

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER

17 JUL 24 PM 12:04

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: Alexander J. Hutkin
2. a. Name of accompanying relative: \_\_\_\_\_ or None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates of departure and return: Departure: July 1, 2017 Return: July 9, 2017  
 b. Dates at personal expense (if any): \_\_\_\_\_ or None
4. Departure city: Washington, DC Destination: Jerusalem Return city: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation
6. Describe meetings and events attended: Meetings on current regional security issues, internal politics of Israel, and US-Israel relationship
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: Alexander J. Hutkin DATE: 7/24/2017

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: Steve Russell DATE: 7/24/2017

SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING MEMBER: Steve Russell

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.

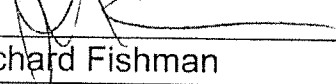
**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

- Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
- Travel Destination(s): Israel
- Date of Departure: July 1, 2017 Date of Return: July 9, 2017
- 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.)
- 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	\$2,857.89	\$1,423	\$1,065.93	\$2,666.06 (breakdown attached)
Accompanying Relative	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

- 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

1. Name of Traveler: Alexander Hutkin
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 July 1, 2017 Date of return: July 9, 2017  
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.  
As Deputy Chief/Legislative Director, I handle foreign affairs. This trip will allow me to learn more about the US-Israel relationship.
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

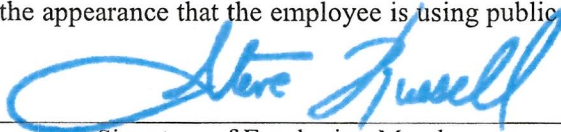
10. **FOR STAFF TRAVELERS:**

**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: 5/23/2017



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: July 1, 2017 Date of return: July 9, 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. This includes the Friday evening dinner at the home of Karyn and Joe Gelman - the dinner is funded solely by AIEF.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
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): \_\_\_\_\_  
\$129  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2) Provide reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: \_\_\_\_\_  
The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate participants about the U.S.-Israel relationship.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:  
 Hotel name: Inbal City: Jerusalem Cost per night: \$256  
 Reason(s) for selecting: location and affordability  
 Hotel name: Sheraton City: Tel Aviv Cost per night: \$260  
 Reason(s) for selecting: location and affordability  
 Hotel name: Nof Ginosar City: Tiberias Cost per night: \$189  
 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 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	\$2,529.50	\$1,733	\$900
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	\$2,517	breakdown attached
For each accompanying relative	n/a	n/a

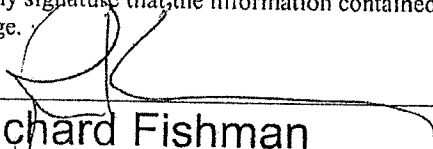
**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

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)

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

June 23, 2017

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

Mr. Alexander J. Hutkin  
Office of Congressman Steve Russell  
128 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Hutkin:

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 July 1 to 9, 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.

---

<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. Alexander J. Hutkin

Page 2

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

Sincerely,



Susan W. Brooks  
Chairwoman



Theodore E. Deutch  
Ranking Member

SWB/TED:wfs



#### 4. Names of Travelers with identical information

Brian	Barnard
Derron	Bennett
Grant	Dubler
Spencer	Freebairn
Thomas	Hester
Lara	Hopkins
Scott	Hughes
Alexander	Hutkin
Daniel	Kouchi
Elizabeth	Leibowitz
Emily	Leviner
Carly	Reed
Joshua	Satterfield
Zachary	Stokes
Sharon	Wagener

**American Israel Education Foundation  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
U.S. Congressional Staff  
July 1-9, 2017**

**Itinerary**

**SATURDAY, JULY 1, 2017**

5:20 PM Depart Washington, D.C. (Union Station)  
7:09 PM Arrive at Newark  
10:45 PM Depart Newark

**SUNDAY, JULY 2, 2017**

4:20 PM Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport  
7:00 PM Check into the Inbal Jerusalem Hotel  
7:45 PM Depart Hotel  
8:00 PM – 8:20 PM *Welcome and Orientation*  
- at la Guta  
8:20 PM – 9:45 PM *The Pulse of Israel Today*  
Dinner with Yaakov Katz  
Author and Journalist  
- la Guta  
9:45 PM Dinner ends  
10:30 PM Overnight at the Inbal Jerusalem

**MONDAY, JULY 3, 2017**

7:45 AM – 8:00 AM Breakfast served  
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM *Israeli Politics Primer*  
Breakfast with Professor Prof. Sam Lehman-Wilzig  
Chairman, School of Communication, Bar Ilan University  
- at the hotel

9:00 AM	Session concludes
9:15 AM	Depart
9:30 AM – 12:45 PM	<i>Strategic Overview of Jerusalem</i> <i>Part I: The Old City and the Holy Basin</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Church of the Holy Sepulcher</li> <li>▪ Via Dolorosa</li> <li>▪ Southern Wall Excavations</li> <li>▪ Western Wall</li> </ul>
12:45 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch with Amb. Dr. Daniel Taub Former Israeli Ambassador to the U.K. -at Anna
2:00 PM	Depart
2:30 PM – 3:15 PM	<i>Strategic Overview of Jerusalem</i> <i>Part II: Jerusalem's Outlying Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier</i>
3:15 PM	Depart for the Knesset
3:30 PM – 4:00 PM	Security Check
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<i>Israeli Democracy in Action</i> Meetings with Members of Knesset <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Honorable Amir Ohana, Likud Party</li> <li>▪ The Honorable Dr. Nachman Shai, Zionist Union Party</li> </ul> -at the Knesset
5:00 PM	Return to Hotel
7:15 PM	Depart for dinner
7:30 PM – 9:45 PM	<i>Colleague to Colleague: Knesset Staffers</i> Dinner with Knesset Staffers from various political parties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Uri Perednick, Likud Party</li> <li>▪ Hila Nataneli, Kulanu Party</li> <li>▪ Yair Zivan, Yesh Atid Party</li> <li>▪ Tsafrir Gidron, Zionist Union Party</li> </ul> - at Touro
9:45 PM	Overnight at the Inbal Jerusalem

**TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2017**

7:30 AM – 8:00 AM Breakfast on own in the main dining room  
Luggage in the lobby  
Check out

8:00 AM Depart

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM *Minority Rights in Israel*  
Lunch with Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi  
General Director, INJAZ: Center for Professional Arab Local Governance

9:30 AM Depart for Yad Vashem

10:00 AM – 12:15 PM *The Meaning of the Holocaust in the Israeli Psyche*  
Visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

12:15 PM Depart

12:45 PM – 2:00 PM *A View From the Palestinian Authority*  
Lunch with Nidal Foqaha  
Director General, Palestinian Peace Coalition/ Geneva Initiative  
-at the American Colony hotel, Pasha Hall

2:00 PM Depart

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM *A View from the Government*  
Meeting with Benjamin Krasna

3:45 PM Depart for Tel Aviv

En Route Briefing:  
*Let There Be Water: Israel Solves its Water Crisis*

5:00 PM Check into Sheraton Tel Aviv

7:00 PM Depart for dinner

7:30 PM – 9:30 PM *Regional Threats Overview and the Palestinian Street*  
Dinner with:  
▪ Avi Issacharoff, Mideast Analyst, Times of Israel

9:30 PM Depart

Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 2017**

- 7:30 AM – 8:15 AM Breakfast on own at the hotel
- 8:30 AM Depart for Israel's South
- 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM *Life Under Rocket Fire*  
Briefings on Israel's Border with the Gaza Strip  
-Overlook into Gaza at Nir Am  
-Meeting with Oshrit Sabag, local resident of Kibbutz Nachal Oz
- 11:30 AM Depart
- 12:15 PM – 1:30 PM *Israel's Missile Defense*  
Lunch with Ari Sacher, Iron Dome Systems Project Manager, Rafael  
Advanced Defense Systems  
-at Space
- 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM *Ethics in the IDF*  
Dessert with Matan Katzman  
Co-Founder, My Truth  
-at Space
- 2:30 PM Depart for Hotel
- 4:00 PM Return to hotel
- 6:30 PM Depart for dinner
- 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM *Tikkun Olam: Israel's Global Footprint*
  - Ariel Beery, Founder, Mobile ODT
  - Gidon Brumburg, Israeli Director, EcoPeace Middle East
  - Moishe Friedman, Founder, KamaTech
  - Yotam Polizer, co-CEO, IsraAID- at Spoons
- 10:00 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv

**THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2017**

- 7:30 AM – 7:45 AM Luggage in the lobby  
Check out

7:45 AM – 8:00 AM Breakfast served

8:00 AM – 9:15 AM *Regional Strategic Briefing: Syria and Iraq*  
Briefing with Jonathan Spyer  
Director, Rubin Center at IDC, Herzliya  
- at the hotel

9:15 AM Depart, travel north

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM *Israel's Narrow Waistline*  
Briefing at Alfei Menashe

10:45 AM Depart  
En route briefing:

- *The Jezreel Valley: The Strategic Land Bridge connecting Asia and Africa*
- *Upper Galilee: Potential for Development*

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM Lunch  
- Yokneam

1:30 PM Depart

2:45 PM – 4:15 PM *Treating Syria's Wounded*  
Visit to Ziv Medical Center

4:15 PM Depart

4:45 PM – 5:30 PM *Hezbollah Next Door*  
Briefing on the border with Lebanon  
With Maj. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi  
Northern Border Expert  
- at Mt. Adir

5:30 PM Depart

6:30 PM Check into the Nof Ginosar Hotel

8:00 PM Depart for dinner

8:15 PM – 10:00 PM *Northern Exposure*  
Israeli Life on the Border with Lebanon and Syria  
Dinner and Discussion

- at Decks

10:00 PM Overnight at Nof Ginosar Tiberias

**FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2017**

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM Breakfast on own  
Luggage in the lobby  
Check out

8:30 AM Depart

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM *Historical, Religious and Geopolitical Significance of the Sea of Galilee*  
Visit to:

- Mt. of Beatitudes
- Primacy of Peter Church
- Capernaum

11:00 AM Visits ends, depart, travel to the Golan Heights

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM *The Tragedy in Syria*  
Strategic guided survey of the Israeli-Syrian border  
- at Ein Zivan

1:00 PM Depart

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM Lunch  
- at HaBokrim

2:30 PM – 5:30 PM Depart for Jerusalem  
Travel via the Jordan Valley  
  
En route briefing:

- *Israel's Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*
- *Jordan's Syrian Refugee Crisis*

5:30 PM Check into the Inbal Jerusalem Hotel

6:45 PM Depart

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM *Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem*  
Traditional Sabbath dinner  
With Daniel and Eli Sheva Gordis  
- at their home in Jerusalem

9:00 PM Overnight at the Inbal Jerusalem Hotel

**SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2017**

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, main dining room

8:30 AM Depart

En route briefing:

- *Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor: Strategic Concerns*

10:00 AM – 12:15 PM *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*  
Visit to Masada National Archeological Site

12:15 PM Depart

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM *Israel's Experience in Fighting the Encroachment of Desertification*  
Visit to the Dead Sea and lunch  
-at Herods

2:00 PM Depart for Jerusalem

3:30 PM Return to hotel  
Prepare for departure  
Check out

6:30 PM *The U.S.–Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together*  
Closing dinner  
- at the hotel

8:30 PM Depart for the Airport

11:10 PM Depart Ben Gurion

**SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2017**

4:15 AM Arrive Newark

6:00 AM Depart Newark

7:33 AM Arrive Washington, D.C. (DCA)



**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)**  
**Educational Seminar in Israel**  
**Congressional Staff**  
**July 1-9, 2017**

**Breakdown of Other Expenses**

Security: \$967.12 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: \$511.84 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Travel Agency Commission: \$366.00 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: \$198.83 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: \$173.11 per person

Room Rentals: \$127.18 per person

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

Hotels for contract staff (tour guide, bus driver, security guards): \$124.25 per person

Transportation for contract staff and speakers: \$60.06 per person

Transportation for individualized tour of Syrian/Israel border: \$52.42

Entrance Fees: \$42.84 per person

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

Photography: \$27.15 per person

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

Other: \$9.29 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

Tips: \$5.97 per person

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

House Invitees

FIRST	LAST	POSITION	TITLE	MOCP	MOCL	P	S	EXPLANATION FOR INVITE
Brian	Barnard	Legislative Director	Rep.	Evan	Jenkins	R	WV	As a Legislative Director 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. Brian Barnard is the Legislative Director for Rep. Evan Jenkins, a member of the relevant House Appropriations Committee.
Derron	Bennett	Policy Director	Rep.	AI	Lawson	D	FL	As a Policy Director 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.
Grant	Dubler	Legislative Director	Rep.	Jacky	Rosen	D	NV	As a Legislative Director 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. Grant Dubler is the Legislative Director for Rep. Jacky Rosen, a member of the relevant House Armed Services Committee.

House Invitees

Spencer	Freebairn	Deputy Chief of Staff	Rep.	Roger	Williams	R	TX	As a Deputy 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.
Thomas	Hester	Legislative Director	Rep.	Mike	McCaul	R	TX	As a Legislative Director 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. Thomas Hester is the Legislative Director for Rep. Mike McCaul, a member of the relevant House Homeland Security Committee.
Lara	Hopkins	Deputy Chief of Staff	Rep.	Kathy	Castor	D	FL	As a Deputy 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.

House Invitees

Scott	Hughes	Legislative Director	Rep.	Liz	Cheney	R	WY	As a Legislative Director 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. Scott Hughes is the Legislative Director for Rep. Liz Cheney, a member of the relevant House Armed Services Committee.
Alexander	Hutkin	Deputy Chief of Staff/Legislative Director	Rep.	Steve	Russell	R	OK	As a Deputy 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. Alexander Hutkin is the Deputy Chief of Staff for Rep. Steve Russell, a member of the relevant House Armed Services Committee.
Daniel	Kouchi	Legislative Assistant	Rep.	Colleen	Hanabusa	D	HI	As a Legislative Assistant 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. Daniel Kouchi is the Legislative Assistant for Rep. Colleen Hanabusa, a member of the relevant House Armed Services Committee.

House Invitees

Elizabeth	Leibowitz	Foreign Affairs Legislative Assistant	Rep.	Nita	Lowey	D	NY	As a Legislative Assistant 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. Elizabeth Leibowitz is the Legislative Assistant for Rep. Nita Lowey, Ranking Member of the relevant House Appropriations Committee.
Emily	Leviner	Legislative Director/Legislative Counsel	Rep.	John	Ratcliffe	R	TX	As a Legislative Director 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. Emily Leviner is the Legislative Director for Rep. John Ratcliffe, a member of the relevant House Homeland Security Committee.
Carly	Reed	Legislative Aide	Rep.	Eric	Swalwell	D	CA	As a Legislative Aide 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. Carly Reed is the Legislative Aide for Rep. Eric Swalwell, a member of the relevant House Intelligence Committee.

House Invitees

Joshua	Satterfield	Senior Legislative Assistant	Rep.	Mia	Love	R	UT	As a Legislative Assistant 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.
Zachary	Stokes	Legislative Assistant	Rep.	Kurt	Schrader	D	OR	As a Legislative Assistant 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.
Amy	Surber	Legislative Assistant	Rep.	Ken	Calvert	R	CA	As a Legislative Assistant 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. Amy Surber is the Legislative Assistant for Rep. Ken Calvert, a member of the relevant House Appropriations Committee.

House Invitees

Sharon	Wagener	Legislative Director	Rep.	Julia	Brownley	D	CA	As a Legislative Director 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.
--------	---------	----------------------	------	-------	----------	---	----	---

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)**  
**Educational Seminar in Israel**  
**Congressional Staff**  
**July 1-9, 2017**

**Breakdown of Other Expenses**

Security: \$800.00 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: \$450.00 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Travel Agency Commission: \$366.00 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: \$191.00 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): \$185.00 per person

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$160.00 per person

Room Rentals: \$150.00 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: \$60.00

Other: \$55.00 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

Entrance Fees: \$50.00 per person

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

Photography: \$30.00 per person

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

Tips: \$20.00 per person

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



**American Israel Education Foundation  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
U.S. Congressional Staff  
July 1-9, 2017**

**Itinerary**

**SATURDAY, JULY 1, 2017**

- 5:45 PM Depart Washington, D.C. (DCA)
- 7:09 PM Arrive at Newark
- 10:45 PM Depart Newark

**SUNDAY, JULY 2, 2017**

- 4:20 PM Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport
- 7:00 PM Check into the Inbal Jerusalem Hotel
- 7:45 PM Depart Hotel
- 8:00 PM *Welcome and Orientation*  
- at Touro
- 8:20 PM *The Pulse of Israel Today*  
Dinner with Matti Friedman  
Author and Journalist  
- at Touro

**Matti Freidman**

The opening dinner features Matti Freidman, a renowned reporter with a career that has taken him from Lebanon to Morocco, Cairo, Moscow and Washington, D.C., and to conflicts in Israel in the Caucasus. Mr. Friedman is a dynamic and insightful speaker who will provide the group an illuminating synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli citizens.

- 9:45 PM Dinner ends
- 10:00 PM *Welcome to Jerusalem*  
Understanding Jerusalem's Historic 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.

10:30 PM Overnight at the Inbal Jerusalem

### **MONDAY, JULY 3, 2017**

7:45 AM Breakfast served

8:00 AM *Israeli Politics Primer*  
Breakfast with Professor Reuven Hazan  
Political Science Department, Hebrew University  
- at the hotel

#### **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.

9:00 AM Session concludes

9:15 AM Depart

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

- Church of the Holy Sepulcher
- Via Dolorosa
- Southern Wall Excavations
- Western Wall

#### **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.

### **The Western Wall**

The Western Wall, a remnant of the Second Temple in Jerusalem, is Judaism's holiest site and the heart of the Jewish people's 3,000-year connection to the Land of Israel.

King David established Jerusalem as the capital of ancient Israel circa 1,000 B.C.E., and his son Solomon built the First Jewish Temple on what is known today as the Temple Mount. This Temple became the focal point of ancient Judaism, drawing religious pilgrims from throughout the region. There are more than 850 references to Jerusalem in the Hebrew Bible and innumerable references to the city throughout more than 2,000 years of post-biblical literature.

Even after the destruction of the Second Jewish Temple by the Roman Empire in 70 C.E., Jews maintained a continuous presence in Jerusalem. Jerusalem has been central to the Jewish people through daily prayer and ritual expressing the aspiration to return there. For 2,000 years, Jews prayed for the rebuilding of the Holy City, and to this day, Jews throughout the world face Jerusalem and pray to return to this holy place. The centuries-old Jewish dream of reestablishing Jerusalem as the Jewish capital was partially realized in 1948, when the western half of the city became the capital of the new State of Israel. However, the armistice agreement following Israel's War of Independence left Jerusalem divided in half by the "Green Line" between Israel and Jordan.

Between 1949 and 1967, Jordan controlled the parts of Jerusalem east of the Green Line, severely limiting access to Jews from Judaism's holiest sites, and completely denying access for Israeli Jews to the Old City or the Western Wall, a key remnant of the Second Temple. Furthermore, Christians living in Israel were only allowed to visit churches and holy sites in eastern Jerusalem once a year. Thousands of Jews, some of whose families had been living there for centuries, were expelled from eastern Jerusalem. During the period of Jordanian occupation of eastern Jerusalem, synagogues were destroyed and Jewish burial grounds were desecrated.

When Israel gained control of eastern Jerusalem after the Six-Day War, the Jewish state immediately abolished Jordanian restrictions on access to the city, allowing all Jews, Christians and Muslims to worship at their holy places. Israel later incorporated the eastern half of the city and declared unified Jerusalem to be the capital of Israel.

- 12:45 PM                    *Minority Rights in Israel*  
 Lunch with Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi  
 General Director, INJAZ: Center for Professional Arab Local Governance  
 -at Piccolino
- 2:00PM                      Depart
- 2:30 PM                      *Strategic Overview of Jerusalem*  
*Part II: Jerusalem's Outlying Neighborhoods and 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.

- 3:15 PM                      Depart for the Knesset
- 3:30 PM                      Security Check

- 4:00 PM                    *Israeli Democracy in Action*  
 Meetings with Members of Knesset
- The Honorable Amir Ohana, Likud Party
  - The Honorable Dr. Nachman Shai, Zionist Union Party
- at the Knesset
- 5:00 PM                    Return to Hotel
- 7:15 PM                    Depart for dinner
- 7:30 PM                    *Colleague to Colleague: Knesset Staffers*  
 Dinner with Knesset Staffers from various political parties
- Uri Perednick, Likud Party
  - Michaela Cohen, Kulanu Party
  - Yair Zivan, Yesh Atid Party
  - Shaked Hasson, Zionist Union Party
- at La Guta
- 9:45 PM                    Overnight at the Inbal Jerusalem

**TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2017**

- 7:30 AM                    Breakfast on own in the main dining room  
 Luggage in the lobby  
 Check out
- 8:00 AM                    Depart
- 8:30 AM                    *The Meaning of the Holocaust in the Israeli Psyche*  
 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.

10:45 AM Depart

11:00 AM *Education and Empowerment for Children with Disabilities*  
Visit to SHALVA

### **Shalva**

Shalva, the Israel Association for the Care and Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities is dedicated to providing transformative care for individuals with disabilities, empowering their families and promoting social inclusion. Non-denominational and free of charge, Shalva's programs provide an all-encompassing range of services for hundreds of individuals from infancy to adulthood. Additionally, Shalva supports and enables families to raise their children with disabilities within the family framework. Through nearly three decades of award-winning programs, Shalva partners with government, academic and philanthropic institutions in advocacy efforts to create a more inclusive society.

12:15 PM Depart

12:45 PM *A View From the Palestinian Authority*  
Lunch with Nidal Foqaha  
Director General, Palestinian Peace Coalition/ Geneva Initiative  
-at the American Colony hotel, Pasha Hall

2:00 PM Depart

2:30 PM Travel to Tel Aviv

En Route Briefing:  
*Let There Be Water: Israel Solves its Water Crisis*

3:45 PM Check into Sheraton Tel Aviv

7:15 PM Depart for dinner

- 7:30 PM *Regional Threats Overview and the Palestinian Street*  
 Dinner with:
- Avi Issacharoff, Mideast Analyst, Times of Israel (will arrive at 8:15)
  - Amos Harel, Military Affairs Analyst, Haaretz
- at Lumina
- 9:30 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 2017**

- 7:30 AM Breakfast on own at the hotel
- 8:15 AM Depart for Israel's South
- 9:30 AM *Life Under Rocket Fire*  
 Briefings on Israel's Border with the Gaza Strip  
 -Overlook into Gaza at Nir Am  
 -Meeting with Oshrit Sabag, local resident of Kibbutz Nachal Oz

**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 Nir Am 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.

- 11:45 AM Depart
- 12:15 PM *US-Israel Cooperation: The Iron Dome*  
 - at Ashkelon

**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.

- 1:00 PM Depart
- 1:15 PM Lunch  
- at K2
- 2:15 PM Depart
- 3:30 PM *Israel's Missile Defense*  
Briefing with Ari Sacher  
Iron Dome Systems Project Manager, Rafael Advanced Defense Systems  
- at the hotel
- 7:30 PM Depart for dinner
- 8:00 PM *Tikkun Olam: Israel's Global Footprint*
  - Moshe Friedman, Founder, KamaTech
  - Gal Lusky, Founder, Israel Flying Aid
  - Sivan Yaari, Founder, Innovation Africa
  - Ariel Beery, Founder, Mobile ODT- at Deca

### **Israel's Global Footprint**

Israel's Global Footprint will be a dinner discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad. The group will be meeting with innovators that are global leaders in water conservation, fighting against HIV/AIDS through medical innovation, and bringing Israeli technology and medicine to third world countries.

- 10:00 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv

### **THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2017**

- 7:30 AM Luggage in the lobby  
Check out
- 7:45 AM Breakfast served
- 8:00 AM *Regional Strategic Briefing: Syria and Iraq*  
Briefing with Jonathan Spyer  
Director, Rubin Center at IDC, Herzliya  
- at the hotel



9:15 AM Depart, travel north  
10:00 AM *Israel's Narrow Waistline*  
Briefing at Alfei Menashe

### **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.

10:45 AM Depart  
En route briefing:  
▪ *The Jezreel Valley: The Strategic Land Bridge connecting 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 visit to 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.

1:00 PM	Lunch - in Old City of Tzfat
2:15 PM	Depart
2:45 PM	<i>Treating Syria's Wounded</i> Visit to Ziv Medical Center

### **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.

- 4:15 PM Depart
- 4:45 PM *Hezbollah Next Door*  
Briefing on the border with Lebanon  
With Maj. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi  
Northern Border Expert  
- at Mt. Adir
- 5:30 PM Depart
- 6:30 PM Check into the Nof Ginosar Hotel
- 8:00 PM Depart for dinner
- 8:15 PM *Northern Exposure*  
Israeli Life on the Border with Lebanon and Syria  
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.

- 10:00 PM Overnight at Nof Ginosar Tiberias

#### **FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2017**

- 8:00 AM Breakfast on own  
Luggage in the lobby  
Check out
- 8:30 AM Depart
- 9:00 AM *Historical, Religious and Geopolitical Significance of the Sea of Galilee*  
Visit to:  
  - Mt. of Beatitudes
  - Primacy of Peter Church
  - Capernaum

### **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 walk through and discussion of some of the most important events in the life of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. Just as explorations of 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                      Visits ends, depart, travel to the Golan Heights
- 12:00 PM                      *The Tragedy in Syria*  
Strategic guided survey of the Israeli-Syrian border  
- at Ein Zivan
- 1:00 PM                        Depart
- 1:15 PM                        Lunch joined by IDF soldiers serving on the Syrian border  
- at Asado
- 2:30 PM                        Depart for Jerusalem  
Travel via the Jordan Valley
- En route briefing:
- *Israel's Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*
  - *Jordan's Syrian Refugee 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.

- 5:30 PM                    Check into the Inbal Jerusalem Hotel
- 6:45 PM                    Depart
- 7:00 PM                    *Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem*  
Traditional Sabbath dinner  
With Karyn and Joe Gelman  
- at their home in Jerusalem

**The Sabbath in Jerusalem**

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 dinner will include 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.

- 9:00 PM                    Overnight at the Inbal Jerusalem Hotel

**SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2017**

- 8:00 AM                    Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, main dining room
- 8:30 AM                    Depart  
  
En route briefing:
  - *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.

10:00 AM

*History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*  
Visit to Masada National Archeological Site

### **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. viewing 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.

12:15 PM

Depart

12:30 PM                    *Israel's Experience in Fighting the Encroachment of Desertification*  
Visit to the Dead Sea and lunch  
-at Herods

**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.

2:00 PM                    Depart for Jerusalem

3:30 PM                    Return to hotel  
Prepare for departure  
Check out

6:30 PM                    *The U.S.–Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together*  
Closing dinner  
- at the hotel

**Closing Dinner**

The closing dinner provides an opportunity for participants to process the scope of the week, from the religious center of the Judeo-Christian world in Jerusalem, to the bustling economic powerhouse of Tel Aviv; from the conflict plagued northern borders with Syria and Lebanon, to the environmental and geographical wonders of the Negev desert and the Dead Sea. We will

process the range of topics explored, including the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, prospects for Arab-Israeli peace, the experience of minorities in Israel, as well as greater existential threats throughout the region. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their takeaways, and ask any lingering questions that weren't covered throughout the week.

8:30 PM Depart for the Airport

11:10 PM Depart Newark

**SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2017**

4:15 AM Arrive Newark

6:00 AM Depart Newark

7:33 AM Arrive Washington, D.C. (DCA)