



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## 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](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.**

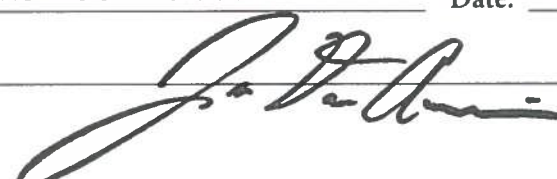
1. Name of Traveler: Joseph Valente
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ OR None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: Friday, June 23, 2023 Return: Sunday, July 2, 2023  
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ OR None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Tel Aviv, Israel Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Israel Policy Forum
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended:  
 Itinerary attached
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:  Date: 07/06/2023

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: Rep. Jake Auchincloss Date: 07/06/2023

Signature of Supervising Member: 



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: Israel Policy Forum
- Travel Destination(s): Israel and the West Bank
- Date of Departure: June 23, 2023 Date of Return: July 2, 2023
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): 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 Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$2,075.35	\$3,000.00	\$1,204.00	\$1,361.01 (See attached description)
Accompanying Family Member	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:  Date: July 6, 2023

Name: David A. Halperin Title: Chief Executive Officer

Organization: Israel Policy Forum

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

Address: 355 Lexington Ave, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10017

Email: aweinberg@ipforum.org Telephone: 212-315-1741

**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: Joseph Valente
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:  
Israel Policy Forum
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Israel and the West Bank
4. a. Date of Departure: June 23, 2023 Date of Return: July 2, 2023  
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.**  
As a Legislative Assistant for Rep. Auchincloss covering foreign affairs issues, this trip will deepen my understanding of the US-Israel relationship and regional security issues.
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 5/22/23



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 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:  
Israel Policy Forum
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. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: June 23, 2023 Date of return: July 2, 2023
7. a. City of departure: Washington D.C.  
b. Destination(s): Tel Aviv, Israel  
c. City of return: Washington, D.C.
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:



U.S. House of Representatives

# 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:  
Israel Policy Forum is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization focused on educating policy and Jewish communal leaders on pragmatic policy ideas regarding the US-Israel relationship and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. IPF alone is responsible for choosing attendees, planning, executing, and funding this trip in its entirety.
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: Charter bus on ground )
- 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):  
\$165
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:  
Please see attached
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: InterContinental David Hotel City: Tel Aviv Cost Per Night: \$450  
Reason(s) for Selecting: This hotel was chosen for its location, security, and comfort
- Hotel Name: Inbal Jerusalem City: Jerusalem Cost Per Night: \$420  
Reason(s) for Selecting: This hotel was chosen for its location, security, and comfort
- Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_
17.  I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

### 18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input 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	\$2046.84	\$3000	\$1320
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A

	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	\$1096.32	Please see attached
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

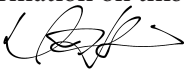
**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

### 19. Check 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: June 1, 2023  
 Name: David A. Halperin Title: Chief Executive Officer  
 Organization: Israel Policy Forum  
 Address: 355 Lexington Ave, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10017  
 Email: aweinberg@ipforum.org Telephone: 212-315-1741

## 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)



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 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:  
Israel Policy Forum
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. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: June 23, 2023 Date of return: July 2, 2023
7. a. City of departure: Washington D.C.  
b. Destination(s): Tel Aviv, Israel  
c. City of return: Washington, D.C.
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:



U.S. House of Representatives

# 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:  
Israel Policy Forum is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization focused on educating policy and Jewish communal leaders on pragmatic policy ideas regarding the US-Israel relationship and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. IPF alone is responsible for choosing attendees, planning, executing, and funding this trip in its entirety.
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: Charter bus on ground )
- 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):  
\$165
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:  
Please see attached.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: Carlton Tel Aviv City: Tel Aviv Cost Per Night: \$505  
Reason(s) for Selecting: This hotel was chosen for its location, security, and comfort
- Hotel Name: Inbal Jerusalem City: Jerusalem Cost Per Night: \$420  
Reason(s) for Selecting: This hotel was chosen for its location, security, and comfort
- Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_
17.  I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*





U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

### 18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input 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	\$1700	\$3110	\$1320
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A

	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	\$1524.89	Please see attached
For each Accompanying Family Member	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 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: May 15, 2023  
 Name: David A. Halperin Title: Chief Executive Officer  
 Organization: Israel Policy Forum  
 Address: 355 Lexington Ave, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10017  
 Email: aweinberg@ipforum.org Telephone: 212-315-1741

## INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

**U.S. House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

Keelie Broom  
*Counsel to the Chairman*

David Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

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

June 15, 2023

Mr. Joseph Valente  
Office of the Honorable Jake Auchincloss  
1524 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Valente:

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 June 23 to July 2, 2023, sponsored by Israel Policy Forum.

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 \$480 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 \$480] 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,

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

Michael Guest  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Wild". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Susan Wild  
Ranking Member

MG/SW:mc

**List of House Participants**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Office</b>
Shir Attias	Legislative Assistant	Rep. Lois Frankel
Jordan Dickinson	Deputy Chief of Staff	Rep. Dan Kildee
Joe Goldberg	Chief of Staff	Rep. Eric Sorensen
Sophie Mirviss	Staff Director, Democratic	House Foreign Affairs Committee
Haley Scott	Chief of Staff	Rep. Dan Goldman
Joe Valente	Legislative Assistant	Rep. Jake Auchincloss

### **List of Other Costs**

\$32.27- Airport Assistance  
\$52.86- Security  
\$297.31- Meeting room rentals  
\$848.15- Speaker Fees  
\$11.08- Porterage  
\$76.63- Tips  
\$42.71- Miscellaneous (printing, water, etc)

### List of House Participants

As Congressional staff, the following participants advise their bosses on legislation related to the issues being examined and addressed on this trip, including: the U.S.-Israel relationship, Israeli-Palestinian conflict, U.S. foreign aid, and U.S. policy related to the Middle East.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Office</b>
Shir Attias	Legislative Assistant	Rep. Lois Frankel
Jordan Dickinson	Deputy Chief of Staff	Rep. Dan Kildee
Joe Goldberg	Chief of Staff	Rep. Eric Sorensen
Sophie Mirviss	Staff Director, Democratic	House Foreign Affairs Committee
Haley Scott	Chief of Staff	Rep. Dan Goldman
Joe Valente	Legislative Assistant	Rep. Jake Auchincloss

**Answer to Question 15 (b) 2:**

The trip will take place in Israel and the West Bank, as these are critical to understanding the complex issues related to the conflict and the US-Israel relationship.

### **List of Other Costs**

\$36.92- Airport Assistance  
\$20.79- Security  
\$88.46- Meeting room rentals  
\$842.31- Speaker Fees  
\$10.31- Porterage  
\$75.38- Tips  
\$22.15- Miscellaneous (printing, water, etc)



## **IPF Congressional Staff Delegation June 23-July 2, 2023**

**Mission Goals:** This delegation is intended to provide participants with an overview of the current contours of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with a specific focus on the security issues that impact each side. We will speak with Israeli and Palestinian policymakers and security officials and see firsthand the situation on the ground to gain an understanding of the challenges that both sides face with regard to maintaining stability and affecting political change going forward.

### **Friday, June 23: Departure**

8:30pm Arrive IAD

10:50pm Depart IAD on United #72 to TLV

### **Saturday, June 24: Arrival and Welcome**

4:40pm Arrive TLV Ben Gurion Airport  
*We will meet at the end of the jet bridge and travel through passport control together as a group.*

6:15pm-6:45pm Transfer to David InterContinental, 12 Kaufmann St, Tel Aviv

6:45pm-7:30pm Check in and freshen up

7:30pm-8:00pm Travel to Thai House Restaurant, Bograshov St 8, Tel Aviv

8:00pm-8:30pm Welcome, Orientation, and the Outlook for Two States  
*This session will introduce and orient participants to the rest of the week, introduce participants to each other, and give a brief overview of the current state of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as we enter the program.*

Speakers:

**Michael Koplow**, Chief Policy Officer, IPF

**Aaron Weinberg**, Director of Government Relations, IPF

Location: Thai House Restaurant, Bograshov St 8, Tel Aviv

8:30pm- 10:00pm Dinner and Discussion: Israel and the Palestinians in 2023  
*This session will serve as an orientation to the current state of affairs in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza. Between changes in government, political instability, security threats from borders, the normalization process with Arab states, the lack of an*

*Israeli-Palestinian peace process, and domestic pressures leading up to an election, Israel has experienced a dramatic change in recent years. The Palestinians continue to face a split between Fatah and Hamas, continued threats to undermine the Palestinian Authority's control, and a Hamas regime in Gaza that continues to commit acts of terror against Israel. This session will cover these topics and set the stage for the rest of the trip.*

Speaker:

**Neri Zilber**, Journalist, Adjunct Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, and Policy Advisor, IPF

Location: Thai House Restaurant, Bograshov St 8, Tel Aviv

10:00pm-10:30pm Return to David InterContinental

10:30pm RON at David InterContinental Hotel, 12 Kaufmann St, Tel Aviv

### **Sunday, June 25: Israel's Security Challenges**

8:00am-9:00am Breakfast served at hotel

9:00am-10:00am A View from a Member of the Knesset and Former Deputy Defense Minister  
*We will hear from a member of Knesset from the National Unity/ Resilience party, who is the former Deputy Defense Minister and former member of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, about his views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the role of the U.S. in making progress, and the most current pressing issues in Israeli political discourse.*

Speaker:

**MK Alon Schuster**, National Unity/ Resilience, Former Deputy Minister of Defense, Former Member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee

Location: David InterContinental Hotel, 12 Kaufmann St, Tel Aviv

10:00am-10:30am Break

10:30am-12:00pm Managing Daily Life in the West Bank  
*This session will be a detailed overview of Israeli policies regulating the daily lives of West Bank Palestinians, and Israeli efforts to improve the territory's economy and the residents' quality of life.*

Speaker:

**Wisam Hamed**, Office of the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT)

Location: David InterContinental Hotel, 12 Kaufmann St, Tel Aviv

- 12:00pm-12:30pm Travel to Lunch at Goshen Restaurant, Nahalat Binyamin 30
- 12:30pm-2:00pm A View from the Advisor of the Opposition Leader: A Working Lunch  
*We will hear from the Opposition Leader's foreign policy advisor on how the Opposition Leader views the challenge from Iran, the prospects of increasing security and diplomatic cooperation between Israel and Arab states, and the possibilities of a political process with the Palestinians. We will also discuss the role that Israeli foreign policy plays in domestic politics, Israeli perceptions of American foreign policy, and the U.S. role in the region.*

Speaker:

**Yair Zivan**, Advisor to Opposition Leader Yair Lapid

Location: Goshen Restaurant, Nahalat Binyamin 30, Tel Aviv

- 2:00pm-2:30pm Travel to David InterContinental Hotel, 12 Kaufmann St, Tel Aviv
- 2:30pm-3:30pm Israeli Security Challenges in the Region  
*A briefing from a former IDF officer and Israeli National Security Council official laying out Israel's security challenges in the north emanating from Hizballah, Iran's presence in Syria, and Lebanese state instability, along with analyzing how actors in Syria and Lebanon intersect with Palestinian militants in Gaza.*

Speaker:

**Lt. Col. (ret.) Orna Mizrahi**, Senior Researcher, INSS

Location: David InterContinental Hotel, 12 Kaufmann St, Tel Aviv

- 3:30pm-4:45pm Israel's Security and Military Challenges- A View from the Ministry of Defense  
*This session will be a high-level briefing on how Israel's current security officials view the country's security challenges, not only with regard to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict but around the wider region. We will hear the government's current threat assessments along with avenues of current and potential strategic cooperation.*

Speaker:

**Igal Ostanovsky Katz**, Director, Strategic Planning Bureau,  
Israeli Ministry of Defense

Location: David InterContinental Hotel, 12 Kaufmann St, Tel Aviv

4:45pm-5:15pm Travel to Tetto Restaurant

5:15pm-6:15pm

The Palestinian Arena

*We will hear from one of Israel's leading journalists and experts on Palestinian politics and society about the current state of Palestinian leadership, recent developments between the Palestinian Authority and Hamas, and the challenges of crafting policies that take into account the disparate environments in which Israel must operate when addressing the West Bank and Gaza.*

Speaker:

**Amos Harel**, Military Correspondent & Defense Analyst, Haaretz

Location: Tetto Restaurant, Aluf Albert Mendler St 6, Tel Aviv

6:15pm-6:30pm Break

6:30pm-8:00pm

The State of Israeli Politics 2023: A Working Dinner

*This session will serve as an orientation to the political landscape in Israel, including the previous rounds of elections, how the shifts have impacted Israeli policy going forward, the impact of the current protests and efforts to overhaul the judicial system on Israeli political dynamics, and what it means for the future of the U.S.-Israel relationship.*

Speaker:

**Tal Shalev**, Chief Political Correspondent, Walla News

Location: Tetto Restaurant, Aluf Albert Mendler St 6, Tel Aviv

8:00pm-8:30pm Return to David InterContinental Hotel

8:30pm

RON at David InterContinental Hotel, 12 Kaufmann St, Tel Aviv

**Monday, June 26: The U.S.- Palestinian Relationship and West Bank Security**

*\*\*Please bring down bags to the lobby ready for loading onto the bus before breakfast\*\**

8:00am-9:00am

Breakfast served at hotel

9:00am-11:00am Drive to Ramallah: An Overview of the Situation in the West Bank  
*This drive will consist of a briefing on the history and current situation in the West Bank. The briefing will include an overview of the current security situation in the northern West Bank, the political and security challenges facing the Palestinian Authority, and the role the U.S. has played as a critical interlocutor between the two sides in the absence of ongoing bilateral political and diplomatic relations. Note: the entirety of this drive will be officially-connected programming.*

Briefer:

**Dr. Shira Efron**, Director of Policy Research, IPF

11:00am-12:00pm A View from the Palestinian Authority  
*We will hear from a prominent member of the Palestinian Authority about his views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the role of the U.S. in solving it, and the most current pressing issues in light of recent developments. This meeting will focus on the security needs of the Palestinian people, the future of the Palestinian Authority, and additional relevant policy issues.*

Speaker:

**Ibrahim Salameh**, Director-General, Palestinian Authority  
Ministry of Interior

Location: Millennium Hotel, Michelangelo St, Ramallah

12:00pm-1:30pm A Palestinian Perspective on Peacebuilding and the Environment:  
A Working Lunch  
*We will hear from one of the leading NGOs both in the peacebuilding and environmental space that is also a recipient of funds from the Nita M. Lowey Middle East Partnership for Peace Act (MEPPA) Partnership for Peace Fund (PPF). EcoPeace works to bring together Israelis, Palestinians, and Jordanians to create shared solutions, taking a bottom-up approach to educate local constituents, as well as a top-down approach to advance vital policies on climate resilience and specifically water security.*

Speaker:

**Nada Majdalani**, EcoPeace Co-Director

Location: Millennium Hotel, Michelangelo St, Ramallah

1:30pm-2:00pm Drive to National Operations Center, Ramallah

2:00pm-4:15pm Tour the National Operations Center and the Ramallah Area Joint Operations Center  
*We will visit and tour the burgeoning Palestinian Authority Security Force National Operations Center (NOC) and the Ramallah Area Joint Operations Center (AJOC). The brand new NOC facility is intended to serve as the nerve center for the entire Palestinian Authority security apparatus and coordinate all security activity in Area A of the West Bank. The AJOC coordinates all PASF activity in the Ramallah region and reports back to the NOC. We will be joined by USSC personnel who helped envision, design, and create the NOC and the AJOC.*

Guide:

**Brig. Gen. Mark Parsons**, Operation PROTEUS/ USSC  
**Brig. Gen. Amin Fawalaha**, Deputy Commander, PA NSF

Location: National Operations Center and Ramallah Area Joint Operations Center

4:15pm-4:30pm Drive to Intersect Innovation Hub Offices in CCC Building

4:30pm-5:45pm A View from the Bank of Palestine  
*We will hear from the staff of the Bank of Palestine and a start up venturer in the West Bank on the economic situation in the West Bank and the challenges of dealing with dueling Israeli and Palestinian bureaucracies. They will also discuss potential interim economic steps that can assist in achieving greater stability in the West Bank in the interim and improving the fiscal situation and opportunities for investment inside the Palestinian Authority.*

Speakers:

**Tamara Kleibo**, Chief Strategic Relations & Engagements Officer, Bank of Palestine

**Ambar Amleh**, Founding Partner, Ibtikar Venture Capital Fund

Location: CCC Building, Al-Ersal St, Ramallah

5:45pm-6:00pm Drive to Darna Restaurant

6:00pm-8:00pm The U.S.-Palestinian Relationship: A Working Dinner  
*We will hear from a Palestinian political analyst and former U.S. embassy employee about Palestinian political developments and how they are impacting U.S.-Palestinian relations, most notably potential leadership succession, Palestinian demands surrounding the reopening of the PLO mission in Washington, and the status of efforts to reform the Palestinian Authority's martyr and prisoner payments system.*

Speaker:

**Ibrahim Dalalsha**, Executive Director of Horizon Center for Political Studies and Media Outreach

Location: Darna Restaurant, As-Sahl Street 10, Ramallah

8:00pm-9:00pm Drive to Jerusalem

9:00pm Check In

9:00pm RON at Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

**Tuesday, June 27: West Bank Security: Aida and Security Coordination**

8:00am-9:30am A View from the United States Security Coordinator: A Working Breakfast  
*We will hear from the United States Security Coordinator (USSC) about his efforts to improve the security situation in the West Bank while working to maintain the relationship between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. We will also discuss the USSC's plans for enhancing Palestinian Authority Security Forces (PASF) capabilities while addressing the political and socioeconomic factors that impact PASF performance and legitimacy.*

Speaker:

**Lt. Gen. Michael Fenzel**, United States Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel - Zion Ballroom

9:30am-9:45am Break

9:45am-10:15am Drive to Aida  
*On this drive, participants will hear from a former New York Times reporter turned tour guide who will share his and his family's story and place his story into the larger context of Palestinian society today. Note: the entirety of this drive will be officially-connected programming.*

Guide:

**Rami Nazzal**, Beyond Border Tours and former New York Times reporter

- 10:15am-11:30am      Visit to UNRWA Offices in the Aida Refugee Camp  
*This meeting with the Director of UNRWA Affairs for the West Bank, local UNRWA representatives, and a protection officer, will include a discussion of the direct services UNRWA provides for basic needs in the area, specifically in the Aida Refugee Camp, as well as a holistic overview of UNRWA's work in the West Bank.*
- Speakers:  
**Adam Bouloukos**, Director of UNRWA Affairs – West Bank  
**Mohammad Husain**, Deputy Chief of Hebron Area Officer  
**Jonathan Venet**, Protection Officer, UNRWA
- 11:30am-12:15pm      Aida Refugee Camp Tour  
*On this tour, participants will learn about daily life in Aida, the challenges residents face, and the prospects for the future.*
- Guide:  
**Rami Nazzal**, Beyond Border Tours and former New York Times reporter
- 12:15pm-1:00pm      Return to Jerusalem  
*On this drive, participants will hear about issues including the impact of the UNRWA strike on the basic needs of the camp, the impact of limited freedom of movement on the ability of residents to access services, and potential improvements to the humanitarian situation in the camp. Note: the entirety of this drive will be officially-connected programming.*
- Guide:  
**Rami Nazzal**, Beyond Border Tours and former New York Times reporter
- 1:00pm-2:15pm      The UN and UNSCO: an International View of the Conflict  
*A session with a top United Nations official in the region to hear about UN efforts to mediate between Israel, the Palestinians, and other regional players such as the Egyptians and Jordanians. This briefing will also focus on the unique role the UN Special Coordinator's office has been playing in managing the political and humanitarian crisis in Gaza.*
- Speaker:  
**Nadav Greenberg**, Political Affairs Officer at the Office of United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process

Location: Medita, 101 Hebron Rd., Jerusalem



2:15pm-3:00pm The Drive to the Central Training Institute in Jericho  
*On this drive, participants will hear from a journalist, expert, and the author of the foremost book on the Palestinian Authority Security Forces, the USSC mission, and Israeli-Palestinian security coordination. He will provide a historical overview and background information, as well as discuss some of the challenges facing the PASF, the mission, and the coordination today. Note: the entirety of this drive will be officially-connected programming.*

Guide:

**Neri Zilber**, Journalist, Adjunct Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, and Policy Advisor, Israel Policy Forum

3:00pm-4:30pm Visit to the Palestinian Authority Security Force's Central Training Institute, Jericho  
*We will visit and tour the West Bank training center for the Palestinian Authority Security Forces, operated by the Office of the United States Security Coordinator. We will learn about the procedures for training a non-military security force, and discuss the challenges of maintaining a high level of professional training in the midst of ongoing tension between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, and between the Palestinian Authority and other Palestinian factions.*

Guide:

**Col. Ed Kennedy**, Director of Operations, USSC

Location: Palestinian Authority Security Force's Central Training Institute, Jericho

4:30pm-5:00pm Drive from Jericho to E1 Lookout

5:00pm-5:30pm E1 Lookout  
*At this lookout, we will have a view of the E1 area outside of Jerusalem. E1 is an area continually proposed for settlement development while simultaneously critical for a future contiguous Palestinian state with a capital in East Jerusalem. This confluence makes E1 one of the controversial areas that remain under close watch by the U.S. and the international community.*

Guide:

**Michael Koplw**, Chief Policy Officer, IPF

Location: E1 Lookout near Adumim Exchange, Route 1

5:30pm-6:15pm Drive from E1 Lookout to Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem

- 6:15pm-6:45pm Arrive and Prepare for Dinner
- 6:45pm-7:00pm Walk to Dinner
- 7:00pm-9:00pm Small Group Dinners  
*This dinner will provide participants with an opportunity to engage in a small group setting directly with experts and IPF staff to answer any questions that they have, reflect on what they have encountered thus far, and prepare for the next day's meetings.*
- Speakers:  
**Neri Zilber**, Journalist, Adjunct Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, and Policy Advisor, IPF  
**Michael Koplw**, Chief Policy Officer, IPF  
**Aaron Weinberg**, Director of Government Relations, IPF
- Location: Station 9, David Remez St 4, Jerusalem
- 9:00pm-9:15pm Return to Inbal Hotel
- 9:15pm RON at Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

**Wednesday, June 28: Israel's Foreign Policy and the U.S.-Israel Relationship**

- 8:00am-9:00am Breakfast served at hotel
- 9:00am-10:30am Foreign Aid and Security: USAID's Role in the Region  
*The Biden administration's restoration of funds for USAID activities in the West Bank has restored USAID's role in the Palestinian territories. We will hear from the mission director about how USAID projects are operating and ramping back up on the ground, how Congressionally-appropriated funds are being used, and how these impact the larger security situation in the Palestinian territories.*
- Speaker:  
**Amy Tohill-Stull**, Mission Director, West Bank and Gaza, USAID  
**Jessica Zaman**, Deputy Mission Director, West Bank and Gaza, USAID
- Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel
- 10:30am-11:30am A View from the U.S. Office of Palestinian Affairs  
*We will hear from the United States Office of Palestinian Affairs regarding U.S. policy in the region on the Israeli-Palestinian*

*conflict, the U.S.-Palestinian relationship, and regional security issues.*

Speaker:

**Lourdes Lamela**, Political Counselor, Office of Palestinian Affairs

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

11:30am-12:00pm Walk to Piccolino Restaurant, Yo'el Moshe Salomon St, Jerusalem

12:00pm-1:30pm **People-to-People- A Vision of Peacebuilding: A Working Lunch**  
*In this session, we will learn about the work being done by people-to-people organizations to bring Israelis and Palestinians together toward a better future. We will hear from the founders of Amal-Tikva, an inspiring organization that works on capacity building and leadership towards a more sustainable and scalable peacebuilding field, and discuss the current status of the field, including the impacts of recent U.S. government investments.*

Speakers:

**Meredith Rothbart**, Co-Founder and CEO, Amal-Tikva  
**Ghadeer Sabat**, COO, Amal-Tikva

Location: Piccolino Restaurant, Yo'el Moshe Salomon St, Jerusalem, Israel

1:30pm-2:00pm Return to Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

2:00pm-3:00pm **Threats to Democracy in Israel, the Economic Impact, and the US-Israel Relationship: A Meeting with High-Tech Leaders**  
*We will hear from two prominent Israeli high-tech entrepreneurs to learn about the response of the high-tech field to the Israeli government's proposed judicial overhaul, and to hear their assessment of how the societal protests are impacting the government's decision making and Israel's economy. We will also discuss the role of the U.S.-Israel relationship as a factor in how Israeli democracy will be shaped going forward.*

Speakers:

**Michal Tzur**, Founder, President, and General Manager, Kaltura  
**Gigi Levy-Weiss**, General Partner & Israel Lead, NFX Capital

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

- 3:00pm-4:00 pm      A View from the U.S. Embassy in Israel  
*We will hear from the United States Ambassador to Israel regarding U.S. policy in the region, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the U.S.-Israel relationship, and regional security issues.*
- Speaker:  
**Ambassador Tom Nides**, U.S. Ambassador to Israel
- Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel
- 4:00pm-4:45pm      Break
- 4:45pm-6:00pm      A View from the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
*We will hear from the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs on how the Israeli government views the challenge from Iran, the prospects of increasing security and diplomatic cooperation between Israel and Arab states, and the possibilities of a political process with the Palestinians. We will also discuss the role that Israeli foreign policy plays in domestic politics, and Israeli perceptions of American foreign policy and the U.S. role in the region.*
- Speaker:  
**Shahar Arieli**, Congressional Desk Officer, North American Division, Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel
- 6:00pm-6:30pm      Prepare for Dinner
- 6:30pm-7:00pm      Walk to Angelica Restaurant, George Washington St 4, Jerusalem
- 7:00pm-9:00pm      Israel's Foreign Policy: The Gulf, Russia, Ukraine, Iran, and more  
*This working dinner will feature a prominent foreign policy expert, journalist, and former Knesset member. She will share her insights into Israel's current foreign policy challenges and opportunities around the globe, including: the status and possible expansion of the Abraham Accords, Israel's relations with the Arab world, Israel's position vis-a-vis Russian aggression and the war in Ukraine, Iran and its proxies, and regional dynamics with Israel's neighbors, including Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, and Jordan.*
- Speaker:  
**Ksenia Svetlova**, Former Member of Knesset and Director of the Israel- Middle East Relations Program, Mitvim Institute
- Location: Angelica, George Washington St 4, Jerusalem

- 9:00pm-9:30pm Return from Dinner
- 9:30pm RON at Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

**Thursday, June 29: The Challenges of Gaza and the Gaza Envelope**

- 7:15am-8:15am Breakfast served at hotel
- 8:15am-10:00am The Drive Down: A Briefing on the Challenges of Gaza  
*This drive will consist of a briefing on the history and current situation in Gaza and the challenges for Israeli citizens who live in proximity to the Strip. The briefing will include the security challenges for Israel in defending itself from rockets and tunnels, the humanitarian disasters afflicting residents of Gaza, and current blockade policies. Note: the entirety of this drive will be officially-connected programming.*
- Guide:  
**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration
- 10:00am-11:00am Tour of Erez Crossing  
*We will visit the sole crossing for people between Israel and Gaza, and hear about the challenges of enabling Palestinians to exit Gaza for economic and humanitarian purposes while ensuring Israel's security in light of Hamas's control of the strip.*
- Guide:  
**Shlomo Tsaban**, Director of Erez Crossing, Ministry of Defense
- 11:00am-1:00pm The Israel-Gaza Border Tour  
*This tour will include several lookouts into Gaza where we will discuss several issues. At the Nativ Ha'asara outlook, participants will get a view of both Gaza and the region in Israel surrounding Gaza, including the location of the March of Return protests, which will help better understand the dynamics at play and the security challenges facing the area. At the Black Arrow lookout, participants will view a different vantage of security challenges, including a discussion of the "Iron Wall," smart fences, and surveillance of Gaza and the surrounding area. The briefing will continue during the drive to Kibbutz Nahal Oz, where we will look out at the closed Karni crossing from Gaza and discuss issues related to goods and people traveling in and out of Gaza, as well as the impact of the topography in Hamas' attempt to attack Israel.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

1:00pm-2:00pm

Working Across Borders: A Working Lunch with the Mayor of Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Council

*During this session, we will hear the perspective of the mayor of a community in the Gaza envelope region that lives under difficult conditions, including intermittent barrages of rockets. We will hear how such conditions have impacted the quality of life in the region and residents' outlook on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This session will also allow participants to dive into the issue of Gazans working in Israel together with Israelis, and the implications on stability both in Gaza and for Israeli Gaza envelope residents.*

Speaker: **Mayor Ofir Libstein**, Mayor of Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Council

Location: Kibbutz Nahal Oz

2:00pm-4:00pm

Drive to Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem

4:00pm-5:15pm

Security and Solutions: the Crisis in Gaza

*In this session, we will learn about the different approaches to Gaza embraced by Israel's political and security establishments, and potential solutions to ending Gaza's various crises from one of Israel's leading Gaza experts.*

Speaker:

**Celine Touboul**, Director General, Economic Cooperation Foundation

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

5:15pm-5:45pm

Break

5:45pm-6:45pm

Settlements- An Overview of the Situation on the Ground

*We will hear from one of the foremost experts on the settlements and the current situation on the ground. We will hear about the process of settlement construction, tactics used to disrupt contiguity, and the implications on a future two state outcome.*

Speaker:

**Dan Rothem**, Senior Policy Advisor, Kelman Institute

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

- 6:45pm-7:15pm Travel to Dinner
- 7:15pm-8:45pm Israel Today- Israel's Domestic and Foreign Policy: A View from A Former IDF Chief of Staff  
*In this session, we will learn about Israel's current and future security and diplomatic posture from a former IDF Chief of Staff. We will discuss Israel's approach to the Palestinians and to its regional foreign policy, the impact of current domestic issues in Israel on the security situation, shared values between the U.S. and Israel, and the role that the U.S. plays in helping Israel secure its long-term strategic goals.*
- Speaker:  
**Dan Halutz**, Former IDF Chief of Staff
- Location: Touro Restaurant, Sh.A. Nakhon St, Jerusalem, Israel
- 8:45pm-9:00pm Return to Inbal Hotel
- 9:00pm RON at Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel
- Friday, June 30:** **The West Bank: Settlements, Contiguity, and the Situation on the Ground**
- 8:00am-9:00am Breakfast served at hotel
- 9:00am-9:30am Drive to Gush Etzion: Land Swaps and the Settlement Movement  
*During this drive, we will discuss the role that the area's settlements have played in the U.S.-brokered peace process in formulating the idea of land swaps to facilitate a permanent-status agreement between the two sides. Note: the entirety of this drive and tour will be officially-connected programming.*
- Guide:  
**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration
- 9:30am-10:30am A View from the Settlements  
*During this visit, we will hear from a former leader of one of the largest West Bank regional councils about his outlook on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the interaction between Israeli and Palestinian residents of the West Bank, and how he envisions peace.*

Speaker:

**Bob Lang**, Head of the Efrat Religious Council, Former member of the Gush Etzion Regional Council, and former spokesman for the Yesha Council

Location: Efrat Religious Council, Netzer Yishai St 1, Efrat

10:30am-10:45am Drive to Mitzpor HaElef Overlook, Neve Daniel

10:45am-11:15am Mitzpor HaElef Overlook: The Gush Etzion Bloc  
*At this overlook, we will examine the site of Israel's earliest settlements following the 1967 Six Day War, and focus on its current disposition between Israeli settlements and Palestinian villages that are both under direct Israeli administration.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

Location: Mitzpor HaElef Overlook, Sde Boaz St, Neve Daniel

11:15am-11:45am The Drive to Hebron: A Briefing on History of the City and the Region  
*This drive will include a briefing on the history of the situation in Hebron and will include a stop at the Neve Daniel lookout to orient participants to the region. The briefing on the bus will focus on the history of the city from ancient times to the present to give context as to why it is so heavily contested today. Note: the entirety of this drive and tour will be officially-connected programming.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

11:45am-1:30pm Tour of Hebron  
*We will tour the old city of Hebron, which is one of the most contested sites in the West Bank. We will learn about the political history of Hebron, and focus on the twin challenges of security and freedom of movement for Israelis and Palestinians in a site with heightened religious significance for both sides. We will also discuss the diplomatic history, including American involvement, that has led to a unique territorial arrangement in Hebron's old city.*



Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

1:30pm-2:00pm

Lunch and Discuss

2:00pm-2:30pm

The Drive to the South Hebron Hills: A Briefing on Challenges Facing the Area

*This drive will include a briefing on the history and current situation in the South Hebron Hills. The briefing will focus on the geostrategic importance of the area, the history of settler activity, and implications on issues pertaining to land contiguity and freedom of movement. Note: the entirety of this drive and tour will be officially-connected programming.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

2:30pm-3:15pm

Visit to Umm Al-Khair in Masafer Yatta, South Hebron Hills

*We will hear from a local Palestinian resident about quality of life issues and their interactions with the Israeli military administration and local Israeli residents.*

Speaker:

**Eid Suliman**, Resident of Umm Al-Khair, Masafer Yatta

3:15pm-4:30pm

Tour of South Hebron Hills

*This tour of the South Hebron Hills area will focus on the geostrategic situation in this area, specifically around issues pertaining to land contiguity and freedom of movement. Specifically, we will tour Masafer Yatta, which has been the site of recent evictions of Palestinians from a designated IDF firing zone.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

4:30pm-5:30pm

Return to Jerusalem

5:30pm-6:30pm

Prepare for Shabbat/Sabbath

6:30pm-7:30pm

Optional Shabbat Services or Reflecting Walk in Jerusalem

- 7:00pm-7:30pm Depart for Dinner at the home of Adv. Joshua and Hava Schoffman
- 7:30pm-10:00pm Shabbat/Sabbath Dinner with Featured Speaker  
*Former Deputy Attorney General Schoffman will discuss Israel's political system, the legislative process in the Knesset and the role of the government in formulating Israel's laws, and current issues pertaining to the Israeli judiciary and Supreme Court. This Sabbath dinner setting will allow participants to engage with the Former Deputy Attorney General in an intimate setting and get many of their questions answered.*
- Speaker:  
**Adv. Joshua Schoffman**, Former Deputy Attorney General of Israel– Legislation
- Location: Schoffman Residence, Arnona, Jerusalem
- 10:00pm-10:30pm Return to Inbal Hotel
- 10:30pm RON at Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

**Saturday, July 1: Jerusalem's Status and Future**

- 8:30am-9:30am Breakfast served at hotel
- 9:30am-1:00pm Jerusalem Environs Tour  
*This extensive on-site examination of the length and breadth of the Jerusalem seamline will introduce participants to the unique challenges of Jerusalem, an Israeli city governed by a single municipality with neighborhoods divided between Jews and Palestinians and a population divided between citizens of Israel and non-citizen residents of the city. Stops on this tour will include Givat HaMatos, Abu Tor, French Hill lookout to the Shuafat Refugee Camp, Attarot, and Qualandia.*
- Guide:  
**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration
- 1:00pm-2:15pm The Future of Jerusalem– A View from a Member of the Jerusalem City Council: A Working Lunch  
*In this session, we will hear from a Jerusalem city councilwoman about the governance and administrative challenges in Israel's largest city and its capital, and particularly the way in which the needs of the Jewish and Palestinian residents of the city are*

*balanced. We will learn about the role Jerusalem has played in diplomatic negotiations over a permanent status agreement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and what a negotiated settlement might mean for the future of Jerusalem.*

Speaker:

**Dr. Laura Wharton**, Member of Jerusalem City Council

Location: American Colony Hotel, Louis Vincent St, Jerusalem

2:15pm-2:30pm

Drive to Augusta Victoria

2:30pm-3:30pm

Visit Augusta Victoria Hospital

*For many years the U.S. government has been funding hospitals in East Jerusalem. Participants will learn about the impact this funding has had and how the cutting of such funds could impact the hospital and the surrounding population.*

Speaker:

**Dr. Fadi al-Atrash**, CEO, Augusta Victoria Hospital

Location: Augusta Victoria Hospital, Martin Buber St, Jerusalem

3:30pm-4:00pm

Return to Inbal Hotel

4:00pm-4:30pm

Prepare for Dinner and Flight

4:30pm-6:00pm

A Vision for a Secure, Jewish, and Democratic State

*In this session, we will examine the balance of maintaining Israel's security and maintaining Israel's Jewish and democratic character with a former negotiator and high-level government advisor.*

Speakers:

**Nimrod Novik**, Advisor, IPF, Senior Associate and former Chairman of the Economic Cooperation Foundation (ECF), and former advisor to Prime Minister Shimon Peres

Location: Inbal Hotel

6:00pm-6:15pm

Break

6:15pm-6:30pm

Walk to Dinner

6:30pm-8:30pm

Closing Dinner and Reflections

*This is an opportunity for participants to reflect and process the week together, share their takeaways from their experience, and discuss how their experience will impact their work.*

Facilitators:

**Michael Koplow**, Chief Policy Officer, IPF

**Aaron Weinberg**, Director of Government Relations, IPF

Location: Adom Restaurant, David Remez St 4, Jerusalem

8:30pm Executive Time to Prepare for Flight

**Sunday, July 2: Arrival in Washington\***

1:00am Drive to Ben Gurion Airport

5:05am Depart TLV on TAP #1604 to LIS

9:10am Arrive LIS

5:15pm Depart LIS on TAP #235

8:35pm Arrive IAD

*\*Note: The group was originally scheduled to depart on UA #73 direct to IAD departing at 12:20am, which was canceled. The group instead traveled on TAP #1604 from TLV-LIS, but only Haley Scott was able to depart LIS at 11:55am on TAP #231, arriving IAD at 3:15pm, while the remainder of the group had to wait to take flight #235 at 5:15pm. As planned, Shir Attias will depart on July 9 at 12:20am on UA 73, arriving IAD at 5:30am, and Jordan Dickinson will depart on July 8 at 5:00pm on UA 331, arriving IAD at 7:20pm. Travelers paid the difference in fare for extending.*

### List of House Participants

As Congressional staff, the following participants advise their bosses on legislation related to the issues being examined and addressed on this trip, including: the U.S.-Israel relationship, Israeli-Palestinian conflict, U.S. foreign aid, and U.S. policy related to the Middle East.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Office</b>
Shir Attias	Legislative Assistant	Rep. Lois Frankel
Jordan Dickinson	Deputy Chief of Staff	Rep. Dan Kildee
Joe Goldberg	Chief of Staff	Rep. Eric Sorensen
Sophie Mirviss	Staff Director, Democratic	House Foreign Affairs Committee
Haley Scott	Chief of Staff	Rep. Dan Goldman
Joe Valente	Legislative Assistant	Rep. Jake Auchincloss

**Answer to Question 15 (b) 2:**

The trip will take place in Israel and the West Bank, as these are critical to understanding the complex issues related to the conflict and the US-Israel relationship.

### **List of Other Costs**

\$36.92- Airport Assistance  
\$20.79- Security  
\$428.57- Bus and Taxis  
\$88.46- Meeting room rentals  
\$842.31- Speaker Fees  
\$10.31- Porterage  
\$75.38- Tips  
\$22.15- Miscellaneous (printing, water, etc)

## **IPF Congressional Staff Delegation June 23-July 2, 2023**

**Mission Goals:** This delegation is intended to provide participants with an overview of the current contours of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with a specific focus on the security issues that impact each side. We will speak with Israeli and Palestinian policymakers and security officials and see firsthand the situation on the ground to gain an understanding of the challenges that both sides face with regard to maintaining stability and affecting political change going forward.

### **Friday, June 23: Departure**

8:30pm Arrive IAD

10:50pm Depart IAD on United #72 to TLV

### **Saturday, June 24: Arrival and Welcome**

4:40pm Arrive TLV Ben Gurion Airport  
*We will meet at the end of the jet bridge and travel through passport control together as a group.*

5:30pm-6:00pm Transfer to Carlton Hotel, 10 Eliezer Peri St, Tel Aviv

6:00pm-7:00pm Check in and freshen up

7:00pm-7:30pm Travel to Thai House Restaurant, Bograshov St 8, Tel Aviv

7:30pm-8:00pm Welcome, Orientation, and the Outlook for Two States  
*This session will introduce and orient participants to the rest of the week, introduce participants to each other, and give a brief overview of the current state of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as we enter the program.*

Speakers:

**Michael Koplow**, Chief Policy Officer, IPF

**Aaron Weinberg**, Director of Government Relations, IPF

Location: Thai House Restaurant, Bograshov St 8, Tel Aviv

8:00pm- 9:30pm Dinner and Discussion: Israel and the Palestinians in 2023  
*This session will serve as an orientation to the current state of affairs in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza. Between changes in government, political instability, security threats from borders, the normalization process with Arab states, the lack of an*



*Israeli-Palestinian peace process, and domestic pressures leading up to an election, Israel has experienced a dramatic change in recent years. The Palestinians continue to face a split between Fatah and Hamas, continued threats to undermine the Palestinian Authority's control, and a Hamas regime in Gaza that continues to commit acts of terror against Israel. This session will cover these topics and set the stage for the rest of the trip.*

Speaker:

**Neri Zilber**, Journalist, Adjunct Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, and Policy Advisor, Israel Policy Forum

Location: Thai House Restaurant, Bograshov St 8, Tel Aviv

9:30pm-10:00pm Return to Carlton

10:00pm RON at Carlton Hotel, 10 Eliezer Peri St, Tel Aviv

### **Sunday, June 25: Israel's Security Challenges**

8:30am-9:30am Breakfast served at hotel

9:30am-11:00am Israel's Security and Military Challenges- A View from the Ministry of Defense  
*This session will be a high-level briefing on how Israel's current security officials view the country's security challenges, not only with regard to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict but around the wider region. We will hear the government's most current threat assessments along with avenues of current and potential strategic cooperation.*

Speaker:

**Dror Shalom**, Director, Political-Military Bureau, Israeli Ministry of Defense

Location: Carlton Hotel, 10 Eliezer Peri St, Tel Aviv

11:00am-11:15am Break

11:15am-12:30pm Managing Daily Life in the West Bank  
*This session will be a detailed overview of Israeli policies regulating the daily lives of West Bank Palestinians, and Israeli efforts to improve the territory's economy and the residents' quality of life.*

Speaker:

**Wisam Hamed**, Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT)

Location: Carlton Hotel, 10 Eliezer Peri St, Tel Aviv

12:30pm-1:00pm Travel to Lunch at Goshen Restaurant, Nahalat Binyamin 30

1:00pm-2:30pm A View from a Member and Former Chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee: A Working Lunch  
*We will hear from a member and the former Chair of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee about her views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the role of the U.S. in making progress, and the most current pressing issues in Israeli political discourse.*

Speaker:

**MK Orna Barbivai (Maj. Gen. Ret.)**, Yesh Atid, Former Chair and Member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Former Minister of Economy

Location: Goshen Restaurant, Nahalat Binyamin 30, Tel Aviv

2:30pm-3:00pm Travel to Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)

3:00pm-4:15pm Israeli Security Challenges in the Region  
*A briefing from a former IDF officer and Israeli National Security Council official laying out Israel's security challenges in the north emanating from Hizballah, Iran's presence in Syria, and Lebanese state instability, along with analyzing how actors in Syria and Lebanon intersect with Palestinian militants in Gaza.*

Speaker:

**Lt. Col. (ret.) Orna Mizrahi**, Senior Researcher, INSS

Location: INSS, Chaim Levanon St 40, Tel Aviv

4:15pm-4:45pm Return to Carlton Hotel, 10 Eliezer Peri St, Tel Aviv

4:45pm-6:00pm The Palestinian Arena  
*We will hear from one of Israel's leading journalists and experts on Palestinian politics and society about the current state of Palestinian leadership, recent developments between the Palestinian Authority and Hamas, and the challenges of crafting policies that take into account the disparate environments in which Israel must operate when addressing the West Bank and Gaza.*

Speaker:

**Amos Harel**, Military Correspondent & Defense Analyst, Haaretz

Location: Carlton Hotel, 10 Eliezer Peri St, Tel Aviv

- 6:00pm-6:30pm Prepare for Dinner
- 6:30pm-7:15pm Drive to Dinner at Salta Restaurant, Rambam St 10, Ra'anana 8
- 7:15pm-9:00pm The State of the U.S.-Israel Relationship and the Abraham Accords: A Working Dinner  
*This session is an opportunity to hear from a former American Ambassador, National Security Council senior director for the Middle East, and current think tank analyst focusing on regional normalization about the major issues that impact the U.S.-Israel relationship, including how the U.S. balances its security and diplomatic relationship with Israel, and the current state of the Abraham Accords and how they may be expanded.*
- Speaker:  
**Amb. Dan Shapiro**, Former U.S. Ambassador to Israel
- Location: Salta Restaurant, Rambam St 10, Ra'anana
- 9:00pm-9:45pm Return to Carlton Hotel
- 9:45pm RON at Carlton Hotel, 10 Eliezer Peri St, Tel Aviv

**Monday, June 26: The U.S.- Palestinian Relationship and West Bank Security**

*\*\*Please bring down bags to the lobby ready to be loaded onto bus before breakfast\*\**

- 8:00am-9:00am Breakfast served at hotel
- 9:00am-10:30am Drive to Ramallah: An Overview of the Situation in the West Bank  
*This drive will consist of a briefing on the history and current situation in the West Bank. The briefing will include an overview of the current security situation in the northern West Bank, the political and security challenges facing the Palestinian Authority, and the role that the U.S. has played as a critical interlocutor between the two sides in the absence of ongoing bilateral political and diplomatic relations. Note: the entirety of this drive will be officially-connected programming.*

Briefer:  
**Dr. Shira Efron**, Director of Policy Research, IPF

10:30am-11:30am A View from the Palestinian Authority  
*We will hear from a prominent member of the Palestinian Authority about his views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the role of the U.S. in solving it, and the most current pressing issues in light of recent developments. This meeting will focus on the security needs of the Palestinian people, the future of the Palestinian Authority, and additional relevant policy issues.*

Speaker:

**Major General Majid Faraj**, Chief of the Palestinian Authority  
General Intelligence Service

Location: Office of the PA General Intelligence Service, Ramallah

11:30am- 12:00pm Drive to Darna Restaurant, As-Sahl Street 10, Ramallah

12:00pm-1:30pm The U.S.-Palestinian Relationship: A Working Lunch  
*We will hear from a Palestinian political analyst and former U.S. embassy employee about Palestinian political developments and how they are impacting U.S.-Palestinian relations, most notably potential leadership succession, Palestinian demands surrounding the reopening of the PLO mission in Washington, and the status of efforts to reform the Palestinian Authority's martyr and prisoner payments system.*

Speaker:

**Ibrahim Dalalsha**, Executive Director of Horizon Center for  
Political Studies and Media Outreach

Location: Darna Restaurant, As-Sahl Street 10, Ramallah

1:30pm-2:00pm Drive to Bank of Palestine

2:00pm-3:00pm A View from the Chairman of Bank of Palestine  
*We will hear from the Chairman of the Bank of Palestine on the economic situation in the West Bank and the challenges of dealing with dueling Israeli and Palestinian bureaucracies. The Chairman will also discuss potential interim economic steps that can assist in achieving greater stability in the West Bank in the interim and improving the fiscal situation and opportunities for investment inside the Palestinian Authority.*

Speaker:

**Hashim Shawa**, Chairman of Bank of Palestine

Location: Bank of Palestine Headquarters, Ain Misbah St,  
Ramallah

- 3:00pm-4:30pm Drive from Bank of Palestine to Central Training Institute, Jericho
- 4:30pm-6:00pm Visit to the Palestinian Authority Security Force's Central Training Institute, Jericho  
*We will visit the West Bank training center for the Palestinian Authority Security Forces, operated by the Office of the United States Security Coordinator. We will learn about the procedures for training a non-military security force, and discuss the challenges of maintaining a high level of professional training in the midst of ongoing tension between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, and between the Palestinian Authority and other Palestinian factions.*
- Location: Palestinian Authority Security Force's Central Training Institute, Jericho
- 6:00pm-7:30pm Drive from Jericho to Jerusalem
- 7:30pm-9:30pm The State of Israeli Politics 2023: A Working Dinner  
*This session will serve as an orientation to the political landscape in Israel, including the previous rounds of elections, how the shifts have impacted Israeli policy going forward, the impact of the current protests and efforts to overhaul the judicial system on Israeli political dynamics, and what it means for the future of the U.S.-Israel relationship.*
- Speaker:  
**Tal Shalev**, Chief Political Correspondent, Walla News
- Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel
- 9:30pm RON at Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

**Tuesday, June 27: The Northern West Bank, Aida, and West Bank Security**

- 8:00am-9:00am Breakfast served at hotel
- 9:00am-9:30am Drive to Aida  
*On this drive participants will hear from a former New York Times reporter turned tour guide who will share his and his family's story and place his story into the larger context of Palestinian society today. Note: the entirety of this drive will be officially-connected programming.*
- Guide:  
**Rami Nazzal**, Beyond Border Tours and former New York Times reporter

- 9:30am-10:30am Visit to UNRWA Offices in Aida Refugee Camp  
*This visit with the Chief Area Officer for UNRWA will include a discussion of the direct services UNRWA provides for basic needs in the area and specifically in the Aida Refugee Camp.*
- Speaker:  
**Amjad Abu-Laban**, Chief Area Officer, UNRWA
- 10:30am-11:30am Aida Refugee Camp Tour  
*On this tour participants will learn about daily life in Aida, the challenges residents face, and the prospects for the future.*
- Guide:  
**Rami Nazzal**, Beyond Border Tours and former New York Times reporter
- 11:30am-12:00pm Drive to U.N. Observers Headquarters
- 12:00pm-1:00pm The UN and UNSCO: an International View of the Conflict  
*A session with a top United Nations official in the region to hear about UN efforts to mediate between Israel, the Palestinians, and other regional players such as the Egyptians and Jordanians. This briefing will also focus on the unique role the UN Special Coordinator's office has been playing in managing the political and humanitarian crisis in Gaza.*
- Speaker:  
**Nadav Greenberg**, Political Affairs Officer at the Office of United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process
- Location: U.N Observers Headquarters, Armon ha-Natsiv, Jerusalem
- 1:00pm-1:30pm Drive to Lunch
- 1:30pm-2:30pm Settlements- An Overview of the Situation on the Ground: A Working Lunch  
*We will hear from one of the foremost experts on the settlements and the current situation on the ground. We will hear about the process of settlement construction, tactics used to disrupt contiguity, and the implications on a future two state outcome.*
- Speaker:  
**Dan Rothem**, Senior Policy Advisor, Kelman Institute
- Location: HaMotzi, 113 Jaffa St, Jerusalem, Israel

- 2:30pm-3:00pm Drive to Sha'ar Binyamin Regional Council Office
- 3:00pm-4:00pm A View from the Settlements: A Visit to Sha'ar Binyamin  
*During this visit we will hear from the mayor of the largest West Bank regional council about his outlook on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the interaction between Israeli and Palestinian residents of the West Bank, and how he envisions peace.*
- Speaker:  
**Yisrael Gantz**, Chairman of the Binyamin Regional Council
- Location: Sha'ar Binyamin Regional Council Office
- 4:00pm-6:30pm Northern West Bank Tour: Settlements and Villages  
*This on-site examination of the northern West Bank will cover the geography of the area and particularly the problem presented by illegal Israeli settlement outposts, and illuminate the unique challenges that arise from having Israeli and Palestinian communities intertwined in the same contested territory. This tour will include stops in Nebi Samuel and Gush Shilo, and the drive in between will consist of a briefing on the history and current situation in the West Bank, given settlement construction. We will discuss the unique challenges the current map raises for Israeli security and the well-being of Palestinian towns and villages. The tour will end in Jerusalem.*
- Guide:  
**Dan Rothem**, Senior Policy Advisor, Kelman Institute
- 6:30pm-8:30pm A View from the United States Security Coordinator  
*We will hear from the United States Security Coordinator (USSC) about his efforts to improve the security situation in the West Bank while working to maintain the relationship between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. We will also discuss the USSC's plans for enhancing Palestinian Authority Security Forces (PASF) capabilities while addressing the political and socioeconomic factors that impact PASF performance and legitimacy.*
- Speaker:  
**Lt. Gen. Michael Fenzel**, United States Security Coordinator to Israel and the Palestinian Authority
- Location: Touro Restaurant, Sh.A. Nakhon St, Jerusalem, Israel
- 8:30pm-9:00pm Return to Inbal Hotel
- 9:00pm RON at Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

## **Wednesday, June 28: Israel's Foreign Policy and the U.S.-Israel Relationship**

8:00am-9:00am Breakfast served at hotel

9:00am-10:15am Foreign Aid and Security: USAID's role in the Region  
*The Biden administration's restoration of funds for USAID activities in the West Bank has restored USAID's role in the Palestinian territories. We will hear from the mission director about how USAID projects are operating and ramping back up on the ground, how Congressionally-appropriated funds are being used, and how these impact the larger security situation in the Palestinian territories.*

Speaker:

**Amy Tohill-Stull**, Mission Director, West Bank and Gaza, USAID  
**Amy Southworth**, Program Officer, West Bank and Gaza, USAID

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

10:15am-11:30am A View from the U.S. Office of Palestinian Affairs  
*We will hear from the Chief of the United States Office of Palestinian Affairs regarding U.S. policy in the region on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, U.S.-Palestinian relationship, and regional security issues.*

Speaker:

**George Noll**, Chief of the Office, Office of Palestinian Affairs

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

11:30am-12:00pm Walk to Piccolino Restaurant, Yo'el Moshe Salomon St, Jerusalem

12:00pm-1:30pm People-to-People- A Vision of Peacebuilding: A Working Lunch  
*In this session, we will learn about the work being done by people-to-people organizations to bring Israelis and Palestinians together towards a better future. We will hear from the founders of Amal-Tikva, an inspiring organization that works on capacity building and leadership towards a more sustainable and scalable peacebuilding field, and discuss the current status of the field, including the impacts of recent U.S. government investments.*

Speakers:

**Meredith Rothbart**, Co-Founder and CEO, Amal-Tikva  
**Ghadeer Sabat**, Coordinator of Cross-Border Engagement, Amal-Tikva



Location: Piccolino Restaurant, Yo'el Moshe Salomon St,  
Jerusalem, Israel

1:30pm-2:00pm Return to Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

2:00pm-3:00pm Threats to Democracy in Israel, the Economic Impact, and the US-Israel Relationship: A Meeting with High Tech Leaders  
*We will hear from two prominent Israeli high-tech entrepreneurs to learn about the response of the high-tech field to the Israeli government's proposed judicial overhaul, and to hear their assessment of how the societal protests are impacting the government's decision making and Israel's economy. We will also discuss the role of the U.S.-Israel relationship as a factor in how Israeli democracy will be shaped going forward.*

Speakers:

**Adi Soffer-Teeni**, Vice President & Israel General Manager, Meta  
**Gigi Levy-Weiss**, General Partner & Israel Lead, NFX Capital

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

3:00pm-4:15 pm A View from the U.S. Embassy in Israel  
*We will hear from the United States Ambassador to Israel regarding U.S. policy in the region, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the U.S.-Israel relationship, and regional security issues.*

Speaker:

**Ambassador Tom Nides**, U.S. Ambassador to Israel

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

4:15pm-4:30pm Break

4:30pm-5:30pm A View from the Advisor of the Opposition Leader  
*We will hear from the Opposition Leader's foreign policy advisor on how the Opposition Leader views the challenge from Iran, the prospects of increasing security and diplomatic cooperation between Israel and Arab states, and the possibilities of a political process with the Palestinians. We will also discuss the role that Israeli foreign policy plays in domestic politics, Israeli perceptions of American foreign policy, and the U.S. role in the region.*

Speaker:

**Yair Zivan**, Advisor to Opposition Leader Yair Lapid

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

5:30pm-6:30pm A View from the National Security Advisor of the Prime Minister  
*We will hear from the Prime Minister's National Security Advisor on how the Prime Minister's Office views the challenge from Iran, the prospects of increasing security and diplomatic cooperation between Israel and Arab states, and the possibilities of a political process with the Palestinians. We will also discuss the role that Israeli foreign policy plays in domestic politics, and Israeli perceptions of American foreign policy and the U.S. role in the region.*

Speaker:

**Tzachi Hanegbi**, National Security Advisor for PM Netanyahu

Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

6:30pm-7:00pm Walk to Angelica Restaurant, George Washington St 4, Jerusalem

7:00pm-9:00pm Israel's Foreign Policy: The Gulf, Russia/Ukraine, Iran, and more  
*This working dinner will feature a prominent foreign policy expert, journalist, and former Knesset member. She will share her insights into Israel's current foreign policy challenges and opportunities around the globe, including: the status and possible expansion of the Abraham Accords, Israel's relations with the Arab world, Israel's position vis-a-vis Russian aggression and the war in Ukraine, Iran and its proxies, and regional dynamics with Israel's neighbors, including Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, and Jordan.*

Speaker:

**Ksenia Svetlova**, Former Member of Knesset and Director of the Israel- Middle East Relations Program, Mitvim Institute

Location: Angelica, George Washington St 4, Jerusalem

9:00pm-9:30pm Return from Dinner

9:30pm RON at Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

### **Thursday, June 29: The Challenges of Gaza and the Gaza Envelope**

7:30am-8:30am Breakfast served at hotel

8:30am-9:45am The Drive Down: A Briefing on the Challenges of Gaza  
*This drive will consist of a briefing on the history and current situation in Gaza and the challenges for Israeli citizens who live in proximity to the Strip. The briefing will include the security challenges for Israel in defending itself from rockets and tunnels,*

*the humanitarian disasters afflicting residents of Gaza, and current blockade policies. Note: the entirety of this drive will be officially-connected programming.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

9:45am-1:00pm

The Israel-Gaza Border Tour

*This tour will include several lookouts into Gaza, including a stop at the Erez Crossing– the only crossing for people between Israel and Gaza. The tour will discuss several issues. At Erez, we will discuss how the crossing has changed over time with the advent of the blockade, and the challenges of moving people back and forth between hostile parties. At the Nativ Ha'asara outlook and Assaf Siboni lookout near Kibbutz Nir Am, participants will get a view of both Gaza and the region in Israel surrounding Gaza, including the location of the March of Return protests, which will help better understand the dynamics at play and the security challenges facing the area. The briefing will continue during the drive to Kibbutz Nahal Oz, where we will look out at the closed Karni crossing from Gaza and discuss issues related to goods and people traveling in and out of Gaza, as well as the impact of the topography in Hamas' attempt to attack Israel. This includes a discussion of the "Iron Wall," smart fences, and surveillance of Gaza and the surrounding area.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

1:00pm-2:00pm

Living in the Gaza Envelope: A Lunch Briefing With a Resident

*During this session we will hear the perspective of a journalist and member of a community in the Gaza envelope region that lives under difficult conditions, including intermittent barrages of rockets. We will hear how such conditions have impacted quality of life in the region and residents' outlook on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.*

Speaker:

**Amir Tibon**, Diplomatic Correspondent, Haaretz International

Location: Kibbutz Nachal Oz

- 2:00pm-3:00pm Working Across Borders: A meeting with the Mayor of Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Council  
*This session will delve into a new joint Gaza/Shar HaNegev industrial zone project being led by the Mayor of the Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Council. This session will allow participants to dive into the issue of Gazans working in Israel together with Israelis, and the implications on stability both in Gaza and for Israeli Gaza envelope residents.*
- Guide:  
**Mayor Ofir Libstein**, Mayor of Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Council
- Location: Kibbutz Nachal Oz
- 3:00pm-5:00pm Drive to Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem
- 5:00pm-5:30pm Arrive at Hotel
- 5:30pm-6:30pm Security and Solutions: the Crisis in Gaza  
*In this session we will learn about the different approaches to Gaza embraced by Israel's political and security establishments, and potential solutions to ending Gaza's various crises from one of Israel's leading Gaza experts.*
- Speaker:  
**Celine Touboul**, Director General, Economic Cooperation Foundation
- Location: Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel
- 6:30pm-7:00pm Travel to Dinner
- 7:00pm-8:30pm Israel Today- Israel's Domestic and Foreign Policy: A View from A Former Israeli National Security Advisor  
*In this session we will learn about Israel's current and future security and diplomatic posture from Israel's most recent past national security adviser. We will discuss Israel's approach to the Palestinians and to its regional foreign policy, and the role that the U.S. plays in helping Israel secure its long-term strategic goals.*
- Speaker:  
**Eyal Hulata**, Former Israeli National Security Advisor
- Location: 1868 Restaurant, King David St, Jerusalem, Israel
- 8:30pm-9:00pm Return to Inbal Hotel

9:00pm RON at Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

**Friday, June 30: South Hebron Hills and Hebron**

8:30am-9:30am Breakfast served at hotel

9:30am-11:00am The Drive to the South Hebron Hills: A Briefing on Challenges Facing the Area  
*This drive will include a briefing on the history and current situation in the South Hebron Hills. The briefing will focus on the geostrategic importance of the area, the history of settler activity, and implications on issues pertaining to land contiguity and freedom of movement. Note: the entirety of this drive and tour will be officially-connected programming.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

11:00am-1:00pm Tour of South Hebron Hills  
*This tour of the South Hebron Hills area will focus on the geostrategic situation in this area, specifically around issues pertaining to land contiguity and freedom of movement. Specifically, we will tour Masafer Yatta, which has been the site of recent evictions of Palestinians from a designated IDF firing zone, and hear from local Palestinian residents about quality of life issues and their interactions with the Israeli military administration and local Israeli residents.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

1:00pm-1:30pm Drive to Hebron

1:30pm-2:00pm Lunch and discuss

2:00pm-3:30pm Tour of Hebron  
*We will tour the old city of Hebron, which is one of the most contested sites in the West Bank. We will learn about the political history of Hebron, and focus on the twin challenges of security and freedom of movement for Israelis and Palestinians in a site with heightened religious significance for both sides. We will also discuss the diplomatic*

*history, including American involvement, that has led to a unique territorial arrangement in Hebron's old city.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

3:30pm-4:15pm

Drive to Gush Etzion

4:15pm-5:00pm

Strategic Overlook: Land Swaps and the Settlement Movement  
*In this session we will examine the site of Israel's earliest settlements following the 1967 Six Day War, and focus on its current disposition between Israel settlements and Palestinian villages that are both under direct Israeli administration. We will also discuss the role that the area's settlements have played in the U.S.-brokered peace process in formulating the idea of land swaps to facilitate a permanent-status agreement between the two sides.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

5:00pm-5:30pm

Return to Jerusalem

5:30pm-6:30pm

Prepare for Shabbat/Sabbath

6:30pm-7:30pm

Optional Shabbat Services or Reflecting Walk in Jerusalem

7:00pm-7:30pm

Depart for Dinner at the home of Adv. Joshua and Hava Schoffman

7:30pm-10:00pm

Shabbat/Sabbath Dinner with Featured Speaker  
*Former Deputy AG Schoffman will discuss Israel's political system, the legislative process in the Knesset and the role of the government in formulating Israel's laws, and current issues pertaining to the Israeli judiciary and the Supreme Court. This Sabbath dinner setting will allow participants to engage with the Former Deputy Attorney General in an intimate setting and get many of their questions answered.*

Speaker:

**Adv. Joshua Schoffman**, Former Deputy Attorney General of Israel– Legislation

Location: Schoffman Residence, Arnona, Jerusalem

10:00pm-10:30pm Return to Inbal Hotel

10:30pm RON at Inbal Hotel, Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem, Israel

### **Saturday, July 1: Jerusalem**

8:30am-9:30am Breakfast served at hotel

9:30am-1:00pm Jerusalem Environs Tour  
*This extensive on-site examination of the length and breadth of the Jerusalem seamline will introduce participants to the unique challenges of Jerusalem, an Israeli city governed by a single municipality with neighborhoods divided between Jews and Palestinians and a population divided between citizens of Israel and non-citizen residents of the city. Stops on this tour will include Givat HaMatos, Abu Tor, French Hill lookout to the Shuafat Refugee Camp, Attarot, and Qualandia.*

Guide:

**Col. (Rt.) Dr. Shaul Arieli**, Former Northern District of Gaza Brigade Commander, Deputy Military Secretary, and Head of the Peace Administration

1:00pm-2:15pm The Future of Jerusalem– A View from a Member of the Jerusalem City Council: A Working Lunch  
*In this session, we will hear from a Jerusalem city councilwoman about the governance and administrative challenges in Israel's largest city and its capital, and particularly the way in which the needs of the Jewish and Palestinian residents of the city are balanced. We will learn about the role Jerusalem has played in diplomatic negotiations over a permanent status agreement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and what a negotiated settlement might mean for the future of Jerusalem.*

Speaker:

**Dr. Laura Wharton**, Member of Jerusalem City Council

Location: American Colony Hotel, Louis Vincent St, Jerusalem

2:15pm-2:30pm Drive to Augusta Victoria

2:30pm-3:30pm Visit Augusta Victoria Hospital  
*For many years the U.S. Government has been funding hospitals in East Jerusalem. Participants will learn about the impact this funding has had and how the cut of such funds impacts the hospital and the surrounding population.*

Speaker:

**Dr. Fadi al-Atrash**, CEO, Augusta Victoria Hospital

Location: Augusta Victoria Hospital, Martin Buber St, Jerusalem

3:30pm-4:00pm Return to Inbal Hotel

4:00pm-5:30pm A Vision for a Secure, Jewish, and Democratic State  
*In this session, we will examine the balance of maintaining Israel's security and maintaining Israel's Jewish and democratic character with a former IDF general who was responsible for overseeing all Israeli operations in the West Bank and a former negotiator and high-level government advisor.*

Speakers:

**Major General (Rt.) Nitzan Alon**, Former Head of Central Command and Head of Operations Directorate.

**Nimrod Novik**, Adviser, IPF, Senior Associate and former Chairman of the Economic Cooperation Foundation (ECF), and former adviser to Prime Minister Shimon Peres

Location: Inbal Hotel

5:30pm-6:15pm Prepare for dinner and flight

6:15pm-6:30pm Walk to Dinner

6:30pm-8:30pm Closing Dinner and Reflections  
*This is an opportunity for participants to reflect and process the week together, share their takeaways from their experiences, and discuss how their experience will impact their work.*

Location: Adom Restaurant, David Remez St 4, Jerusalem

8:30pm Drive to Ben Gurion Airport

### **Sunday, July 2: Arrival in Washington\***

12:20am Depart TLV on United #73 to IAD

5:30am Arrive IAD

*\*Note: Shir Attias and Jordan Dickinson will depart TLV on July 9 at 12:20am on UA 73, arriving IAD at 5:30am. Travelers will pay difference in fare.*



# ISRAEL POLICY FORUM

April 14, 2023

Joe Valente  
Legislative Assistant  
The Honorable Jake Auchincloss  
1524 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Joe,

We are pleased to invite you to join a delegation of congressional staff to Israel and the West Bank for an educational trip sponsored by Israel Policy Forum. The trip will arrive in Israel on June 24 and depart on July 1—totaling seven days on the ground.

Israel Policy Forum aims to offer an educational experience that will deepen your knowledge of Israel's complex security needs given the realities on the ground and the current dynamics of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The trip will add to your understanding of the region and one of the most critical foreign policy issues for the United States. As Israelis and Palestinian struggle for their futures, we will explore the key issues in achieving a two-state outcome—including the role of the U.S. in the process.

The trip will include:

- Meetings with Israeli and Palestinian government officials and non-governmental experts, including leading academics and journalists
- Visits to Israel's border with Gaza and to Ramallah in the West Bank
- Briefings from former high-ranking Israeli security officials
- Security tours of the current situation in critical areas on Israel's borders and in the West Bank

The delegation will provide a unique look into the serious challenges facing the region today and what is at stake in future actions by all parties—including the United States.

All trip related expenses will be paid for by Israel Policy Forum in compliance with Ethics Committee rules. Participants are responsible for submitting two forms, as well as a copy of this invitation to the House Committee on Ethics no later than 30 days prior to departure: the "Primary Trip Form" will be provided by Israel Policy Forum, and you must complete and submit a signed "Traveler Form." Israel Policy Forum is committed to ensuring that all elements of the trip comply with all relevant congressional travel rules.

We hope that you will be able to join us for this important, insightful, and educational trip. If you have any questions, please contact Aaron Weinberg at [aweinberg@ipforum.org](mailto:aweinberg@ipforum.org) or 847-848-2968.

Sincerely,

David A. Halperin  
Chief Executive Officer  
Israel Policy Forum

*Israel Policy Forum a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit that does not hire or retain registered lobbyists or foreign agents.*