



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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

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

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

1. Name of Traveler: Donald Bacon
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: Alexander Bacon OR None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: June 26th 2022 Return: July 2nd 2022  
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ OR None
4. Departure City: Omaha Destination: Israel Return City: Omaha
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: AIEF: American Israel Education Foundation
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary):  
Met with businesses and foreign leaders to improve bi-lateral relationships and for education.

7. Attached to this form are *each* of the following, signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box:
  - a.  a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
  - b.  the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor *prior* to the trip, including all attachments and the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
  - c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the Member or officer; *and*
  - d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a.  I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda.  
*Signify statement is true by checking the box.*  
 b. If not, explain:

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

Member / Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 07/15/2022



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original  Amendment

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

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

1. Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
2. Travel Destination(s): Israel
3. Date of Departure: June 26, 2022 Date of Return: July 2, 2022

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): The Honorable Don Bacon (R-NE)

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

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

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$10,724.13	\$1,214.95	\$952.87	\$2,112.96
Accompanying Family Member	\$10,719.13	\$1,214.95	\$952.87	\$2,112.96

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: Arne Christenson Date: 07/14/2022

Name: Arne Christenson Title: Managing 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

Email: achristenson@aiefdn.org Telephone: (202) 639-5266

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.



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# 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. **This form and any attachments may be 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: Rep. Don Bacon

**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): \_\_\_\_\_

Office Address: 1024 Longworth HOB

Telephone Number: 202-225-4155

Email Address of Contact Person: Amanda.Keplin@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 on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via e-mail: [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Rep. Don Bacon
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:  
American Israel Education Foundation
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel : Israel
4. a. Date of Departure: June 26th 2022 Date of Return: July 2nd 2022  
 b. Yes  No  Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  
 If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Yes  No  Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**  
 (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: Alexander Bacon  
 (2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
 (3) Yes  No  Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:
6. a. Yes  No  Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?  
 b. **If yes, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:**
7. Yes  No  *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.  
  
*NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.*
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties.  
**Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**  
 Member is on Armed Service committee and this educational seminar helps when policy relating to Israel is brought up.
9. Yes  No  **Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

### ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

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

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



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

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

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

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:  
**American Israel Education Foundation**
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 find attached**
5. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: June 26, 2022 Date of return: July 2, 2022
7. a. City of departure: Member's home district or Dulles  
b. Destination(s): Israel  
c. City of return: Member's home district, Washington D.C., or Newark
8. **Check only one.** I represent that:
  - a.  The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: **OR**
  - b.  The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: **OR**
  - c.  The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
9. **Check only one of the following:**
  - a.  I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
  - b.  I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
  - c.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
  - d.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

10.  Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*
11. **Check only one of the following:**
- a.  I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box; OR*
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For *each* sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip *and* its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:  
 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: taxis)
- b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (specify: charter bus)
- 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 the box.*
15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a.  The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
- b.  The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation.  
 If "b" is checked:
- 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided):  
 \$153.20
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:  
 The trip is in Israel 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: Orient City: Jerusalem Cost Per Night: \$439  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability
- Hotel Name: Magdala City: Tiberias Cost Per Night: \$265  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability
- Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_
17.  I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

### 18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$10,160.68	\$1,120.25	\$766
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$10,160.68	\$1,120.25	\$766

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$5,281.25	Please see addendum for breakdown
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$5,281.25	Please see addendum for breakdown

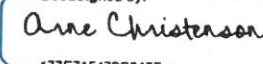
**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

### 19. Check only one:

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

### 20. I certify by my signature that

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

Signature:  Date: 05/24/2022  
 Name: Arne Christenson Title: Managing Director  
 Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
 Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington DC 20001  
 Email: achristenson@aiefdn.org Telephone: (202) 639-5266

## INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Theodore E. Deutch, Florida  
*Chairman*

Jackie Walorski, Indiana  
*Ranking Member*

Susan Wild, Pennsylvania  
Dean Phillips, Minnesota  
Veronica Escobar, Texas  
Mondaire Jones, New York

Michael Guest, Mississippi  
Dave Joyce, Ohio

John H. Rutherford, Florida  
Kelly Armstrong, North Dakota



ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

## U.S. House of Representatives

### COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

David W. Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Chairman*

Kelle A. Strickland  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

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

June 10, 2022

The Honorable Don Bacon  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1024 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your and your child's proposed trip to Israel,<sup>1</sup> scheduled for June 26 to July 2, 2022, sponsored by American Israel Education Foundation.

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$415 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 Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$415] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

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

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

Sincerely,



Theodore E. Deutch  
Chairman

TED/JW:adw



Jackie Walorski  
Ranking Member



### Attendees List

Rep.	Jake	Auchincloss	D	MA
Rep.	Don	Bacon	R	NE
Rep.	Nanette	Barragan	D	CA
Rep.	Josh	Gottheimer	D	NJ
Rep.	Ron	Kind	D	WI
Rep.	Donald	Norcross	D	NJ
Rep.	Michael	Turner	R	OH
Rep.	Fred	Upton	R	MI

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
Members of Congress  
June 26 – July 2, 2022**

**Breakdown of other expenses**

<b>Other expense</b>	<b>Cost per person</b>
Security	\$775.91
Speaker Fees	\$328.38
Hotels for contract staff	\$273.73
Room Rentals and Setup (Mics)	\$238.08
Meals for contract staff and guests	\$186.11
Tour Guide/Yad Vashem Guide	\$176.38
Misc.	\$83.79
Photography	\$33.46
Entrance Fees	\$11.50
<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,112.96</b>



**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
U.S. Members of Congress  
June 26 – July 2, 2022**

**Itinerary**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022**

Afternoon                      Flights depart from domestic airports

Evening                         Flights depart for Israel

**MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2022**

Afternoon                      Arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport  
Transfer to Jerusalem  
Check in to the Orient hotel

8:00 – 8:30 PM                **Welcome and Orientation**  
Arne Christenson, Managing Director

8:30 – 9:30 PM                **Pulse of the Nation**  
Dinner with Herb Keinon  
Senior Contributing Editor, *The Jerusalem Post*  
-at Touro

Herb Keinon is a senior contributing editor and columnist at The Jerusalem Post, writing extensively on diplomacy, politics and Israeli society. He has been at the paper for 37 years, 20 of those as its diplomatic correspondent, and during this time has covered up close the major stories that have shaped the nation for more than three decades: from the first intifada to the withdrawal from Gaza; the massive immigration of Soviet Jews to the Rabin assassination; the Ariel Sharon premiership to that of Benjamin Netanyahu. He has traveled extensively with Israel's prime ministers on their trips around the world and has interviewed dozens of Israeli and world politicians, statesmen and decision-makers. He will provide the group with a synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of Israeli voters at this particular moment in time.

9:30 – 10:00 PM                **Shalom Jerusalem**  
Optional walking tour in the Old City

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 Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. 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.

10:00 PM Overnight at the Orient hotel, Jerusalem

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2022**

8:00 AM Breakfast on own  
-at the hotel

8:30 AM Depart for Yad Vashem

9:00 – 11:00 AM **Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust**  
Visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum  
Wreath Laying Ceremony  
-at Yad Vashem

One cannot understand Israel's worldview 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 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 delegation through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

11:00 AM Depart for Ramallah

12:00 – 1:00 PM **A View from the Palestinian Authority**  
The Honorable Mohammad Shtayyeh  
Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority  
-at the Muqata, Ramallah

During each member seminar, participants hear from the Palestinian Authority. President Mahmoud Abbas will present the current state of Palestinian Authority Affairs, including the Palestinian perspective on the issues of the day, as well as relations with Israel and prospects for peace.

1:00 PM Depart for lunch

2:00 – 2:45 PM Lunch  
-at Piccolino

2:45 – 3:45 PM **Strategic Threats Overview**  
Breakfast with Moshe "Bogie" Ya'alon  
Former Defense Minister, and  
Former Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF)  
-at Piccolino

In order to understand the strategic threats facing Israel, participants must understand the unique situation facing Israel at the borders with the Gaza Strip, Lebanon, and Syria, all Iranian proxies. This briefing will provide an overview of each border, as well as the malign activity from Iran contributing to unrest in the region.

3:45 PM Depart for hotel

7:00 – 8:00 PM **The Abraham Accords**  
Dinner with

- Eliad Benjamin, Head of the Middle East Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Tally Zinger, CEO and Co-Founder, Dawsat

-at the hotel

Since Israel’s founding, the Jewish state has sought to reach a just and lasting solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict, and a comprehensive regional peace. The United States has been closely involved in negotiations between Israel and several Arab states, including – most recently - the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan – under the Abraham Accords. This session will explore the Abraham Accords, and prospects for regional peace following these historic agreements.

8:00 PM Depart for dinner

8:30 – 10:30 PM **Start Up Nation**  
Dinner with:

- Liat Arad, VP of Marketing, UBQ Materials
- Revital Kremer, CTO, SupPlant
- Matias Sigal, Senior Business Development Manager, EcoWave Power

-at Eucalyptus

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 session will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

10:30 PM Overnight at the Orient Hotel

### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2022**

8:00 -9:00 AM **Israeli Politics Primer**  
Breakfast with Dr. Cameron Brown  
-at the hotel

9:00 AM Depart for the Prime Minister’s Office

9:30 AM Security Check

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM **A View from the Prime Minister's Office**  
Meeting with the Honorable Naftali Bennett  
Prime Minister of Israel  
-at the Prime Minister's Office

Every member delegation has the opportunity to meet with Israel's Prime Minister. Prime Minister Naftali Bennett was sworn into office on June 13, 2021, after Israel held its fourth election in two years.

12:00 – 12:30 PM **Regional Briefing**  
Meeting with Eyal Hulata  
National Security Advisor  
-at the Prime Minister's Office

The group will be briefed by Mr. Hulata, National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister.

12:30 PM Depart for Knesset

2:00 – 2:45 PM Meeting with The Honorable Mansour Abbas  
Chair, United Arab List (Ra'am) Party  
-at Maghar

Approximately 22% of Israeli residents are part of the non-Jewish minority, which includes, among others, Muslims, Christians, and Druze. As a liberal, democratic state, Israel is rooted in liberty, the rule of law, free and fair elections, and full civil rights for all citizens. Mansour Abbas is Deputy Speaker of the Knesset and chair of the United Arab List (Ra'am). In 2021, after four elections in two years, Mr. Abbas joined Yair Lapid and Naftali Bennett to form the most politically diverse coalition in Israeli history. It marked the first time in decades an Arab party helped form the coalition. Mr. Abbas will discuss the status of the current coalition, as well as his vision for Arab-Israeli society.

2:45 – 3:30 PM **A View from the Opposition**  
Meeting with The Honorable Benjamin Netanyahu  
Head of the Opposition  
-at the Knesset

It is customary for participants to meet with the leader of the opposition party, to get a comprehensive view of the Knesset. During this session, the group will meet with The Honorable Benjamin Netanyahu, who served as Israel's Prime Minister for 12 years, ending in June 2021. He was Israel's longest serving Prime Minister.

4:00 – 5:00 PM **A View from the Coalition**  
Meeting with The Honorable Yair Lapid  
Foreign Minister and Alternate Prime Minister  
-at the Knesset

The Honorable Yair Lapid currently serves as Alternate Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. Lapid is the Chairman of the Yesh Atid Party, which he founded in 2012. Prior to entering politics, Lapid

was a columnist at the Yediot Aharonot daily newspaper and hosted a current affairs talk show on television, which became the most watched news program in the country.

5:00 – 6:00 PM            **Meeting with Ambassador Tom Nides**  
U.S. Ambassador to Israel  
-at the Knesset

Every member delegation meets with the U.S. Ambassador to Israel. Thomas Nides was confirmed as the U.S. Ambassador to Israel on November 3, 2021 and was most recently the Managing Director and Vice Chairman of Morgan Stanley. A distinguished public servant as well as a business leader, Nides was the U.S. State Department’s Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources from 2010 – 2013. Earlier, Mr. Nides was Morgan Stanley’s Chief Administrative Officer, Chief Operating Officer and Secretary of the Board, the President and Chief Executive Officer of Burson-Marsteller in New York, and the Chief Administrative Officer of Credit Suisse First Boston in Washington, D.C. He also served as the Senior Vice President of Fannie Mae in Washington from 1998 – 2001. Mr. Nides presented his credentials to President Isaac Herzog, who accepted them, on December 5, 2021.

6:00 PM                    Depart for the North

6:30 – 7:30 PM            En route briefings:  
*The Jezreel Valley and Upper Galilee*

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 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 survey 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.

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.

8:30 – 10:00 PM            Dinner and Discussion  
-at Decks

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 reflect on the topics and perspectives presented to them assists in their ability to understand Israel's complexities.

10:00 PM                      Check in to the Magdala Hotel  
Overnight at the Magdala Hotel

**THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2022**

7:15 AM                      Luggage in Lobby, checkout

7:30 AM                      Breakfast on your own

8:00 – 9:00 AM              **Christian and Jewish Historical Discoveries**  
Visit to Magdala

As part of the seminar's focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the delegation will be visiting several of the most sacred sites for Christians in the Holy Land. The ancient town of Magdala was established in the Hellenistic Period and grew to a thriving fishing village by the time the Romans invaded the Galilee in 67 AD. Situated on the shores of the Galilee along a major commercial trade route, the Via Maris, and on the way from Nazareth to Capernaum, Magdala was an active city filled with fishermen, shopkeepers and townspeople. Providentially uncovered in 2009, archaeological discoveries indicate the presence of an observant Jewish Community in Magdala, as is evidenced in its First Century Synagogue. This synagogue is one of seven in the world and the best preserved today. In the center of the synagogue archeologists found the Magdala Stone, a discovery they have quoted to be, "one of the most significant finds in the past 50 years." It is in Magdala where Jesus likely taught the multitudes and healed the afflicted including a woman who made her hometown famous, Mary Magdalene.

9:00 AM                      Depart

10:00 – 11:30 AM            **U.S – Israel Defense Cooperation**

- Visit to Rafael Leshem Institute
- Meeting with Lt. Col. Rotem Zisser, Head, Iron Dome Development Branch  
Israel Missile Defense Organization
- Visit Iron Dome Battery  
-at Leshem

More than a decade ago, Israel developed Iron Dome to protect its citizens from persistent and increasingly dangerous rockets fired by Iranian-backed terrorists. Since being deployed, Iron Dome has intercepted more than 90 percent of the rockets it has targeted—preventing war, saving countless lives, and reducing physical and psychological damage. Leaders in Congress have recognized the importance of Israel's missile defense system and have allocated more than \$1.6 billion for this technology. Participants will have the opportunity to visit an Iron Dome site and speak with the soldiers responsible for its operation.

11:30 AM                      Depart

1:00 – 2:15 PM            **Northern Border Concerns: The Lebanese Border**  
Lunch and Briefing with LT. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi  
Director, Alma Research Center  
-at Shula b'Shtula

Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi served 15 years in the IDF in Military Intelligence –first in the Research and Analysis Branch, and later in the Northern Command. During her military service she briefed hundreds of delegations, ranging from U.S. Senators, Congressmen and politicians to global military commanders, senior journalists and visiting VIP delegations. She is the founder/director of Alma, an educational research center focusing on the security issues of Israel's northern border. Zehavi has authored many position papers focusing on Lebanon, Syria and Israel's national security challenges, and continues to brief delegations on these topics. She holds an MA in Middle East Studies from Ben Gurion University and is a resident of the northern Galilee region.

2:30 – 3:00 PM            **Visit to Hezbollah Terror Tunnel**  
-at Zarit

Virtually all of southern Lebanon is a maze of underground bunkers, rocket-launching sites, and interconnected tunnels built by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah terrorist organization. Hezbollah is the most powerful terrorist organization in the world, stronger than most national armies. They receive around \$700 million annually from Iran, along with advanced weapons, training, and political support. During this visit, the delegation will have the opportunity to go into a Hezbollah tunnel discovered by the Israel Defense Forces, to see firsthand this terrorist army poses to Israel and the region.

3:00 PM                    Depart for Jerusalem

6:00 PM                    Arrive

7:45 PM                    Depart for dinner

8:00 – 10:00 PM        **Understanding the Peace Process**  
Dinner with Dr. Tal Becker  
Senior Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
--at La Guta

Since Israel's founding, the Jewish state has sought to reach a just and lasting solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict. The United States has been closely involved in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Dr. Tal Becker is a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team. In this position, he is on the front lines of many of Israel's most pressing diplomatic, legal and policy challenges. He is a veteran negotiator, and key behind the scenes representative, for Israel in a wide variety of contexts. During this session, he will address the prospects for peace in the current political climate. He will also discuss the complex challenges that have prevented a final status agreement thus far.

10:00 PM                   Overnight at the Orient hotel

**FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2022**

- 8:00 AM Breakfast on own  
-at the hotel
- 8:30 AM Depart
- 10:00 -11:15 PM **Historical Survey of Tel Aviv**
- 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM **Cybersecurity – Threats and Opportunities**  
Meeting with Yigal Unna  
Former Director, Israel’s National Cyber Bureau  
-at Messa

The State of Israel was among the first countries in the world to recognize the importance of defending its critical computerized systems. In 2011, the National Cyber Bureau was established to advise the Prime Minister, the government and its committees, on recommendations for national policy in the cyber field. The Bureau works to promote the national capability in cyberspace and to improve Israel's preparedness in dealing with the current and future challenges in cyberspace. The group will hear from the bureau’s former director about the cyber security threats facing Israel, and how the Jewish state manages these threats.

- 12:30 – 2:00 PM **Israeli Humanitarian Work in the Ukraine**  
Lunch with
- Simona Halperin, Head of Euro-Asia Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
  - Yoel Hareven, Director of the International Division & Resource Development
  - Yotam Polizer, Chief Executive Officer, IsraelAid
- at Messa

As the world considers the security of countries that border Russia, Israel is no stranger to having the Russian military operate along its own borders. For the past seven years, Moscow’s military forces have been deployed in Syria, with de facto control of Syria’s skies. As Iran stations its own proxy forces in Syria and uses the country as a passthrough to arm Hezbollah, Israel is forced to coordinate with Russia to defend itself from the growing Iranian threat. Despite Russia’s military presence in Syria—along with Israel’s unique role as a possible mediator between Russia and Ukraine—the Jewish state has provided vital aid to the Ukrainian people. Israel is leading some of the key efforts in Ukraine and on the borders – both through the official governmental channels, but also via civic organizations, veteran and new. In this session, representatives from key organizations on the ground will share their experiences on the frontlines of Russia’s war against Ukraine.

- 2:00 PM Depart
- 3:15 – 4:15 PM **Strategic Survey of Jerusalem: City of David**  
Guided tour

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has consumed an enormous amount of time and manpower of members of consecutive American Administrations as well as members of Congress. One of the most intractable issues in the conflict has been the question of the future of Jerusalem. Jerusalem's City of David, more than any other site, represents the complexity of this conflict. The City of David is the site most archeologists agree to be the ancient city of Jerusalem that later became the capital of the united Israelite tribes under King David. This area is one of the most intensively excavated sides in the wider region. To Jewish Israelis, the site represents the beginning of their physical and emotional attachment to Jerusalem that has continued for over three thousand years. At the same time, much of the site is located in the predominantly Arab neighborhood of Silwan. The residents of Silwan, and the Palestinian Authority leadership are opposed to the archeological efforts being carried out in the City of David. In several instances, homes in Silwan were purchased and then destroyed to open up more areas for excavations. Palestinian leadership has denied the existence of any Jewish connection to Jerusalem.

4:15 PM                      Depart for hotel  
                                    Prepare for departure

6:30 – 8:00 PM            **Reflections of the Sabbath in Jerusalem**  
                                    -at the hotel

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.

8:00 PM                      Depart for airport

Evening                      Flights depart for the United States

**SATURDAY, JULY 2, 2022**

Morning                      Flights arrive in the United States

Morning                      Flights depart for domestic cities

















