



EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

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, by email at 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: Megan Porter
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ OR None
 b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 8/12/2022 Return: 8/21/2022
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ OR None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Tel Aviv, Israel Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: The Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended:
 We explored the defense and economic relationship between the United States and Israel, including through conversations with the National Security Advisor and top military leaders, and tours of missile defense systems, the technology employed along the borders with Gaza, Lebanon, and Syria, and of an Air Force base.
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 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 statement is true by checking the 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: Megan E Porter Date: 8/30/2022

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: Troy Balderson Date: 8/31/22

Signature of Supervising Member: [Signature]



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.

- Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: The Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)
- Travel Destination(s): Israel
- Date of Departure: August 12, 2022 Date of Return: August 21, 2022
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): See Tab A

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 Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$1,800 (\$1,100 for round trip coach air travel, \$700 for bus transportation to/from airport and between sites in Israel)	\$2,670 (\$1,900 in Herzliya, \$770 in Jerusalem)	\$1,228 (\$918 in Herzliya, \$310 in Jerusalem)	\$700 (guides, entrance fees)
Accompanying Family Member	NA	NA	NA	NA

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

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

Signature:  Date: 08/30/2022

Name: Michael Makovsky, PhD Title: JINSA President and CEO

Organization: The Jewish Institute for National Security of America

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

Address: 1101 14th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20005

Email: mmakovsky@jinsa.org Telephone: (202) 667-3900

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.**

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: Megan Porter

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: Megan E Porter

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): Troy Balderson

Office Address: 2429 Rayburn House Office Building

Telephone Number: 202-225-5355

Email Address of Contact Person: megan.porter@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.



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TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Megan Porter

2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:
The Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)

3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel : Israel

4. a. Date of Departure: Friday, August 12 Date of Return: Sunday, August 21

b. Yes No Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?

If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____

5. a. Yes No Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? If yes:

(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: _____

(2) Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____

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

6. a. Yes No Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?

b. If yes, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:

7. Yes No *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.

NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties.

Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.

I am a Legislative Assistant. I look forward to learning about the cooperation between the United States and Israel, particularly when it comes to National Security and Defense. This will be beneficial as I advise my boss on votes, such as the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), oversight over the Department of Defense and Department of State, and meetings with foreign affairs and defense-related groups.

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 07/07/2022



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) 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:
The Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)
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):
See attached Tab A.
5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: Friday August 12 Date of return: Sunday August 21
7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C., United States
b. Destination(s): Tel Aviv, Israel
c. City of return: Washington, D.C., United States
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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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:

For nearly 50 years, JINSA has been dedicated to educating congressional, military and civilian national security decision-makers on American defense and strategic interests, primarily in the Middle East, the cornerstone of which is a robust U.S.-Israeli security cooperation relationship. Organized and run entirely by JINSA, this trip directly supports our core educational mission.

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: _____)
- b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: _____)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*
15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
- b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation.
- If "b" is checked:
- 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided):
- \$153 per person
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:
- Educational travel to deepen understanding of the U.S.-Israel bilateral defense relationship.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: Ritz Carlton City: Herzliya, Israel Cost Per Night: \$380
- Reason(s) for Selecting: Centrally located for meetings in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and meetings in north and south of country
- Hotel Name: David Citadel City: Jerusalem, Israel Cost Per Night: \$385
- Reason(s) for Selecting: Centrally located for meetings in Jerusalem
- 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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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	\$1,800	\$2,670	\$1,224
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$3,000	Ground transportation, guides, entry fee
For each Accompanying Family Member		


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

19. Check only one:

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

20. I certify by my signature that

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

Signature:  Date: 07/05/2022

Name: Dr. Michael Makovsky Title: President and CEO

Organization: The Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)

Address: 1101 14th Street, NW, Suite 1030 Washington, DC 20005

Email: mmakovsky@jinsa.org Telephone: (202) 667-3900

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 | 202-225-7103
More information and forms available at 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

July 19, 2022

Ms. Megan Porter
Office of the Honorable Troy Balderson
2429 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Porter:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for August 12 to 21, 2022, sponsored by Jewish Institute for National Security of America.

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 \$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 employees 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.

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

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

Sincerely,



Theodore E. Deutch
Chairman

Jackie Walorski
Ranking Member

TED/JW:rp

Tab A
2022 JINSA Congressional National Security Program to Israel
House Participant List

1. **Elizabeth Beltran**, Legislative Assistant to Rep. Marilyn Strickland (WA)
2. **Lauren Billman**, Deputy Chief of Staff to Rep. Carol Miller (WV)
3. **Taylor Fairless**, MLA to Rep. Jimmy Panetta (CA)
4. **Valerie Foy**, Legislative Assistant to Rep. Don Bacon (NE)
5. **Amanda Guiliano**, Senior Policy Advisor to Rep. David Trone (MD)
6. **A.T. Johnston**, Deputy Chief of Staff to Rep. Bill Timmons (SC)
7. **Rachel Kline**, Legislative Director to Rep. Stephanie Murphy (FL)
8. **Twinkle Patel**, Legislative Director to Rep. Greg Steube (FL)
9. **Megan Porter**, Legislative Assistant to Rep. Troy Balderson (OH)
10. **Chase Sauvage**, Military Legislative Assistant (MLA) to Rep. August Pfluger (TX)
11. **Stephen Siao**, Chief of Staff to Rep. Mark Green (TN)
12. **Danielle Stoebe**, Senior Legislative Assistant to Rep. Claudia Tenney (NY)



**The Jewish Institute for National Security of America
2022 Congressional National Security Program to Israel
August 12–21, 2022**

TRAVEL: Friday, August 12th

22:45 Departure from Dulles International Airport, Washington, D.C., USA.

TRAVEL: Saturday, August 13th

17:40 Arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv, Israel.

18:20-19:00 Transfer to the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, 4 Hashunit Street, Herzliya, 4655504, Israel.

19:00-20:00 Dinner at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya (no speakers).

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya

Day 1: Sunday, August 14th

Grand Strategy and Regional Perspective, Israel's Policy and Defense Strategy Day

06:30 Breakfast Available

0800-12:30 Executive Time

12:30-13:30 Lunch at Meat and Eat, Herzliya, 2 HaShunit Street, Herzliya (no speakers).

13:30-14:50 Briefing by **MG Amidror**, former National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of Israel at the Ritz-Carlton complex, 4 HaShunit Street, Herzliya. Topic: "Israel - 2,000 Years of Dreams," an overview of the history of Israel touching on the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 CE, the rise of Zionism in the 19th century, the Balfour Declaration issued by Great Britain during WWI to establish a Jewish homeland, and the declaration of Israeli independence in 1948 in the aftermath of WWII, followed by a broad strategic overview of the U.S. / Israel defense cooperation relationship from 1948 through the present.

14:50-15:20 Depart to **Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) Innovation Center** at Ramat Gan, Tel Aviv.

15:20-17:00 Tour and briefing by IAI officials at the **Israel Aerospace Industries Innovation Center**, Zabotinsky 2 Ramat Gan, Tel Aviv.

Topic: Overview of the startup high-tech ecosystem of Israel, how it acts as an accelerator speeding up the development of advanced technologies, and how this strengthens Israel's defense industrial base.

17:00-17:30 Drive back to the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya.

17:30-17:45 Executive Time

17:45-19:00 Briefing by **MG Yaacov Ayish**, Former Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Defense Attaché to the U.S. and Canada and JINSA's Senior Vice President for Israeli Affairs at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya.

Topic: "The State of Israel," a strategic overview of Israel including a discussion of population concentrations, key strategic infrastructure, and current security threats. Discussion of how the mil-to-mil partnership between the United States and Israel strengthens the ability of both nations to address shared security concerns.

19:00-20:00 Briefing by **MG Yaakov Banjo**, IDF Planning Directorate.

Topic: "The World in Motion," an in-depth discussion of Israel's view of the global strategic competition between the U.S., China, and Russia and how this impacts the strategic environment in the Middle East, particularly with respect to Iran.

20:00-20:15 Executive Time

20:15-21:30 **JINSA Delegation Welcome Dinner with MG Ayish** at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya.

Topic: Review and summary of key points from the day's briefings; open conversation, debate, and dialogue on issues like China's role in the Middle East and an update on the impact of the Abraham Accords on regional security developments; and previewed upcoming events later in the week.

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya

Total Hours of Programming: 6.5

Day 2: Monday, August 15th

Northern Command Day- Syria-Lebanon-Hezbollah

06:30 Breakfast Available

07:30-09:00 Depart Hotel for War Reserves Stockpile Allies-Israel (WRSA-I). Brief by **MG Ayish** on bus.

Topic: Israel's lack of strategic depth in the north, highlighting economically important strategic sites including Haifa Port and off-shore natural gas platforms.

- 09:00-09:30 Briefing by **MG Ayish** on the War Reserves Stockpile Allies-Israel (WRSA-I), one of the United States' largest collections of warfighting material pre-positioned to be used in wartime at a WRSA-I observation point.
Topic: How WRSA-I functions and serves as an example of U.S. / Israel security cooperation.
- 09:30-09:45 Travel to Israel's Northern Command in Safed.
- 09:45-10:30 Briefing by **Israel Defense Forces (IDF) 91st Division at Northern Command** in Safed.
Topic: The strategic threat Israel faces on its northern border facing Lebanon from Hezbollah (and Iran).
- 10:30-11:00 Drive to Hezbollah Terror Tunnel near Metula. Briefing by **MG Ayish** on bus.
Topic: How Hezbollah planned to use the tunnels from Lebanon to invade Israel and conduct raids against Israeli civilians and infrastructure.
- 11:00-12:00 **IDF 91st Division briefing and tour of the Remia Hezbollah Terror Tunnel** near Metula.
Topic: Discussion of how Hezbollah spent years carving tunnels out of hard rock, at a cost of millions of dollars, designed to enable them to launch surprise attacks against Israel and how these efforts were thwarted. Tour of physical tunnel to enable participants to see first-hand the extent of the tunnels and the level of effort employed to develop them.
- 12:45-13:15 Drive to lunch in Ramot, Golan Heights.
- 13:15-14:00 Lunch at The Cabin, Nof Kinneret St, Ramot (no speakers).
- 14:00-15:00 Drive to IDF 210th Division Base Isaac (along the Syrian border). Briefing by **MG Ayish** on the bus.
Topic: Overview of the contentious history between Israel and Syria, who have technically been at war since 1948, and have fought each other in three major wars: the 1948 Arab Israeli War, the 1967 Six-Day War, and the 1973 Yom Kippur War.
- 15:00-16:00 Briefing by **IDF 210th Division on the Syrian Border** at an observation point overlooking the border.
Topic: Briefing on the tank battles between Israel and Syrian forces during the Six-Day War in 1967 and Yom Kippur War in 1973 on the Golan Heights. Further discussion of the evolving threat Israel faces from Syria today, particularly in light of the Syrian Civil War that began in 2011, and violent incidents in recent years that have strained relations between the two nations. Discussion of Israeli humanitarian aid to Syrians during the civil war.

- 16:00-16:30 Drive to Kibbutz Ortal, Northern Golan Heights.
- 16:30-17:00 Briefing by MG Ayish at Kibbutz Ortal on the history and continuing use of Israel's Kibbutz economic system, the role it played in the history of Zionism and helping Israel to settle and secure its northern border region.
- 17:00-19:00 Drive to Caesarea.
- 19:00-21:00 Dinner at Hazalbanim Restaurant (or Crusaders Restaurant), Caesarea Port Caesarea. **MG Ayish** led roundtable discussion.
Topic: Summary of the key points from the day's briefings and site visits in the north, open conversation and dialogue on topics including the Hezbollah terror tunnel system and the role of Caesarea as the principal port in the Roman-era and how this compares to the Haifa Port complex of today. Guidance and preview the next day's events provided.
- 21:00 Return to hotel
- Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya* *Total Hours of Programming: 8.5*

Day 3 Tuesday, August 16th

Israel's Parliament and Innovation Ecosystem

- 08:00-09:30 Depart to the **Israeli Knesset** (Parliament), Kiryat Ben-Gurion, Jerusalem.
- 09:30-10:30 Tour of the Knesset (Parliament)
Topic: The role of the Knesset in the Israeli system of government and the role it plays in the development and execution of Israeli national security policy.
- 10:30-11:30 Briefing by **Asaf Friedman**, Director for the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee at the Knesset in Jerusalem.
Topic: Brief on how the 120 members are elected, and the role the Knesset plays in developing and executing Israeli national security policy. Similarities and differences with the U.S. Congress were discussed and highlighted.
- 11:30-12:30 Briefing by **Asaf Wiss**, Chief of Staff to the House Speaker at the Knesset in Jerusalem.
Topic: Discussion of how the legislative process operates in Israel, challenges in designing and executing policy within the Israel system of government, and discussion of similarities and differences to how the U.S. Congress operates. Further discussion regarding the composition of the current governing coalition and potential impact of the upcoming elections later this year on national security policy.
- 12:30-13:00 Depart for lunch in Jerusalem.

- 13:00-14:00 Lunch in Jerusalem at Abu Gosh Restaurant, 11 Hagoren Abu Ghosh (no speakers).
- 14:00-15:00 Depart to Sheba Hospital, Tel Aviv, established in 1948 as Israel's first military hospital, and now a leading medical center in the Middle East and an internationally recognized healthcare facility. Brief by **MG Ayish** on the bus. Topic: Israeli-American medical innovation partnership and its relation to supporting each nations respective war-fighters and veterans.
- 15:00-16:00 Tour of **Sheba Hospital** in Derech Sheba, Ramat Gan, Tel Aviv. Demonstration of Israeli-American revolutionary innovation that can destroy deep tissue in the body without the need for incisions at Insight-Tech, of direct relevance to caring for warfighters and veterans.
- 16:00-17:00 Drive to the Peres Innovation Center in Tel Aviv.
- 17:00-18:30 Tour of the **Peres Innovation Center**, 132 Kedem St., Tel Aviv-Jaffa. Topic: Explore how Israeli non-governmental organizations share Israeli knowledge and best practices with their Palestinian neighbors via medical training programs and utilize social networking platforms to bring together young men and women from across the Middle East and North Africa region, as examples of ongoing efforts to decrease support for radical groups in the Middle East.
- 18:30-19:30 Departure back to the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya.
- 19:30-21:00 Briefing and dinner with **Dr. Eyal Hulata**, the National Security Advisor and the Head of the Israeli National Security Council at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya. Topic: In-depth discussion of topics such as the U.S. / Israel security relationship, the aftermath of President Biden's recent trip to the Middle East, emergent opportunities to improve regional air defense systems and expand the Abraham Accords, and how best to respond to Iranian malign activity in the region.

Overnight: Ritz -Carlton Hotel, Herzliya

Total Hours of Programming: 7

Day 4: Wednesday, August 17th

Intelligence Day & U.S.-Israel cooperation

- 06:30 Breakfast Available
- 07:30-08:30 Depart to Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) in International Airport Ben Gurion.
- 08:30-09:30 Visit to IAI and brief by **IAI senior executive** in Lod.

Topic: History of Israel Aerospace Industries and background of collaboration with the U.S. defense industrial base.

- 09:30-10:15 Briefing by **IAI project manager** on the F35 wing production line at IAI, Lod.
Topic: Gain insight into how collaboration between U.S. and Israeli defense industries contribute to the defense of both nations in the air domain.
- 10:15-11:00 Briefing by **IAI project manager** on the drone laboratory weapons line at IAI, Lod.
Topic: Gain insight into how collaboration between U.S. and Israeli industry contributes to Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities of both nations.
- 11:00-11:45 Briefing by **IAI project manager** on the loitering weapons line at IAI, Lod.
Topic: Gain insight into how collaboration between U.S. and Israeli industry contributes to the defense capabilities of both nations.
- 11:45-12:30 Briefing by **IAI project manager** on the Israeli satellite industry at IAI, Lod.
Topic: Gain insight into how collaboration between U.S. and Israeli industry contributes to space capabilities of both nations.
- 12:30-13:45 Lunch at Airport Café, Ben Gurion Airport City in Tel Aviv.
- 13:45-15:30 Drive to Israeli Air-Force (IAF) Base Ramon, southwest of Beersheba. Brief by **Yaniv Menachim**, JINSA Middle East Operations Manager on the bus.
Topic: Overview of the Israeli Air-Force and base structure.
- 15:30-16:00 F16 training demonstration by 201 Squadron at Ramon Air Force Base.
- 16:00-16:30 Briefing by **IAF 201 Squadron** at Ramon Air Force Base.
Topic: Discussion of day-to-day base operations and the squadron's role in operations like Operation Guardian of the Walls in 2021 and Operation Breaking Dawn in 2022.
- 16:30-17:30 Base tour of Ramon Air Force Base.
- 17:30-19:30 Drive to Dinner, Concierge, Dizengoff 95, Tel Aviv.
- 19:30-21:00 Dinner at Concierge, Tel Aviv (no speakers).
- 21:00 Return to Ritz-Carlton

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya

Total Hours of Programming: 6+

Day 5: Thursday, August 18th

Southern Command and the Gaza Strip + Middle East Policy and Israel's National Security Day

- 06:30 Breakfast Available
- 08:00-9:30 Depart to the Gaza border. Brief by **MG Ayish** on bus.
Topic: Israel's lack of strategic depth in the south and discussion of economically important strategic sites such as the Ashkelon Desalination Plant in this region.
- 09:30-10:30 IDF briefing at the Kerem Shalom crossing into the Gaza Strip at the end of Road 232.
Topic: Israeli Humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip and how it operates on a day-to-day basis.
- 10:30-10:40 Depart to the IDF experimental Terror Tunnel at the IDF Gaza Division by bus.
- 10:40-12:20 Briefing by the **IDF Head of the Subterranean Warfare branch** at the Gaza Division near Kibbutz Kissufim, under the jurisdiction of Eshkol Regional Council.
Topic: How Hamas and Hezbollah employ subterranean warfare capabilities, how the IDF trains to counter these capabilities, and examples of the sorts of technological solutions employed to do so.
- 12:20-12:40 Drive to the Bells Hills Observation Point.
- 12:40-13:00 **IDF briefing at Bells Hills Observation Point** overlooking Gaza from Israel.
Topic: Overview of the strategic landscape faced by Israel during the 11-day Gaza conflict in 2021, where Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad fired more than 4,455 total munitions at Israel. Roughly 90 percent of projectiles targeting civilian populated areas were intercepted by Iron Dome, while over 600 rockets fired from Gaza landed in Gaza itself. Discussion of what a future conflict with Hamas might look like.
- 13:00-14:00 Lunch at food truck at Black Arrow Monument near Bells Hills (no speakers).
- 14:00-14:20 Depart to Kibbutz Eivim. Brief by **MG Ayish**
Topic: The role played by Iron Dome missile defense system in the 2021 Gaza conflict in protecting Israeli and Arab civilians.
- 14:20-15:00 Briefing at the **Iron Dome** missile defense battery site by **Major Amoz Man**, the Defense Ministry's Administration for the Development of Weapons and Technological Infrastructure (MAFAT), near Kibbutz Eivim.
Topic: The value of this critically important joint-U.S. / Israeli produced system in protecting civilian life and infrastructure.

- 15:00-16:30 Depart to Jerusalem, the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Yitzhak Rabin Boulevard, Kiryat HaLeom, Jerusalem.
- 16:30-17:30 Meeting with **Mr. David Roth**, Deputy North America branch at the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Kiryat HaLeom, Jerusalem.
Topic: Briefing on U.S. / Israel foreign relations in the aftermath of President Biden's recent visit to the region.
- 17:30-18:00 Depart Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 18:00-18:30 Check-in to the David Citadel Hotel, King David St 7, Jerusalem
- 18:30-21:00 Executive Time
- Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem Total Hours of Programming: 6.5*

Day 6: Friday, August 19th

Israel's Roots, Heritage, and the Impact on National Security

- 06:30 Breakfast Available
- 08:30-09:00 Depart Hotel for Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust Memorial Museum
- 09:00-11:00 Visit to **Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust Memorial Museum, Jerusalem**
Background: By 1945, the Nazi's Third Reich had killed the majority of Europe's Jewish population, destroying a civilization that had flourished for centuries. Yad Vashem encapsulates and memorializes this tragic history. The visit will provide participants with an unparalleled opportunity to learn about the Holocaust, how it is perceived and understood through the eyes of Israelis, and how it significantly impacts Israel's national defense posture and diplomatic relationships today.
- 11:00-11:30 Depart for the City of David, Jerusalem
- 11:30-14:00 Tour of the **City of David, Jerusalem**
Background: The United States Embassy in Jerusalem, together with the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, have recognized the City of David as a testament to America's Judeo-Christian heritage and founding principles. The archeological discoveries at the City of David bring Biblical Jerusalem back to life and reaffirm the prophetic messages of freedom, justice and peace that inspired America's founders. The City of David is an archaeological excavation of the city of ancient Jerusalem, prior to the Jewish-Roman wars and the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE. Participants will learn how Israelis, from diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds, perceive their history and connection to the land of Israel. A key

focus will be how this history and the interpretation of it strongly manifests itself in the political and religious challenges that Israeli experiences today in the modern world and how this impacts Israel's national defense posture.

14:00-15:00 Lunch at Panoramic Golden City, Old City, Jerusalem. Briefing by **Khaled Abu Toameh**, Israeli-Arab Journalist for the Washington Post and Jerusalem Post. Topic: Perspective on how the Arab world, (including Palestinian Arabs, Jordanians, Egyptians and others), understands and perceives Israel, how perceptions and misperceptions impact public opinion and government decision-making, and how this in turn impacts the regional security environment.

15:00-17:00 Visit to the Old City, Jerusalem
Background: Participants will be exposed to Jerusalem as city of continuing vital importance to three of the world's great faiths. The walk through of the Old City will include an overview of government administration of the West Bank and a discussion of the current political dynamics in the West Bank, specifically the relationship between the Israeli Government and the Palestinian Authority and the ongoing security challenges that affect Israelis and Palestinians, and how this impacts the broader security environment in the Middle East.

They will start with a visit to the **Jewish Quarter** of the Old City and learn about the layers of Judaism from the time of the First Temple until the present day, including the **Cardo**, the main thoroughfare of Roman Jerusalem. Participants will then continue to the traditional **Via Dolorosa**, the Way of the Cross, to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, to gain a greater appreciation of the importance of Jerusalem to the Christian world.

17:00-18:00 Return to David Citadel Hotel, King David St 7, Jerusalem.

18:00-19:30 Voluntary review of trip by participants at the David Citadel Hotel.

19:30-23:00 Shabbat Dinner at the Scala Restaurant, David Citadel Hotel, King David St 7, Jerusalem
Background: Shabbat is a day of rest that lasts from sundown on Friday evening through nightfall on Saturday night. Friday night dinner consists of a traditional meal and guests are considered an integral part of the weekly ritual. The Shabbat ceremony will consist of hymns, recitations, blessings, and eating, and provide participants with a unique window into modern Israeli cultural practices. Participation is an opportunity to strengthen ties with American foreign policy partners in Israel on a personal basis and gain a deeper understanding of each nation's rich heritage through participation in a shared communal experience.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem

Total Hours of Programming: 7+

Day 7: Saturday, August 20th

Day of Departure / Israel's Roots & Heritage, the Impact on National Security

- 06:30 Breakfast Available
- 08:00-10:30 Drive to the city **Tiberias**, founded in the year 20 CE and named after the Roman Emperor Tiberius.
Topics: Briefing on the importance Christians have placed on the Holy Land over the centuries and how this has impacted military and political decision making from diverse groups including Jewish revolutionaries in the Roman Era, Crusaders in the Middle Ages, and Great Britain in World War I.
- 10:30-12:30 Exploration of the Sea of Galilee region by visiting Christian holy sites including the **Tabgha**, site of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fish, and **Capernaum**, one of the first villages where Jesus taught to gain a fuller understanding of the importance of the Holy Land to the Christian world, the security implications of the religious importance of the region, and how this impacts the global political landscape.
- 12:30-13:30 Participants will gain a fuller understanding of the importance of the Holy Land to Christians and Jews today and how this impacts the global political landscape, by visiting the **Magdala Home** of Mary Magdalen and recently uncovered 2,000 year-old city which provides a window into the world of Jesus and his disciples in Magdala, Galilee. Magdala is a unique Holy Land site with a first century city where the Jewish residents gathered in a synagogue where Jesus visited and taught. Discussion will also provide an overview of the vibrant Christian community in Israel, the only place in the Middle East with a growing Christian population.
- 13:30-15:00 Lunch, Magdalena Restaurant, Migdal Junction, Magala Center Migdal (no speakers).
- 15:00-16:00 Tour of the **Kinneret**, also known as the Sea of Galilee.
Topic: Briefing on the importance of the Sea of Galilee and the Jordan River as both a border and a key water source for Israel and Jordan and the impact this plays in Israeli national security strategy. Discussion of the sea's historic importance, including to Christians for its connection to Jesus, who spent much of his life on or near it, and to late 19th century Zionists, who's dream of settling the Land of Israel became reality as pioneers and their families returned to the land and created a new form of agricultural settlement, the kibbutz.
- 16:00 Return to David Citadel Hotel, King David St 7, Jerusalem.

END OF OFFICIAL PROGRAM

20:15 Depart to Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv.

No overnight

Total Hours of Programming: 6+

TRAVEL: Sunday, August 21st

00:20 Departure from Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv, Israel.

05:30 Arrival at Dulles International Airport, Washington, D.C.