab-Israeli crisis since. The group will meet with member of Knesset Michael Oren, a renowned historian who wrote the acclaimed account of the war, "Six Days of War: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East." He will discuss how this event shaped the region, and the Arab-Israeli conflict over the past five decades.

11:00 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel  
PLEASE PREPARE FOR NEXT MORNING'S DEPARTURE

**Thursday, May 11, 2017**

7:30 AM Luggage in the lobby  
Check out

7:45 AM Breakfast is served  
- at the hotel

8:00 AM *Regional Threat Assessment*  
Breakfast with Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel  
Immediate Past Director, Counter Terrorism Unit, Prime Minister's Office

9:15 AM Session ends

9:30 AM Depart

10:30 AM *Israel's Narrow Waistline – Strategic Concerns*  
Briefing at Alfei Menashe with Oded Revivi, Mayor of Efrat

**Alfei Menashe**

Alfei Menashe is a Jewish community located on the western edge of the West Bank. Less than 10 miles from the Mediterranean Sea, Alfei Menashe provides a unique vantage point to discuss Israeli settlement policy, the routing of the security barrier, as well as Israel's narrow waistline.

The sliver of Israeli land west of the West Bank is often referred to as the Hadera-Gadera rectangle, with the city of Hadera denoting the northern point, and the city of Gadera the southern point. The Hadera-Gadera rectangle is home to over 50 percent of Israel's population, as well as civilian infrastructure. The area is also home to Israel's "silicon valley", as well as Ben Gurion international airport.

The discussion at Alfei Menashe will allow participants to see firsthand the proximity of Jewish and Arab neighborhoods in both Israel and the West Bank; as well as the strategic threats faced by the Israeli population living in Israel's narrow waistline.

11:30 AM Depart

*En route briefings:*

- *The Jezreel Valley – the Strategic Land Bridge Between Asia and Africa*
- *Upper Galilee – Potential for Development*

### **The Jezreel Valley**

Our tour guide will spend an hour during the drive from Israel's center to the north to provide the delegation a briefing on the Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee and the challenges facing these regions of the country.

For thousands of years, the Jezreel Valley served as a land bridge linking Africa, Asia and Europe, and serving as a thoroughfare for ancient caravans and, more frequently, armies. In modern times, during World War I, for example, the British and Turkish forces fought a number of pitched battles in the valley. In 1948, following Israel's establishment, the combined forces of Iraq and Jordan attempted unsuccessfully to capture the valley in order to split the just-born Israel into two parts. In the early 20th century, after decades of neglect, Jewish pioneers drained the swamps in the valley, transforming this region into Israel's "breadbasket" known for wheat, cotton, sunflowers and fish ponds. The Jezreel Valley is also home to historical and biblical sites including Tel Megiddo and Nazareth.

Today it is an important symbol of Israel's complex and diverse political reality. The Jezreel Valley, together with the areas of the Lower and Upper Galilee, is home to the majority of Israel's Arab citizens. A tour of this area provides an opportunity to discuss and learn about Israel's Arab citizens – 20 percent of the population – each of which has full democratic, social and welfare rights, the right to vote and serve in the Knesset, and the opportunity to serve on Israel's Supreme Court. These issues are not widely known and this segment gives trip participants the opportunity to understand Israel's relationship with its largest minority group.

### **Upper Galilee**

The Upper Galilee is home to the largest variety of ethnic communities in Israel including Druze, Circassian, Arab Muslim and Arab Christian villages. The Galilee is also home to ancient Jewish and Christian holy sites that provide additional historical and political context to regional tensions. Just as in the case of the Jezreel Valley, the area illustrates the role of minorities in Israel.

At the same time, the Upper Galilee is home to some of the most prominent industrial hubs. Best known among them is the Tefen Industrial area, home to numerous enterprises established by the region's residents – Jewish and Arab. In 2006, Upper Galilee's ISCAR Metal Working Company was purchased for \$5 billion by Warren Buffet's conglomerate holding company. Since then, a number of American investors have become partners in some of the region's hi-tech and bio-tech companies.

While time does not permit for sites visits, a drive through the region allows for expanding on the importance of the area in the context of the U.S.–Israel relationship.

1:30 PM      Lunch  
                 - at Hummus Eliyahu, Rosh Pina

2:30 PM      *Treating the Victims of Syria's Civil War*  
Visit to Ziv Medical Center, Safed

### **The Ziv Medical Center**

The Ziv Medical Center is situated in the heart of Israel's rural northern landscape and provides health care services and treatment for the north's ethnically and religiously diverse population. Since February 2013, Israel has taken in Syrians wounded in the course of the civil war currently being waged in that country. Many are treated at a field hospital on the border, where soldiers and paramedics of the IDF on the Israeli Golan Heights give them initial first aid and life-saving care. The Syrian wounded then either return to Syria, or are taken to an Israeli hospital to receive further treatment. Ziv Hospital is one such hospital, and has treated nearly five hundred victims of the Syrian conflict. At Ziv, the Syrian wounded, including children, civilians and militants alike, are provided with the best possible care from Israeli physicians using state of the art medical equipment. Although Israel and Syria have been in a state of war for decades, the Israeli doctors and staff at Ziv provide humanitarian aid for the wounded without regard for the patients' political or military affiliation. These efforts have been supported by The Israeli Health Department, which has spent well over 5 million dollars treating the wounded.

3:45 PM      Depart

4:15 PM      *Northern Exposure, Part I: Hezbollah Next Door*  
Briefing with Maj. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi,  
Intelligence Officer, Northern Command  
- at Mt. Adir

5:00 PM      Depart

6:00 PM      Check into Galei Kinneret Hotel, Tiberias

7:15 PM      Depart for dinner

7:30 PM      *Reflections on the Week: Dinner and Discussion*  
- at Decks

### **Dinner and Discussion**

We will use this dinner as an opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to thus far. We have found giving our participants an opportunity to discuss the topics and perspectives presented to them assists them in their ability to more fully understand the complexities Israel faces.

9:00 PM      Overnight at Galei Kinneret Hotel  
PLEASE PREPARE FOR NEXT MORNING'S DEPARTURE

**Friday, May 12, 2017**

- 7:30 AM Luggage in the lobby  
Check out
- 7:45 AM Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, Main Dining Hall
- 8:30 AM Depart
- 9:00 AM *Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee*  
Visit to historical and religious sites around the Sea of Galilee
- Mt. of Beatitudes – Sermon on the Mount
  - St. Peter’s Church
  - Capernaum – Jesus’s Village

**Christian Sites at the Sea of Galilee**

As part of the seminar’s focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the group will be visiting several of the most sacred sites for Christians in the Holy Land. Included is a guided tour and discussion of some of the most important events in the life of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. Just as strategic tours in Jerusalem focused on Jewish, Muslim, and Christian history and claims to the land, the site visits to the Christian sites help provide context for the competing religious narratives for the land of Israel. For example, we will be visiting the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount, the most studied and read speech of any religion in history. Our guide will also lead discussions through Capernaum and St. Peter’s Church.

- 11:00 AM Depart
- 12:00 PM *Northern Exposure, Part II: the Border with Syria*  
Strategic survey guided by Cpt. (Res.) Ilan Shulman
- 1:30 PM Lunch  
- at HaBokrim
- 2:45 PM Depart  
Travel back to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley
- En route briefings:*
- *Israel’s Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*
  - *Jordan’s Syrian and Iraqi Refugees Crisis*



### **Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis**

The tour guide will spend approximately an hour during the drive through the Jordan Valley to explore several topics related to Israel's eastern neighbor: specifically, Israeli-Jordanian strategic cooperation, as well as the implications of the Syrian civil war on the Kingdom.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan became the second Arab country after Egypt to recognize Israel when it signed a comprehensive peace agreement that ended nearly five decades of warfare. Shepherded by United States President Bill Clinton, the accord signed on Oct. 6, 1994, marked the onset of a new era of economic, cultural, and political dialogue and cooperation between the two countries.

In recent years, the two countries have worked together to combat the increased threat from terrorism by coordinating their security efforts and preventing infiltrations across their shared border. Today, Jordan hosts over 1.4 million Syrian refugees fleeing civil war. Following our discussion with Israeli soldiers patrolling the Syrian border, our guide will address how the influx of Syrian refugees and the threats in the region impact Jordan internally; as well as relations and further potential for strategic partnership between Jordan, the United States, and Israel.

6:00 PM      Check into Mamilla Hotel

7:15 PM      Depart for dinner

7:30 PM      *Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem*  
Traditional Sabbath dinner hosted by Professor Gil Troy and his family  
- at their home in Jerusalem

### **The Sabbath in Jerusalem with Professor Gil Troy**

Israel, the only Jewish country in the world, boasts the unique tradition of honoring the Jewish Sabbath from Friday sundown until Saturday sundown. 80 percent of the Israeli population will commemorate the Sabbath, in various forms, which typically include a family dinner and special blessings. The Sabbath is especially significant in Jerusalem, home to the holiest site for Jews worldwide - the remains of the First and Second Temple.

The group will be hosted by Professor Gil Troy and his family. Professor Troy, a renowned educator and author, will lead a discussion on the importance of Jerusalem to the Jewish, Christian and Muslim populations; the potential for a final status agreement on Jerusalem (arguably the most sensitive final status issue); and the diplomatic challenges faced by Israel and the United States regarding Israeli urban development in the area.

9:30 PM      Overnight at Mamilla Hotel

## Saturday, May 13, 2017

8:00 AM Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, Main Dining Hall

8:30 AM Depart

### *En route briefing:*

- *The Dead Sea Region – Environmental Concerns*
- *Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor – Strategic Concerns*

### **Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor**

On the drive from Jerusalem to Masada, the group will travel on the highway known as the “Jericho Road” is the strategic importance of the area east of Jerusalem. In 1948 and in 1967, the Jordanian army attacked Jerusalem from the east – the 1948 attack resulted in the city’s division that lasted until 1967. Since then Israel has established the City of Ma’ale Adumim east of Jerusalem, today home to some 40,000 residents. To the Palestinians, however, Ma’ale Adumim is the largest settlement on the West Bank. When Israel attempted to expand Ma’ale Adumim’s boundary, into an area known as “E-1”, the U.S. State Department stepped in and asked that no construction take place there. The issue needs to be examined with those discussing the future of Jerusalem in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

### **Dead Sea Region**

During our drive to and from the Dead Sea area, as well as during our visit to the Dead Sea, our tour guide will discuss a variety of issues integral to understanding the region, the country, and relations with both the Palestinians and Jordanians.

It is important to note that the region is mostly desert. For decades, Israel has been challenging this arid area and developing its agricultural potential. While the Middle East is suffering from water shortages, Israel, through modern technology and water conservation policies, including the recycling of over 80 percent of water used for domestic purposes and transferring it to agriculture, has literally “made the desert bloom.” Some of this technology is already being shared with Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. All sides realize that a comprehensive regional water policy will ensure food production necessary to satisfy the Middle East’s growing population. For example, in late 2013, the three parties agreed to build a Red Sea-Dead Sea water project to address the shortage of fresh, clean water in the region and the rapid loss of water at the Dead Sea. This highlights the growing importance for Israel and her Arab neighbors to work together on joint environmental projects.

The key regional players also face serious environmental issues in the Dead Sea region. One of the major environmental concerns is the receding of the Dead Sea and the appearance of sinkholes, which cause the earth above to collapse. Roads, fields and buildings have collapsed due to this phenomenon, and experts are concerned the tourist infrastructure along the Jordanian and Israeli shores of the Dead Sea are also in danger. This issue has led to

unprecedented cooperation between Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians and serves as a model for regional cooperation.

10:00 AM     *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*  
Guided visit to the National Park at Masada

### **Masada**

The Sabbath in Israel begins Friday afternoon and concludes on Saturday evening. During the Sabbath, virtually everything in the country is closed including all government offices, businesses, newspapers etc. Therefore, for years, we have used Saturdays to expose our congressional members and staff delegations to some of the key historical and cultural sites in Israel such as Masada. Masada, which was excavated in the 1960s, is considered one of the most important archeological sites in Israel, indeed in the whole world.

Masada was the site of the last stand of the Jews in Israel after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Holy Temple in 70 A.D. A group of Jewish zealots fled to the Judean Desert and lived in the former mountaintop fortress of King Herod known as Masada for two years resisting the onslaught of the most powerful army in the world. Determined to break the resistance, the Romans finally scaled the mountain to capture and enslave the Jewish rebels. However, when they finally arrived, they found that all the men, women and children had killed themselves as a last act of defiance. They refused to give in to the Romans and become their slaves.

The ancient story of Masada has important contemporary relevance for the modern State of Israel. "Masada shall never fall again" has become the watchword of the country which has faced existential threats since its founding in 1948. Israel's elite military units, for example, are sworn in on top of Masada in a symbolic act of defiance against Israel's contemporary enemies. These soldiers along with the thousands of Israeli school children who visit Masada each year learn the lesson that Israel should never become so weak again that it would ever face national suicide as an option.

We will spend approximately two hours atop of Masada with a professional guide. The time at Masada with the guide is focused on three areas: 1. touring the magnificent ancient excavations; 2. learning the narrative of Jewish resistance to the Romans backed by the archeological and historical evidence; 3. discussing the importance of the Masada story to the contemporary Middle East and the threats in the region.

During our trip to the Negev, we will also visit the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth and a major source of minerals for both Israel and Jordan.

12:30 PM     Depart

- 12:45 PM     *Exploration of the Dead Sea Region*  
Lunch  
- at Herod's Hotel
- 2:30 PM     Depart for Jerusalem
- 4:00 PM     Return to hotel  
Prepare for departure
- 5:45 PM     Luggage in the lobby  
Depart for dinner
- 6:00 PM     *The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing It All Together*  
- at Cielo
- 8:00 PM     Depart for the airport

**Sunday, May 14, 2017**

- 12:15 AM     Depart Tel Aviv
- 5:13 AM     Arrive JFK
- 8:50 AM     Depart JFK
- 10:23 AM     Arrive DCA (Tara Oursler returns BWI; Christina Gleason returns Wilmington, DE)

**AIEF Educational Seminar in Israel  
House Invitee Explanations, May 6-14, 2017**

Staff First	Staff Last	Title	Rep.	MOC First	MOC Last	P	ST	Reason for Inviting
Alma	Acosta	Executive Director, Congressional Hispanic Caucus	Rep.	Michelle	Lujan Grisham	D	NM	As Executive Director of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. Alma Acosta serves as the Executive Director of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.
Dustin	Carmack	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Ron	DeSantis	R	FL	As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. Dustin Carmack serves as the Chief of Staff for Rep. Ron Desantis, a member of the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.
Captain Mark	Dreiling	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Don	Bacon	R	NE	As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. Captain Mark Dreiling serves as the Chief of Staff for Rep. Don Bacon, a member of the relevant House Armed Services Committee.

AIEF Educational Seminar in Israel  
House Invitee Explanations, May 6-14, 2017

John	Dutton	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Andy	Harris	R	MD	As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. John Dutton serves as Chief of Staff for Rep. Andy Harris, a member of the relevant House Appropriations Committee.
Gina	Footte	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Ted	Poe	R	TX	As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. Gina Footte serves as the Chief of Staff for Rep. Ted Poe, a member of the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.
Miguel	Franco	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Tony	Cárdenas	D	CA	As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel.

AIEF Educational Seminar in Israel  
House Invitee Explanations, May 6-14, 2017

Cory	Fritz	Deputy Staff Director for Communications, Foreign Affairs Cmte	Rep.	Ed	Royce	R	CA	As a Deputy Staff Director for the House Foreign Affairs Committee, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. Cory Fritz serves as the Deputy Staff Director for Communications for the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.
Cynthia	Gaona	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Henry	Cuellar	D	TX	As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. Cynthia Gaona serves as Chief of Staff for Rep. Henry Cuellar, a member of the relevant House Appropriations Committee.
James	Langenderfer	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Brian	Mast	R	FL	As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. James Langenderfer serves as the Chief of Staff for Rep. Brian Mast, a member of the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.

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**House Invitee Explanations, May 6-14, 2017**

Justin	Oswald	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Grace	Meng	D	NY	As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. Justin Oswald serves as Chief of Staff for Rep. Grace Meng, a member of the relevant House Appropriations Committee.
Tara	Oursler	Chief of Staff	Rep.	C.A. Dutch	Ruppersberger	D	MD	As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. Tara Oursler serves as Chief of Staff for Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger, a member of the relevant House Appropriations Committee.
Michael	Reed	Chief of Staff	Rep.	Sanford	Bishop	D	GA	As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. John Dutton serves as Chief of Staff for Rep. Andy Harris, a member of the relevant House Appropriations Committee.